

O GLORIOUS MARINA

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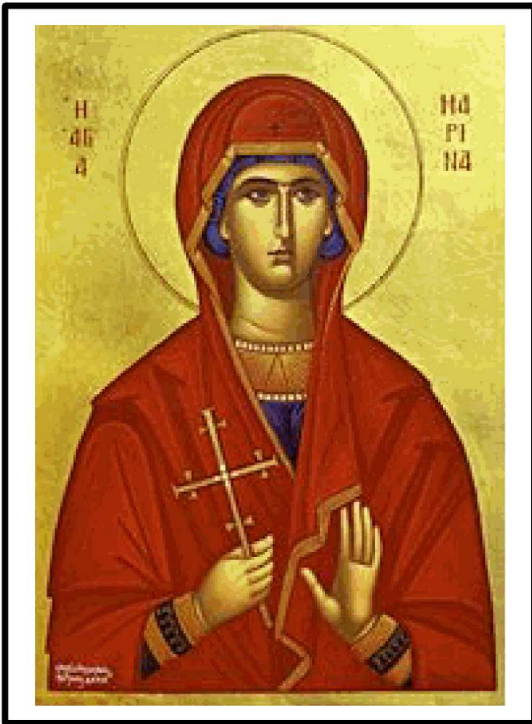
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The life and legend of St. Marina,
the Great Martyr

Feast Day on July 17

by

Marina Alexander

Original text, plus excerpts from:

Apolitikion in the 4th Tone:

*Your Lamb, Jesu, cries out to you with loud voice;
I desire to be your bride, and seek it by my martyrdom,
and I am crucified and buried with You by Your baptism,
and suffer for You so that I may reign with you,
and I die for you, so that I may live with you.*

*Then as blameless sacrifice accept her,
who with love died for you.*

Apolitikion in the Plagal of the 4th Tone:

*Glorious Marina once betrothed to the Logos,
you relinquished all worldly concerns and brilliantly
gave struggle as a virginal beauty.*

*You soundly trounced the invisible enemy
who appeared to you, O Champion,
and you are now the world's wellspring
of healing grace.*

Kontakion in the 3rd Tone:

*Adorned with the beauty of Purity, O Virgin;
crowned with the stigmata of martyrdom;
stained with the blood of your struggles;
and brilliantly radiant with healing wonders,
piously, O Marina, you received the trophy of victory.
for your struggles.*

The Story of St. Marina (284-304 AD):

According to the "Golden Legend" ("Legenda Aera" by Jacobus de Voragine, written c. 1260 AD; also known as "Legenda Sanctorum" or "Lives of the Saints"), Marina was born at the end of the 3rd century, a native of Antioch, daughter of a pagan priest. At the death of her mother, Marina was cared for by a Christian governess, and her faith blossomed. Seeing her great beauty, the local pagan ruler offered Marina marriage, if she would renounce her faith. When she refused, he imprisoned and tortured her. The Archangel Michael came to her and Marina's wounds were miraculously healed.

Marina was then swallowed by a fire-breathing dragon, but escaped it by clasping her arms in the shape of a cross, thus rupturing its stomach. A satanic demon appeared and tried to tempt her into acquiescing; Marina grabbed it by the hair and beat it into submission with a hammer.

The pagan ruler tortured her by fire, to no avail, and then by boiling water; Marina exalted heaven to make that water her baptism, and she survived. Finally, she was beheaded. There was a great earthquake, and the heavenly host chanted around her body, as Christ himself appeared, promising that wherever a relic of Marina or a book with her story would be kept, evil would be defeated, and peace and the spirit of truth would reign.

O GLORIOUS MARINA

Composed March 2009

Written for the Metropolitan Greek Chorale
Premiered May 3, 2009

Marina Alexander
(b. 1953)

Moderately ♩ = 86

Mezzo-soprano solo

Tenor solo

Bass solo

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

S.

A.

T.

B.

15 *mp* 18 21

M-S. *mp* Your lamb, Je - su, cries out to

S. *p*

A. *p* *mp* cries out with

T. *p* *mp* with

B. *p* grace of God, of God.

22 24 27

M-S. you with loud voice, I de - sire to be your bride, and seek it through my mar-tyr

S.

A. *p* loud voice, I de - sire to be your bride, your bride.

T. *p* loud voice, O

B.

29

33

M-S. *mf*

T. *dom.* *mf*
The pa-gan king im-pri-soned and tor-tured

B.

S. *p*
O glo-rious Ma-ri-na, O glo-rious Ma-ri-na,

A. *p*
O glo-rious Ma-ri-na, O glo-rious Ma-ri-na,

T. *p*
O glo-rious Ma-ri-na, O glo-rious Ma-ri-na,

B. *p*
O glo-rious Ma-ri-na, O glo-rious Ma-ri-na,

36

41

M-S.

