

June 30th

# The Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles

## Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 4

Special melody: *Thou who wast called from on high*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) O chief foun - da - tion of Christ's di - vine A - pos - - tles,  
hav - ing left all things be - hind to fol - low af - ter Him,  
un - to thy Teach - er didst thou cry out: I shall die with Thee,  
so that I al - so may live the bless - ed life.  
Now, O Pe - ter, as the teach - er of the world en - tire,  
the stead - fast preach - er, the rock of faith, the boast and glo - ry  
and the un - shake - a - ble tow - er of the Church,  
a - gainst which Ha - des' gates can - not pre - vail,  
e - ven as Christ our God had fore - told to thee,

June 30th - Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles - Stichera at the Praises - 2

G

do thou fer - vent - ly pray \_\_\_\_\_ Him

E

to en - light - en and to save our souls.

12 E

2) Thou who while yet in thy moth - er's womb wast cho - - sen,

G E

hav - ing fled the bur - den of all things ma - te - ri - al,

D

and giv - en wings by thy great de - sire, thou tru - ly flew - est

E

to the di - vine height of fer - vent love for God,

G E

where is the su - preme - ly bright dark - ness of light di - vine;

D

and hav - ing en - tered there - in, O Paul, as though with - out flesh,

E

thou wast in - struct - ed in words un - speak - a - ble,

June 30th - Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles - Stichera at the Praises - 3

**D**

and thou was sent forth to those in the dark

and didst show them the Light, Je - sus Christ our God.

**G**

Do thou there - fore en - treat **Him**

**E**

to en - light - en and to save our souls.

23

**E**

3) Thou Who art Light that ex - ist - ed ere all ag - es,

**G**

when Thou didst vouch - safe to come to me, the low - ly man,

**D**

through Thine in - ef - fa - ble love for man, and to be - come flesh

**E**

in Thy great good - ness, O Sav - ior of the world,

**G**

Thine A - pos - tles and dis - ci - ples didst Thou then re - veal

**E**

as sec - ond lights bright - ly glit - ter - ing with the re - splen-dence  
 and the dread light - ning that flash - eth forth from Thee;  
 and be - ing sent forth, they il - lu - mined all  
 of cre - a - tion with Thy light di - vine, O Lord.

And they ev - er be - seech Thee  
 to en - light - en and to save our souls.

34

E 4) O sa - cred Pe - ter and Paul, the Word's chief plow - men;  
 G An - drew, James, and John most wise; au - gust Bar - thol - o - mew;  
 D Phil - ip and Thom - as, called Did - y - mus; O Jude and Si - mon;

and thou, di - vine James, with Mat - thew great of fame:  
 O ye u - ni - ver - sal Twelve Dis - ci - ples all - re - vered,  
 who preached thē All - ho - ly Trin - i - ty through - out the whole world,  
 that He by na - - ture is ev - er - last - ing God;  
 ye tru - ly un - hewn tow - ers of the Church  
 and un - shake - a - ble pil - lars of tow - 'ring height  
 in - ter - cede with the Mas - - - - ter  
 of all things that we might all be saved.