

1. DECEMBER. 2019. 24-th. SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.  
OF ANCYRA (266) AND DEACON ROMANUS OF CAESARIA (303).

TONE – 7. MARTYRS PLATON

1. ГРУДЕНЬ. 2019. НЕДІЛЯ 24-та. ПО П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ.  
ПЛАТОНА (266) І МУЧЕНИКА РОМАНА ДИЯКОНА КЕСАРІЙСЬКОГО (303).

ГОЛОС 7-ий. МУЧЕНИКА



The **Holy Martyr Platon** was born at the city of Ancyra in Galatia. While still a youth he left home and went through the cities, preaching the Word of God to pagans, amazing his audience with the persuasiveness and beauty of his speech, and his profound knowledge of Greek learning.

Because of his preaching, he was arrested and brought for trial to the temple of Zeus before the governor Agrippinus. At first, the judge attempted to persuade the saint to turn away from Christ by flattery. To this Saint Platon answered, that the wisdom of the philosopher,

although great, was but ephemeral and limited, whereas the true, eternal and unbounded wisdom comprised the Gospel teachings.

The judge offered the martyr a choice: either to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, or to feel the effects of these implements of torture on his body. Again the saint steadfastly refused to worship idols, and after his tortures they threw him in prison for eighteen more days without bread or water.

But seeing that this did not shake the martyr, they offered him his life and freedom if he would only say, "Great is the god Apollo." The martyr refused to deny Christ or to sacrifice to the idols. Therefore, Agrippinus ordered the holy Martyr Platon to be beheaded.

**Saint Romanus of Caesarea** (also known as **Romanus of Antioch**) is venerated as a martyr. In 303 or 304, at the beginning of the Diocletian persecution, a deacon called **Romanus of Caesarea** in Palestine suffered martyrdom at Antioch. He was taken prisoner, was condemned to death by fire, and was bound to the stake; however, as Emperor Galerius was then in Antioch, Romanus was brought before him. At the emperor's command Romanus' tongue was cut out. Tortured in various ways in prison he was finally strangled.

TROPAR OF SUNDAY IN TONE-7. You destroyed death by Your Cross. You opened paradise to the thief. You changed the Myrrh-Bearers weeping and commanded Your apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ God, granting the world great mercy.

ТРОПАР НЕДІЛЬНИЙ НА ГОЛОС 7-ий. Зруйнував еси хрестом Твоїм смерть, відкрив Ти розбійнику рай, мирноносцям плач змінив, і апостолам проповідувати повелів еси, що воскрес, Христе Боже, даючи світові велику милість.

TROPAR OF THE TEMPLE (ST. ELIA) IN TONE-4.  
An angel incarnate, the foundation of prophets and second forerunner of the coming of Christ, glorious Elias sent grace from on high to Elisha to cast out sickness and cleanse lepers. Therefore he pours forth healing for all who honour him.

TROPAR OF MARTYRS IN TONE-4. Your Martyrs, O Lord, did obtain through their sufferings, incorruptible crowns from You, our God; for, rejoicing in Your strength, they laid low their tormentors and did also beat off impotent affronts of the demons; at their intercessions save our souls.

KONDAK OF SUNDAY IN TONE-7. The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended shattering and destroying its power. Hades is bound while the prophets rejoice in harmony. The Saviour has come to those who believe, saying; come forth you faithful, unto the resurrection.

KONDAK OF TEMPLE (ST. ELIA) IN TONE-2.  
O greatly renowned Prophet Elias, who foresaw the great deeds of our God; you stopped the rains of heaven by your command. Intercede for us with the only Lover of mankind. GLORY to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

KONDAK OF MARTYR IN TONE-3. Your holy memory does hearten the whole world, summoning all the faithful to your all holy temple, where today with joy we assembled, we chant in hymns amid splendor. Therefore, O Platon, we cry out to you, "deliver your city from the Godless, O holy one". NOW AND FOREVER and to the ages of ages. Amen.

THEOTOKION IN TONE – 6. O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, unchanging mediation unto the Creator, do not despise the suppliant voices of sinners, but be quick to come to our aid, O Good One, who in faith cry out to You: hasten to intercession and come quickly to make supplication, for You, O Theotokos, always protect those who honour You.