T. *mp*
her:

B. *f*
A fear-ful

S. *mp*
beau-ti-ty was sa-cri-ficed for Christ, for Christ,

A. *mp*
he-ty was sa-cri-ficed for Christ, for Christ,

T.

B.

42 44

M-S.

T. *f*

B. *mp*
 fi - re breath - ing dra - gon swal - lowed her:

S.

A. *mp*
 Christ's cross set her free, set her free,

T. *mp*
 Christ's cross set her free, set her free,

B. *mp*
 Christ's cross set her free, set her free,

49 51

M-S.

T. *f*
 de - mon temp - ted and as - sult - ed her:

B.

S. *f*
 with a

A. *f*
 with a

T. *f*
 she beat him back, she beat him back

B. *f*
 she beat him back, she beat him back, she beat him back

rit. 57 Poco meno mosso ♩ = 78

54

M.S.

T.

B.

S.

A.

T.

B.

The Arch - an - gel_ Mi - chael

58

M.S.

T.

B.

S.

A.

T.

B.

60

ho - ly vir - gin Ma - ri - na,



64 66

M.S.

T. you re-lin-quished world-ly cares, and de-feat - ted your e - ne - mies: re -

B.

S. glo - rious, *p*

A. glo - rious, *p*

T. glo - rious, *p*

B. glo - rious, *pp*

69 71

M.S.

T. ceive the tro-phy of vic - to-ry for your strug-gles.

B.

S. O glo - rious Ma - ri - na, O glo - *mp*

A. O glo - rious Ma - ri - na, *mp*

T. O glo - rious Ma - ri - na, O glo - *mp*

B. O glo - rious Ma - ri - na, O glo - *mp*

(O) _____

75

78

M.S.

T. *mf* *f*

B.

S. *mf*

A. *mf* *f*

T. *mf*

B. *mf* *f*

79

80

M.S. *f* *mp*

T. *f* *mp*

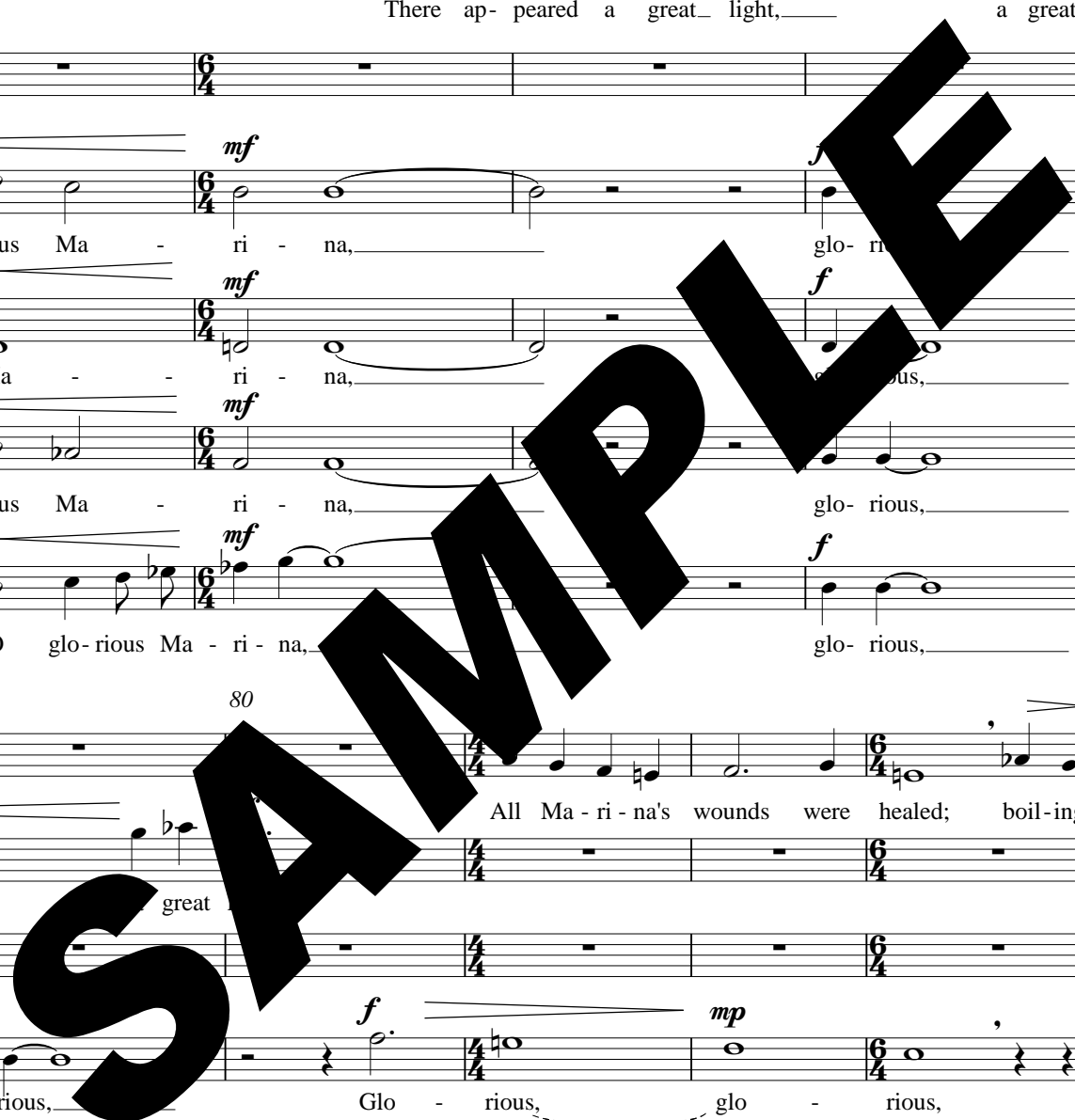
B.

