

**June 30**

**Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious , and All-Praiseworthy Twelve Apostles**

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**VESPERS**

**Kathisma**

Psalter reading of the day

**At Psalm 140**

*In Tone 4, for Sts.Peter and Paul*

6.

You have given as the pride and glory of Your Church, Lover of mankind,  
the holy apostles Peter and Paul.

They shine upon the world as spiritual stars;  
through them You have enlightened our darkness,  
almighty Jesus, the Saviour of our souls!

5.

You have given two mighty pillars to Your Church, Lord:  
Peter the rock and Paul the wise.

They proclaim the truth and chase away the errors of godlessness.  
Their words reveal Your glory to us,  
almighty Jesus, the Saviour of our souls!

4.

You have given two models of conversion to the faithful, Lord:  
your blessed apostles Peter and Paul.

One repented, after denying you at the time of Your Passion;  
the other believed, after opposing Your preaching:  
now they both stand among the first of Your friends,  
almighty Jesus, the Saviour of our souls!

*In Tone 4, for the Twelve Apostles*

3.

Let us bless the honourable disciples!

They were the eye-witnesses of the Incarnate Word.

They shine upon the world like flashes of lightning;  
as spiritual giants they bring sweetness to our souls.

They are rivers of paradise,  
flowing with living water for the refreshment of the churches!

2.

Let us honour Christ's fellow-labourers!

They are lightning bolts hurled to earth by the might of the Spirit;  
workers of miracles and witnesses of the mysteries,  
tablets of divine love written by the hand of God,  
honourable masters of the divine law!

1.

The foolishness of the philosophers is corrected by the rod of the fishermen!  
The vanity of the orators is put to confusion by divine wisdom!  
The apostles proclaimed the infinite goodness of the Gospel;  
now they exult in the communion of eternal blessedness:  
the joy of the angels and the unfading crown of glory

*In Tone 6, Glory...*

Assemble, chosen members of Christ's holy Church!  
The feast of the honourable apostles dawns upon the earth,  
bringing salvation for us all!  
Clap hands, all peoples; cry out in exultation:  
rejoice, twin rays of the sun, enlightening us who sit in darkness!  
Rejoice, Peter and Paul, unshakeable pillars of divine doctrine!  
Rejoice, friends of Christ and chosen vessels!  
Come, and be present with us in spirit:  
grant us spiritual gifts as we celebrate your sacred memory in song!

*In Tone 6, Now...*

Who will not bless you, most holy Virgin?  
Who will not sing of your most pure child bearing?  
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,  
but from you He was ineffably incarnate!  
God by nature, yet man for our sake!  
Not two persons, but one, known in two natures!  
Entreat Him, pure and all blessed Lady,  
to have mercy on our souls!

## **Aposticha**

*In Tone 4*

When the Saviour asked the twelve apostles, who do men say that I am?  
Peter the leader of the disciples, received heavenly grace.  
He cried out in a clear voice: You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!  
He is worthy of our highest praise,  
for he was given this revelation from the Father in heaven!  
He has justly won the power of binding and loosing.

*Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!*

Paul, you were called not by man, but by God.  
Mist and darkness covered your bodily eyes  
when the misery of unbelief was revealed to you.  
Heavenly light flashed before the eyes of your heart,  
showing you the beauty of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
You came to know Him, who brings forth light from darkness:  
plead with Him to enlighten and save our souls!

*The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork!*

Peter, it is right to call you the rock!  
The Lord established the unshaken faith of the Church on you.  
He made you the chief shepherd of His reasonable sheep.  
He has entrusted you with the keys of the heavenly gates.  
In His goodness, He commanded you to open to all who draw near in faith.  
Your master counted you worthy to be crucified.  
Plead with Him to enlighten and save our souls!

*In Tone 6, Glory...*

A joyful feast dawns upon the earth today:  
the memorial of Peter and Paul, the wise leaders of the apostles.  
Let Rome rejoice and be glad with us!  
Let us keep feast, brethren, in songs and hymns.  
Rejoice, apostle Peter, true friend of Christ our God!  
Rejoice, beloved Paul, herald of the faith and teacher of the universe!  
You have boldness before Him, chosen pair:  
pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved!

*Now...*

Theotokos, you are the true vine who blossomed for us the fruit of life:  
implore Him, we pray you, Lady, together with the apostles and all the saints,  
that He will have mercy on our souls!

## **Troparia**

*In Tone 8*

O saints, your message has spread throughout the world,\* for receiving the Spirit in tongues of fire  
you torched the idols' deceit.\* With the net of your words you caught those who were lost and  
brought them to faith.\* Therefore the heavens declare your glory\* and the firmament which God  
created adds its voice\* and we with them cry out feasting your memory:\* Save us all, O God, by the  
prayers of your twelve apostles.

*In Tone 4, Glory... Now...*

You are chief apostles and teachers of the world. \* Beseech the Lord of all \* to grant peace to the  
world \* and abundant mercy to our souls.