ТРОПАР ХРАМУ (СВ. ІЛЛІ) НА ГОЛОС 4-ий.  
У тілі ангел, пророків основа, другий предтеча пришествия Христового - Ілля славний, з висоти послав Єлисеєві благодать недуги відганяти і прокажених очищати. Тому і всім, що почитають його, зливає зцілення

ТРОПАР МУЧЕНИКІВ НА ГОЛОС 4-ий.  
Мученики Твої, Господи, за страждання свої вінці отримали нетлінні від Тебе, Бога нашого, маючи за підкріплення силу Твою, мучителя перемогли, розвіяли і демонів безсилі намагання, тих молитвами спаси душі наші

КОНДАК НЕДІЛЬНИЙ НА ГОЛОС 7-ий.  
Влада смерті не може вже тримати людей, бо зійшов Христос, сокрушаючи і знищуючи сили її. Ад вже переможений. Пророки одностайно радуються. Явився Спас сущим у вірі, промовляючи, Виходьте, вірні, до воскресіння

КОНДАК ХРАМУ ( СВ. ІЛЛІ ) НА ГОЛОС 2-ий.  
Пророче і провидче великих діл Бога нашого, Ілля великоіменитий, вістунням твоїм ти зупиняв і водоточні хмари. Моли за нас Єдиного Чоловіколюбця. СЛАВА Отцю і Сину і Святому Духові.

КОНДАК НА ГОЛОС 3-ий. Свята твоя пам'ять увесь світ звеселяє, скликаючи вірних у святий храм твій, де ми нині, з радістю зібравшись, у піснях і сяєві тебе прославляємо. А тому, Платоне, і просимо тебе. "Від безбожників визволи місто твоє, святий".  
І НИНІ і повсякчас і на віки вічні, Амінь.

БОГОРОДИЧНИЙ НА ГОЛОС 6-ий. Заступнице християн усердная, молитвенниця до Творця надійная, не зневаж молитви грішників, але прийди швидше, як Благая, на поміч нам, що з вірою взиваємо до Тебе, поспіши на молитву і скоро прийди на благання, бо Ти заступаєшся завжди за тих, що шанують Тебе, Богородице

READER : “ PROKIMEN IN TONE – 7. The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.”

CHOIR : “ The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.”

READER : “ Bring to the Lord, you sons of God, bring young rams to the Lord.”

CHOIR : “ The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.”

READER: “ The Lord shall give strength to His people.”

CHOIR: “ The Lord shall bless His people with peace.”

ЧИТ. : “ ПРОКИМЕН НА ГОЛОС 7-ий.

Господь крѣпость людем Своім дасть.

Господь благословить людем Своім миром.”

ХОР. : “ Господь крѣпость людем Своім дасть. Господь благословить людем Своім миром.”

ЧИТ : (СТИХ) “ Принесіть Господеві, сини Божі, принесіть Господеві молодих ягнят.”

ХОР. : “ Господь крѣпость людем Своім дасть. Господь благословить людем Своім миром.”

ЧИТ : “ Господь крѣпость людем Своім дасть.”

ХОР. : “ Господь благословить людем Своім миром.”

### THE EPISTLE Ephesians 2 : 14 - 22.

<sup>14</sup> For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, <sup>15</sup> having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, <sup>16</sup> and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

<sup>17</sup> And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

<sup>19</sup> Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

READER : “ ALLELUIA IN TONE – 7. Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

ЧИТ. : “ АЛИЛУЯ НА ГОЛОС 7-ий.

Алилуя.”

ХОР. : “ Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”

READER : “ And It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

READER : “ To declare Your mercy in the morning and Your truth by night.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

ЧИТ. : “ Благо є прославляти Господа, і співати Імені Твоєму, Всевишній. Аلیلія.”

ХОР. : “ Аلیلія, Аلیلія, Аلیلія.”

ЧИТ. : “ Сповідати вранці про милість Твою, і вночі про правду Твою. Аلیلія.”

ХОР. : “ Аلیلія, Аلیلія, Аلیلія.”

### **GOSPEL: Luke 12 : 16 - 21.**

<sup>16</sup> Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. <sup>17</sup> And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, *and* be merry.”’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’

<sup>21</sup> “So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

**COMMUNION VERSE: “ Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.”**

**ПРИЧАСНИЙ. “ Хвалить Господа з небес, хвалить його в небі. Аلیلія.”**

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### **Who was Great Martyr St Katherine Commemorated December 7?**



St Katherine, as a girl was not a Christian. She lived in the early fourth century Alexandria with her mother, a Christian, who raised her with the finest education.

