O Saviour, Thy people have gathered to sing Thee a song for the victory Thou wroughtest not in strength, but through the infirmity of them that set their hope on Thee in bitter sufferings.

Betrayed by thy counsellors, abandoned by kinsmen,

O valorous Nicholas, thou didst stand like a rock amidst dashings waves of trials, whereby thou hast shown all the world thy mighty faith in God.
The groans of your bondage ascended as incense
to Jesus the Crucified, Jesus Who rose again,
Who glorified you on high, Whom do ye ever im-
portune for us who sing your praise.

O Virgin, an earthly dominion was toppled,
but then was thy sovereignty which is invincible
made manifest to thy flock, wherein do thou preserve us all
and guide us all to God.
By this we know that Christ doth dwell in you: Ye in truth for-
gave all your ene-
mies with noble and whole-
hearted love
by the grace of the Crucified. Nicholas and Alexander, we revere your great godli-
ness.

Thy grateful patience in thy sufferings caused great torment
unto the ancient foe, whom thou didst drown in thy pure blood,

O Alex-is, thrice-blessed Saint. And the Martyrs of all
ages past rejoice to receive thy soul.
A noble birth set crowns upon your heads; but volition
nobler hath set there-on the double crowns surpassing fair

of the virgin and martyred Saints. Christ Himself, the Bridegroom,
saved you four as virginal brides for Him.

The Image of our God's eternity through thee entered
bodily into time to raise up Adam's fallen race,

O transcendently holy Maid. Hymns of gratitude we
offer thee, O Mary, thou Bride of God.
The fall of a kingdom, the death of a Sovereign,
shook the land with terror and grief; the power of Christ shown
in love and forgiveness exalted you from this world
to everlasting joy.

Eugene the physician while held with his Sovereigns
tended to the suffering and sick; he lightened his bonds with
his mercy to others and crowned all by laying down
his life for those he loved.

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Exceeding description, O venerable Martyrs,
were the griefs and torments ye bare; but past understanding
are also the graces wherevith ye are recompensed
by Him Whose Cross ye loved.

In thee we seek refuge in perils and sorrows,
who hast borne the Pearl of Great Price; for thou mediastest
an infinite gladness that nothing can take away,
O Mother of our Life.

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Kind Clement suffered sharply at the Crown Prince’s pains; John braved
ev’ry peril to spare the Grand Duchesses; and both were slain
willingly for their wards, with whom they stand, joyous, before the Lord in splendour.

Brave Basil and Elias, warlike men of command, fought beside their Sov’reign with faith as their only arms, escorting him
unto a certain death, counting to die with him to be their highest vic’try.

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Es-teem-ing it a fa-vour to be grant-ed to die with his
mar-tyred Mon-archs, John pled with their mur-der-ers to part him not
from them he served in life; shar-ing their death, now he par-
tak - eth of their glo - ry.

From deep and bit-ter dark-ness, I cry out un-to thee: Shine on
me, O lamp of the Light un-ap-proach-a-ble; the flame of love
in thee is nev-er quenched; for thou dost shine with God’s great
mer-cy, O my La-dy.
Though compassed by ungodly men filled with hate, with the
Cherubim ye chanted God’s praises and raised up your
minds to heavenly love ’midst infernal spite; unde-filed by the de-filed, ye abide pure and noble.

Descending unto greater sufferings each day, ye were ever more transfigured in spirit, exalted above the gross things of earth; and completely cleansed from the blight of earthly lusts, ye were ripe for the Heavens.
Elected to a higher glory and state, from on high ye were appointed to sufferings, aggrieved from the very birth of the heir, whose inheritance was the bright martyrlic crown that ye jointly attained to.

The presence of thy Son is trembling and dread; yet in infinite compassion and goodness, He took on our sins and weakness and woe and appointed thee as the certainty and pledge of His mercy to sinners.
Stripped naked of all earthly authority, ye yet were a
prick-ing thorn to the dev-il's slaves, who longed to quell the reign of Christ,
which still shone forth res-plen - dent-ly in you all. Un - ab - le to
kill the Lord in the Heav - ens, they quenched His lights up-on the earth.

Pre-sent - ed with oc-ca - sion to save thy-self by flee-ing thy
Sov'-reigns' fate, stead-fast thou didst stand, con-firm-ing time and time a-gain
thy mag-na-ni-mous faith - ful-ness un-to them, for which thou art
crowned with them in the Heav - ens, O A-na-sta-sia great of soul.

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O Anna, thou didst see thy great Lady fall from power and endless wealth to captivity; but being bound to her by love, and beholding her greatness in sufferings, thou clavest to her as ever aforetime, accounting her a queen in Christ.

As darkness fell more terribly on the land, the Martyrs set all their trust on thy light alone, which no calamity can quench; and, O Virgin, thou shonkest upon their hopes, inspiring them with invincible courage in Him to Whom thou gavest birth.
Innocence and godliness, mingled together, adorned
your souls, O children, ye five elect of the Saviour;
and the hatred and spite of the godless could not move you to
wick-edness, but stablished secure in the love of God, ye triumphed.

Tempered in the furnace of burning afflictions, by them
ye have been rendered a sharpened sword forged in Heaven,
which with terrible blows driveth off the hordes of demons from
ev’ry soul invoking your succour, O Martyrs great in mercy.
Once the gems and pearls of high office be-decked you, but nothing like the sighings and sparkling tears of your bondage which ye willingly chose, wishing to partake of all that your Sov’-reigns bare; and ye were perfected with them in God-like beauty.

Shaking off the error denying thee honour, the godly Al-xan-dra revered thee greatly, O Lady, with an Orthodox mind and committed her whole soul to thy sov’-reign care; and thou didst exalt her from Empress un-to Martyr.
Anointed as Martyrs in the Unc- tion of your blood, ye reign as kings for ev- er in Christ Je- sus, Whose Pas- sion and will- ing Death ye em- braced with val- iant faith; no trea- son can over- throw your reign; no blow can shake your King- dom; ye have found the rest on high with the Saints in glad- ness.

The Saints whom ye hon- oured and once glo- ri- fied on earth re- ceived you with ex- ceed- ing joy and glad- ness when ye too had run the course of the pat-i- ence of the Saints; the An- gels whose meek- ness ye dis- played es- cort- ed you in glo- ry; and the King Whose Cross ye bare made you heirs and chil- dren.
Before, ye had use of vast imperial treasures; but now the very gates of holy Heaven, the riches of grace divine, have been opened wide to you. As once ev’ry pauper in distress had access to your mercies, so be gracious unto us seeking your compassion.

O strength of the Martyrs, Queen and Sov’reign of the Saints, O balm and consolation of the suffering and hope of those dead in sin, lend thine ear unto our cries. Behold the distress and bitter woe of them thy Son hath ransomed; wash away our sins and griefs; save our souls, O Virgin.

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