

Αγία Φωτεινή Η Μεγαλομάρτυς
SAINT PHOTINI GREAT MARTYR

FEBRUARY 26TH – **Gospel of St John 4:5-42**

The woman said,
**“I know that Messiah
called Christ is coming.** When
he comes, he will explain
everything to us.”

Then Jesus declared,
**“I, the one speaking to you—
I am he.”**



Ο διάλογος του Χριστού με τη Σαμαρείτιδα

HER MARTYRDOM:

At Pentecost Saint Photini received baptism, along with her five sisters and her two sons. She then began traveling far and wide, preaching the good news of the Messiah's coming, His death and resurrection. When Nero, the emperor of Rome, began to persecute Christians, Photini and her son Joseph were in Africa, where she was preaching the Christian gospel. After Jesus appeared to Photini in a dream, she sailed to Rome. Upon her arrival, a great curiosity arose in the capital city. Everyone talked about her, "Who is this woman?" they asked. "She came here with a crowd of followers and she preaches Christ with great boldness."

She willingly went to Emperor Nero, unafraid, as she wanted to convert even him! Nero ordered their hands beaten with iron rods for three hours. The saints felt no pain as their hands remained unharmed. Photini joyfully quoted words of a psalm by David: "God is my help. No matter what anyone does to me, I shall not be afraid." Soon after, Photini was able to convert and baptize Nero's daughter. He was so angered, he condemned Photini and all her companions to death by fire but the fire couldn't hurt the Saints. Next he tried to destroy the saints with poison but unsuccessfully. Photini offered to be the first to drink it. "O King," she said, "I will drink the poison first so that you might see the power of my Christ and God." For three years they were held in a Roman prison where Saint Photini converted many. Lastly, she was thrown into a deep, dry well and then into prison again. One night, God appeared to her, made the sign of the cross over her three times. The vision filled her with joy. Many days later, while she hymned and blessed God, Saint Photini gave her soul into God's hands and reposed from her Earthly life.

