

December 29th

# The Holy Fourteen Thousand Infants Slain by Herod

## Stichera at the Praises

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

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih  
from various sources

1) O the great hard - ness of Her - od's heart! For as he  
raved a - gainst God, Who be - came a babe  
in the flesh, he let loose his wrath up - on  
all thē in - fants in Beth - le - hem; the fierce de -  
- stroy - er of na - ture's ten - der fruit  
con - signed them all to the heads - men's ruth - less sword.  
For through the ho - ly blood of their slaugh - ter he thought  
to de - prive of life Him that is thē Au - thor  
and the Cause of life for all.

Chords: D, C, G↓, C, G↓, C, G↓, C, C, Un., G↓, C

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2) When they were come to Je - ru - sa - lem, the Per - sian

Ma - gi there - by trou - bled Her - od with

great dis - tress, and the wretch in fren - zied rage

mad - ly slaugh - tered the lit - tle \_\_\_\_\_ babes, who as ripe

clus - ters of grapes were brought to Christ;

though they were torn \_\_\_\_\_ from their moth - ers' ver - y breasts,

yet \_\_\_\_\_ those young Mar - tyred Saints smote the wick - ed Her - od

Un. with a might - y wound; now with faith they pray to

Christ that we might all \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ saved.

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3) Ra - chel doth weep for the lit - tle babes; in Ra - ma  
 clear - ly is heard a great voice of la -  
 - ment - ing grief; Her - od now is rav - ing mad  
 and doth vaunt him - self god - less - ly. In - to the  
 hill coun - try John now tak - eth flight;  
 a stone re - ceiv - eth a moth - er with her child;  
 and Zach - a - ri - as is slain with - in the tem - ple;  
 Christ doth take to flight, and the He - brews' dwell - ing -  
 - place, He leav - eth des - o - late.