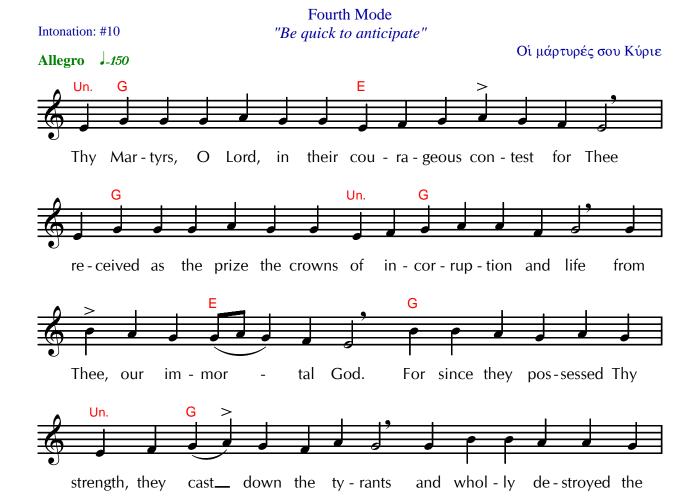
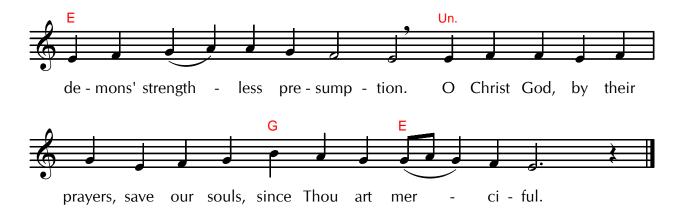


THE HOLY NINE MARTYRS OF CYZICUS

April 28

Apolytikion





One who jubilates does not speak words, but it is rather a sort of sound of joy without words, since it is the voice of a soul poured out in joy and expressing, as best it can, the feeling, though not grasping the sense. A man delighting in his joy, from some words which cannot be spoken or understood, bursts forth in a certain voice of exultation without words, so that it seems he does indeed rejoice with his own voice, but as if, because filled with too much joy, he cannot explain in words what it is in which he delights. You observe this even in those who sing improperly. Now our jubilation will not be such as theirs, for we ought to jubilate in justification, while they jubilate in iniquity; we, then, in confession, they in confusion. Yet that you might understand what I say, call to mind what you well know, that it is especially those who perform some task in the fields who jubilate. Mowers and vintagers and those who gather other products, happy in the abundance of harvest and gladdened by the very richness and fecundity of the earth, sing in joy. And between the songs which they express in words, they insert certain sounds without words in the elevation of an exultant spirit, and this is called jubilation.

- Blessed Augustine