Stichera of the Martyrs for Friday Evening Vespers
Tone 2, Kievan

(8) Reader: In the 2nd tone — Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord;

\[ \text{II-chant melody} \]

\[ \text{O Lord hear my voice.} \]

\[ \text{I-descant} \]

Great is the glory, O ye saints, / 
that ye have gained through your faith. / 
For by your sufferings ye were victorious over the enemy; / 
and after death as physicians of body and soul, / 
ye drive out evil spirits and bring healing to the sick. //
Intercede before the Lord, that mercy may be given to our souls

(7) Reader: Let Thine ears be attentive

\[ \text{II-chant melody} \]

\[ \text{To the voice of my supplication.} \]

\[ \text{I-descant} \]

Not desiring earthly pleasure, / 
the victorious martyrs were granted heavenly blessings, / 
and they have become fellow-citizens with the angels. //
At their prayers, O Lord, have mercy on us and save us.

Carol Surgant ~ music.russianorthodox-stl.org ~ 3/29/08
(6) Reader: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

Because the holy martyrs intercede for us /
and sing in praise of Christ, /
all error is destroyed //
and mankind is saved by faith.

(5) Reader: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord;
my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word,

The company of martyrs resisted tyrants, saying: /
'We are soldiers of the Ruler of the powers on high; /
though ye give us up to fire and torment, //
we shall not deny the power of the Trinity.'

And 4 stichera of the saint of the day from the Menaion.
Reader: Glory... in the 2nd Tone.

As a flower withers and a dream passes away, / 
so is each man's flesh dissolved at death. / 

But at the sound of the trump all the dead as in an earthquake / 
shall rise up again to meet Thee, Christ our God. / 

Then, Master, grant to all Thy servants whom Thou hast taken from us, // 
That they may dwell for ever in the tabernacles of Thy saints.

Both now... the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the week.