Stichera on “Lord, I Call”
The Holy Fathers slain at the Monastery of St Sabbas - March 20

Sticheron 1
Tone 4

Kievan Chant
arr. from B. Ledkovsky

Completely loving the highest of all desires, you counted the
beauties of life to be refuse, O venerable Fathers. Through vigil
and prayer, through rain and burning heat, you acquired those things
that alone abide. You lived together as one soul //
and by grace were shown to be companions of the Angels.

You were beaten with clubs and stoned with rocks, as well as cut down by swords. Yet, O martyrs, you did not break the unity of your mind, bound together by love and fraternal desire. Together you were put to death and cut from limb to
limb. You placed yourselves upon the altar of God as unblemished sacrifices, O passion-bearers.

Suffocated and consumed by fire, you committed your souls into the hands of the King of all as unblemished sacrifices, O glorious martyrs. You have joined yourselves to the choirs of the
bodiless Powers and inherited the everlasting glory.

Ever pray that those who sing praises to you may also share in that glory!