

THE HOLY MARTYR NICEPHORUS

February 9

Apolytikion

Fourth Mode

"Be quick to anticipate"

Intonation: #10

Allegro ♩=150

Ὁ μάρτυς σου Κύριε

Thy Mar - tyr, O Lord, in his cou - ra - geous con - test for Thee

re - ceived as the prize the crown of in - cor - rup - tion and life from

Thee, our im - mor - tal God. For since he pos - sessed Thy

strength, he cast — down the ty - rants and whol - ly de - stroyed the

de - mons' strength - less pre - sump - tion. O Christ God, by his

prayers, save our souls, since Thou art mer - ci - ful.

We must think of what we sing
rather than allow our mind, seized by extraneous thoughts
as is often the case, to lose the fruit of our labor. One must sing with a manner
and melody befitting holy religion; it must not proclaim theatrical
distress but rather exhibit Christian simplicity in its very
musical movement; it must not remind one of
anything theatrical, but rather create
compunction in the listeners.

- St. Niceta of Remesiana