

To Maria Keritsis  
**EN SI, PATER**  
In You, O Father

Apolytikion for St. Romanos - Mode IV Plagal - October 1

Based on a chant melody by Eleftherios Georgiades and arranged for mixed choir by Tikey Zes

*Allegretto*  
*mf*

S  
A  
T  
B

En si, Pa - ter a - kri - vos, di - e - 1

En si, Pa - ter a - kri - vos, di - e -

5  
*mf*

so - thi - to kat' i - - ko - - na la - 2

so - thi - to kat' i - - ko - - na la -

9  
*mf*

von gar ton stav - ron, i - ko - lu - thi - sas to Chri - 3

von gar ton stav - ron, i - ko - lu - - thi - sas to Chri -

13  
*mf*

sto, ke prat - ton e - di - da - skes, y - pe - ro - 4

sto, ke prat - ton e - di - da - skes, y - pe - ro -

17  
*mf*

ran men sar - kos, pa - re - - he - te gar; e - 5

ran men sar - kos, pa - re - he - te gar; e -

21  
*cresc.*

pi - me - lis - the de psi - his, prag - ma - tos 6

pi - me - lis - the de psi - his, prag - ma - tos

25 *mf*

a - tha - na - tu; di - o ke - me - 1

29 *cresc. poco a poco*

ta An - ge - lon sy - na - gal - le - te, 2

33 *f* *mf* see below for alternate ending

o - si - e 'Ro - ma - ne, to - pnev - ma su. 3

37 *mf* Alternate ending

to - pnev - ma su. 4

Translation (by Rev. George P. Gallos of blessed memory):

In you, O Father the image of God was verily maintained, for by taking up the cross you did follow Christ, and by your deeds taught us to look beyond the transitory flesh and to care for our immortal souls; your spirit with the angels rejoices, O Holy Romanos.

### St. Romanos the Melodist

One of the best known hymnologists of our Church was St. Romanos the Melodist. He was born in Syria in the 5th Century, and entered the service of the Lord as a deacon of Beirut. He was later assigned to the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Constantinople. Romanos soon became recognized for his wonderful talent of composing church hymns, although he was not originally blessed with a melodious voice. The hymns he wrote expressed the great truths and dogmas of Orthodoxy, and they brought him much acclaim. However, he longed to be able to praise God with his own voice.

Tradition tells us that on the eve of the Nativity of our Lord, Romanos had a vision of the Theotokos who blessed him and handed him a scroll. The next day, Romanos went to the church, and to the amazement of all, sang for the first time in a voice of unheralded sweetness. The faithful rejoiced, not only at this miracle, but at the words of the new hymn he had written, the Kontakion of the Nativity: "The Virgin gives birth today to the Highest being, and the earth provides the inaccessible One with a cave. The angels with the shepherds glorify Him. The wise men journey with a star, because for our sake is born a little Child, the pre-eternal God" (I Parthenos Simeron). Romanos died in 510 AD. Many of the hymns he composed are still part of the liturgical life of our Holy Orthodox Church.