The Holy Virgin Martyrs
Agape, Irene, and Chionia
the Sisters

April 16

Apolytikion

Plagal First Mode

since Thou hast given us the miracles of Thy holy Martyrs as an invincible battle, by their entreaties scatter the counsels of the heavenly then, O Christ our God, and strengthen the faith of Orthodox Christians, since Thou alone

Intonation: #13

Τὰ θαύματα τῶν ἁγίων σου
The Apostle admonishes women to be silent in church, yet they do well to join in a psalm; this is gratifying for all ages and fitting for both sexes. Old men ignore the stiffness of age to sing [a psalm], and melancholy veterans echo it in the joy of their hearts; young men sing one without the bane of lust, as do adolescents without threat from their insecure age or the temptation of sensual pleasure; even young women sing psalms with no loss of wifely decency, and girls sing a hymn to God with sweet and supple voice while maintaining decorum and suffering no lapse of modesty. Youth is eager to understand [a psalm], and the child who refuses to learn other things takes pleasure in contemplating it; it is a kind of play, productive of more learning that that which is dispensed with stern discipline.

- St. Ambrose