S. *f* *mp*

A. *f* *mp*

T. *f* *mp*

B. *f* *mp*



84 *mf* 87 *rit.*

M-S. wa ter__ be-came her bap-ti-sm: mar-tyr-dom brought sal - va tion.

T. sal - va - tion.

B. sal - va - tion.

S. *p* glo - - rious, sal - va - tion. *mf*

A. *p* glo - - rious, sal - va - tion. *mf*

T. *p* glo - - rious, sal - va - tion. *mf*

B. *p* glo - - rious, sal - va - tion. *mf*

90 **Tempo I** ♩ = 86 94

M-S.

T. *mp* O, blessed are you, O ho - ly Ma -

B.

S. *p* By the grace of God, the soul is im - mor - tal, *pp* By the grace of God, the

A. *p* By the grace of God, the soul is im - mor - tal, *pp* By the grace of God, the soul is im -

T. *pp* By the grace of

B.

97

102

M-S.

T. ri - na: a crown of light is giv'n to you; the doors of Pa - ra -

B.

S. soul is im - mor - tal, By the grace of God, the soul is im - mor - tal, soul is im

A. mor - tal, By the grace of God, the soul is im - mor - tal, By the God the

T. God, the soul is im - mor - tal, By the grace of God, soul is im - mor - tal, the

B.

104

mf 107

M-S. I suf - fer for you, Lord, so that I may reign with

T. dise a - wait you.

B.

S. mor - tal, im - mor - tal,

A. soul is im - mor - tal,

T. soul is im - mor - tal,

B. *p*
O

112 114

M-S. *mp* you, and I _____ die for You, so that_

T. *mp* Stained with the blood of your strug - gles,

B. *mp* Stained with the blood of your strug - gles,

S. *p* so that_

A. *p* I _____ die for you,

T. _____

B. _____

(O)

118

M-S. I may live with You. As a blame-less sa - cri - fice ac -

T. *mp* crowned with the stig - ma - ta of mar - tyr - dom,

B. *mp* crowned with the stig - ma - ta of mar - tyr - dom,

S. *pp* I may live with You.

A. _____

T. *p* O

B. _____

(O)

122

125

M.S. *cept her who with love died for You.*

T. *a-dorned with the beau-ty of pu-ri-ty,—*

B. *a-dorned with the beau-ty of pu-ri-ty,—*

S. *rious,*

A. *rious,*

T. *(O)*

B. *rious,*

pp

mf

126

M.S.

T.

B.

S. *Ma-ny an-gels, ma-ny saw the an-gels, ma-ny saw the*

A. *glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous,*

T. *Glo-ri-ous! Ma-ny saw the an-gels, saw the an-gels*

B. *glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous, glo-ri-ous,*

mf

mf



131

M.S.

T.

B.

S. *poco a poco cresc.*
an - gels chant - ing, chant - ing: O glo-rious Ma - ri - na Ma -
ff

A. *poco a poco cresc.*
O glo-rious Ma - ri - na, O glo-rious Ma - ri - na, O glo-rious Ma -
poco a poco cresc.

T. *poco a poco cresc.*
chant - ing: O glo-rious Ma - ri - na, glo-rious Ma - ri - na, Ma -
ff

B. *poco a poco cresc.*
glo - rious, glo - rious, glo - rious, glo - rious, O glo-rious Ma

136

137

mp

M.S.
By the grace of God, the

T.

B.

S. *p*
ri - na! O,

A. *p*
ri - na! O,

T. *p*
ri - na! O,

B. *p*
ri - na! O,

allargando *poco rit.*

143

M-S. *soul* *is* *im* - *mor - tal.*

T. *8*

B. *8*

S. *pp* *mp*
O, *by the grace of God.*

A. *pp* *mp*
O, *by the grace of God.*

T. *pp* *mp*
O, *by the grace of God.*

B. *pp* *mp*
O, *by the grace of God.*