

Vesper propers, October 7, 2007

The holy martyrs Sergius and Bacchus at Rosapha in the province of Augusta Euphratesia in Syria. They were nobles at the court of the emperor Maximian, who valued them for their courage, wisdom, and zeal. They refused to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, and the emperor turned against them, dressing them in women's clothing and paraded them through the city of Rome. They were then sent to Asia to be tortured. Bacchus died first, and came back from the dead to urge Sergius to fidelity. He was then martyred. (303)

Supplement for *The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

Tone of the Week: Tone 2 (begins on page 36), stichera 10 - 6.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.
(on 4)

Tone 6 samohlasen

Hav - ing re - ject - ed all earth - ly might and come to hate the flesh
you came to love our ho - ly God, and hav - ing worn vesture of dis-hon - or,
placed up - on you in mock - er - y, you have re - ceived garments of
life from heav - en and robes which cannot be torn a - part.
Danc - ing there, O most rich and crowned ones, be a veil of protection and
rai - ment for all of us who have been stripped bare in life

through the de - cep - tion of the cun - ning ser - pent.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.
All repeat "Having rejected..."

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

All - glo - rious Sergius and all - praised Bac chus, you ves - sels of the Spir - it,
 twin tor - rents pouring forth heal - ing on us all, our pro - tec - tors
 and mighty cham - pions of the Church, two voluntary sacrifices and hon - ored
 vic - tims, bea - cons il - lu - mining the ends of the earth with the light of
 pi - e - ty: Dis - pel the darkness which lies up - on our souls
 and drive a - way all the gloom of e - - - vil.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

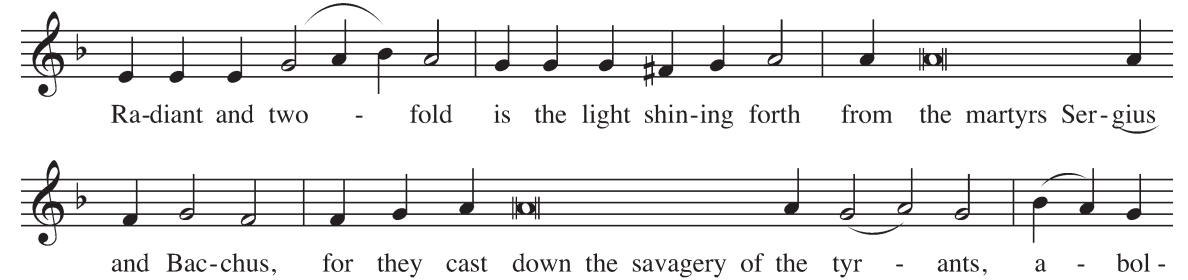
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O glo-ri-ous ath-letes, hav - ing left behind your corrup ti - ble bod - ies,
 you have re - ceived a habitation which nev - er pass - es a - way,
 end-less glad-ness and nev-er-wan-ing light, and incorrup-ti-ble life with-out care.
 Now pray that we may al - so re - ceive these things, hav - ing been
 slain by the passions and turned a-side in - to sin, O Ser-gius and Bac - chus,
 in - ter - ces - sors and ha - vens for the faith - ful, who pray with bold - ness
 in be - half of our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 4 samohlasen



Ra-diant and two - fold is the light shin-ing forth from the martyrs Ser-gius
 and Bac-chus, for they cast down the savagery of the tyr - ants, a - bol -

ished the falsehood of i - dol - at - ry, and, preaching with ra - diant voic - es,
 pro - claimed the perfect mystery of di - vine knowl - edge. Through their sup - plications,
 O Christ the Giv - er of the Law, Judge of the contest and Bestow - er of
 crowns, grant that we may also re - ceive crowns of might a - gainst the
 in - vis - i - ble pow'rs of e - - - vil.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon, Tone 2, p. 42

Aposticha, Tone 2, p. 43

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Doxastikon of the Martyrs - Tone 4 samohlasen

The reg - i - ment of the mar - tyrs of Christ has been strength - ened a - gainst the
 en - e - my; and a - mong them the right glorious and most excel - lent ath - letes,
 Ser - gius and Bac - chus shine like lu - min - a - ries. By them was the evil host

of demons forced to turn in flight; by them were the tyrants amazed and the
 an - gels as - ton - ished, be - hold - ing the incorporeal foe trampled underfoot by
 cor - por - e - al men! And the Church of the faith - ful, cel - e - brat - ing
 their most festive day and univer - sal joy, cries out: You bound the mighty one by
 the weak - ness of your flesh: save our souls through the pray'rs of your saints!

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 4, p. 66

Troparia, Tone 2, p. 47