Katherine's mother took her to a holy man who began to describe Jesus Christ to her. He told her to pray all night before an icon of the Theotokos and Jesus. When Katherine fell asleep, she saw a vision of the Theotokos and Jesus, but Christ would not look at her, saying that she was unworthy. Jesus told her to return to the elder for instructions, which she did. The elder baptized her and sent her to keep a vigil all

night and to fast and pray. She saw the vision again, but Jesus told her she was now worthy to behold. He gave her a ring, which was also on her finger when she awoke, and remains on her finger to this day.

The emperor Maximinus commanded a festival to be held to the gods and many animals were sacrificed. Watching this in sadness, Katherine went to the emperor and told him that his gods were demons of fantasies and illusions. She told him that there was only one God, whose word maintains the world.

Maximinus, fearing that she would embarrass him, assembled 150 orators to debate her. The Archangel Michael appeared and told her that God would add to her wisdom, and that she would save many. She refuted the orators with the words of their poets who proclaimed the gods, and she used the words of their gods who foretold of the times of Jesus Christ. The emperor condemned the 150 to death by fire. Before

they died, Katherine made the sign of the Cross over them as she had converted them. They all died, but not even a hair of their heads was singed.

The emperor tried to win Katherine by flattery, to no avail. She was beaten, bloodied, and imprisoned. The emperor's wife, his military commander, and 200 soldiers visited Katherine in prison, and all became Christians, but were beheaded by the emperor.

The emperor then asked Katherine to be his queen, if only she would worship his idols. When she refused, she went to the place of execution, followed by a crowd who mourned her. She told the unbelievers to mourn their own demise.

She prayed and was beheaded at the age of 18. Milk flowed from her wound. Her fragrant relics are at St Katherine's monastery at Mount Sinai.



Τερά Μονή τοῦ Ὄρους Σινᾶ

### **Mount Sinai Monastery**

The Greek Orthodox monastery of the God-trodden Mount Sinai is located at the very place where God appeared to Moses in the Burning Bush, beneath the Mount of the Decalogue [Ten Commandments]. In the providence of God, it is at this site also that the holy relics of Saint Catherine are enshrined. This is the oldest continuously inhabited Christian monastery, with a

history that can be traced back over seventeen centuries. The monastery predates the divisions of the Christian world, its origins extending to late antiquity.

The monastery has never been destroyed in all its history, and thus it can be said to have preserved intact the distinctive qualities of its Greek and Roman heritage. Members of other Christian confessions have honoured the monastery, coming as pilgrims to this holy place. But from its beginnings, the Christian inhabitants of Sinai belonged to the Greek speaking world, and it has remained so to this day.

The earliest description refers to the Monastery of the Holy Virgin, for the revelation of God at the Burning Bush was seen as a type of the Virgin Mary and the Incarnation. The monastery is also especially dedicated to the holy prophets Moses and **Elias**, who both came to this mountain, and who both spoke with Christ at the Transfiguration. More recently, it has been known as Saint Catherine's Monastery. This remains its name today, though the monastery has not lost its earlier dedications.



The monastery can be thought of as a veritable Ark for its spiritual treasures. These include the manuscripts and early printed books preserved in the Sinai library, which is celebrated throughout the world for the antiquity and importance of its volumes. It also includes the monastery icons, which include the most important collection of pre-iconoclastic panel icons, and icons of the greatest beauty and significance dating from the time of the Comnene dynasty [11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> c].

The monks of Sinai, from earliest times until the present day, maintain a dedication both to prayer and to the support of pilgrims and visitors. They live at peace with the native Bedouin. They maintain the ancient spiritual heritage of Sinai, a heritage that extends from the giving of the Law, through the whole of the Old and New Testaments, to the multitude of saints whose memory has been enshrined at Sinai – above all, to the All-holy Theotokos, to the holy prophets Moses and **Elias**, and to Saint Catherine.

**Saint Catherine's Reliquary** The marble chest containing the relics of Saint Catherine is located at the south side of the sanctuary in the catholicon of the holy monastery. It is the construction of Procopius the stonecutter, who took nine years to complete the shrine in honor of Saint Catherine. This shrine replaced the earlier marble chest, which is preserved today in the monastery's treasury. The relics of Saint Catherine are brought out for the veneration of the faithful on special occasions, at which time each pilgrim is given a silver ring bearing the monogram of the saint, in honor of the ring that Saint Catherine received from Christ. These are preserved by pilgrims as a blessing from the saint.