

From the Octoechos
Saturday Orthros (Matins) - Tone 8

Stichera at the Aposticha at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
Special melody: *O strange wonder*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources

1) Thou, in Thy king - ly au - thor - i - ty, hast signed for
me the de - cree of my free - dom, O
Sov - 'reign Lord, with the bright ver - mil - ion ink
of Thy blood-stained and red - dened hands. And now with
faith, we en - treat Thee earn - est - ly
to num - ber them that have passed o - ver to Thee,
Who art com - pas - sion - ate, with Thy first - born, and vouch -
-safe that they at - tain to the joy and glad - ness
of Thy just and right - eous Saints.

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Verse 1: Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and hast taken unto Thyself, O Lord.

2) Hav - ing served the priest - ly of - fice, Thou as man wast
 slain and didst bring Thy - self forth as an
 of - fer - ing to the Fa - ther, rais - ing up
 from cor - rup - tion the race of man. Where - fore, ap -
 - point those trans - lat - ed hence a place
 there in the land of the liv - ing to a - bide,
 as God, the Friend of man, where the tor - rents of de -
 -light rich - ly pour forth, where the foun - tains of e -
 - ter - ni - ty gush forth on high.

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Verse 2: Their souls shall dwell among good things.

3) In the depth of Thine in - ef - fa - ble wis - dom, Thou
 set - test the bounds of our life _____ and fore -
 - see - (e)st death, and un - to an - oth - er life
 Thou con - vey - est Thy ser - vants _____ hence. Now set - tle
 those _____ Thou hast tak - en to Thy - self
 be - side the wa - ter of rest, O Friend of man,
 in _____ that mag - nif - i - cent splen - dor of the Saints, O
 Lord, where there is heard the voice of re - joic - ing
 and un - end - ing songs _____ of _____ praise.

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Verse 3: Their memorial is from generation to generation.

4) Be - ing the Word and in - vis - i - ble, the Fa - ther's
 same - na - tured Son, with the Spir - it con -
 -joint - ly throned, for the sake of me, a man,
 Thou wast plain - ly seen in the flesh. Thus, be - ing
 mer - ci - ful and the Friend of man,
 make those con - veyed from this life ex - ceed - ing bright
 with the fair come - li - ness of Thy maj - es - ty and
 beau - ty, Thou that art the great Sov - 'reign Or - i -
 - gen and Au - thor of all life.

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5)

D C

G↓ C G↓

C

G↓

C

Un. G↓

C rit. G↓ Un.