August 4th
The Holy Seven Sleeping Youths of Ephesus
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Mode 4
Special Melody: As one valiant
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) In obedience unto God, the most holy and blessed Youths scorched the lawless tyrant's inequitous decree. When they were bound, they destroyed the bond of error and unbelief; casting off the dignities of this world, they received instead that high dignity which hath rendered them glorious and gained for them the heavenly enjoyment of the divine Kingdom found on high.

2) Brave-ly training your-selves, O Saints, for the con-test of martyr-dom, hid-den in a cave, ye sent up un-ceasing prayers un-to the Lord, im-por-
tun-ing Him with fer-vor to grant to you pow-er and suf-fi- cient strength for the con-test that lay be-fore. But the Friend of man, as the Sov-reign and God of all, com-mand-ed by the judg-ments that He know-eth that ye should all fall a-sleep in peace.
3) To a mystery of mysteries hath been added un
- aware of their decease; and now raised up in like
man - ner, they are struck with a - ston - ish - ment.

For the deed was brought to pass to con - vince men be -
yond all doubt that the dead shall rise; so that they who re -
ject - ed it, on learn - ing this, might find the strength of

sure faith, while glo - ri - fy - ing the Mar - tyrs' feats.