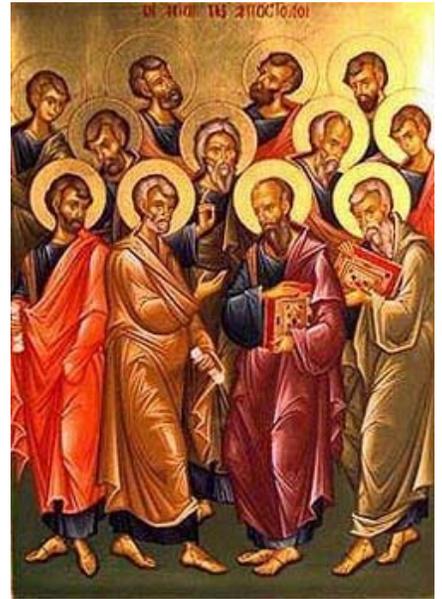




Melody for the Fast of the Apostles

1. The faithful servant remains without blame
In heaven, his reward is great
Among all those who inherit with him
His share will be more abundant
2. Bethesda in Galilee became famous
For there Peter the apostle lived
He was known to be extremely zealous
His love for the kingdom of God was great
3. Jesus Christ, our God and King
Was walking along Galilee's Sea
He saw the love Peter was showing,
His pure intentions and his righteous deeds
4. Jesus found Peter's brother Andrew
For our Lord, he had great love
The two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew
Were fishermen with a humble job
5. Our Lord Jesus called them and said
I will make of you fishers of men
To go and catch the nations
With the Lord's divine net
6. The love of the disciples was pleasing to God
He called on them and they answered
They obeyed His word and followed His path
He gave them the keys to the Kingdom
7. They were chosen to be in the faith
God gave them powers and authority
So they became strong and courageous
Through Christ our God the Almighty
8. Some people called Jesus Elijah
Some thought He was John or Jeremiah
Others thought He was one of the prophets
But Peter testified that He was the Messiah.
9. "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God
Creator of all seen and unseen
Light of light, true God of true God
Creator of all living things



10. Our Lord praised Peter saying, “blessed are you
For you do not speak by your abilities
But my Father in heaven has granted you
To speak of these hidden mysteries
11. “God provided you with the light of the faith,
Of neither flesh nor blood did this faith spring
You are Peter and on this rock of faith
I build My church, a house of blessings
12. “You, My disciples, will minister to My flock
And all shall listen to the word and obey
You will bind and loose on earth, and in heaven
And I will give you comfort and strength every day
13. “Your honor surpasses all description
Your words will reach the end of the world
I gave you the highest distinction
Those who despise you will be expelled
14. “Now that you have become My own
You will watch over My sheep tirelessly
My faithful disciples whom I count upon
You will be rewarded in heaven greatly”
15. Peter completed his struggle for the Lord,
Fighting as a soldier in God’s army
He was put to death on the cross by Nero
The enemy of the Lord Almighty
16. Peter asked the Lord, and was granted
He gave him a share in the inheritance
With joy he received the crown of martyrdom
He is worthy of all praise and blessings
17. Another soldier fought in the army of Jesus
A great preacher and keeper of the Law
He was known as Saul of Tarsus
Who previously opposed the way of the Lord
18. He followed the teachings of the fathers
He learned the Torah and prophets with passion
More zealous in the law than any other
His love for Jehovah was his foundation
19. Gamaliel, the teacher of the Jewish law
Taught Saul according to the strictness of the Law
He persecuted Jesus’ followers with zeal
To prisons, he bound them, both great and small

20. One day, Saul went on a journey to Damascus
 To bring in more captured to Jerusalem.
Walking like a roaring king with the promise
 To put to death the disciples of the King of heaven
21. Suddenly, a great light from heaven shone
 He fell to the ground and could not see
He heard a powerful voice calling his name,
 “Saul, Saul why are you persecuting me?”
22. Jesus, the forgiver of every sin, said
 “I am Jesus whom you persecute
It is hard to kick against the goads
 Go to Damascus, you will be told what to do”
23. Those who were with Paul indeed saw the light
 But they did not hear the voice nor understand
They were afraid from seeing such a sight
 And they led Paul to the city by the hand
24. In Damascus, he went to Ananias, a devout man
 To Paul he said, “Receive your sight
Arise and be baptized, this is God’s plan
 And wash away your sins calling on Christ”
25. The disciples spread the good news of the Lord
 Went forth among the nations to evangelize
They made the nations disciples of the Lord
 Those who were dead, now received new life
26. On the fifth of Apip we celebrate
 The martyrdom of our two great saints
St. Peter was crucified upside down in Rome
 St. Paul was beheaded by Nero on the same day
27. We are the children of this godly church
 We honor and praise our saintly preachers
Hail to you Saint Peter, the disciple of the Lord
 Hail to you Saint Paul, our teacher
28. We entreat You, the Lord of Peter and Paul
 With Your apostles, remember us
Jesus Christ, the ruler of every soul
 Giver of life, bestow mercy upon us
29. You sent Your pure saintly apostles
 And made them guardians of the faith
Grant us Your Holy Spirit
 Your endless mercy and Your saving grace