

# CHOIR PRACTICE

## FORTY CHRISTIAN MARTYRS

Come, all you people, I'll sing you a song  
About forty soldiers who had done  
nothing wrong  
They would not deny their faithful service  
to Christ  
And died forty martyrs on the bitter  
Sebaste ice

The Twelfth Roman Legion in 320 AD  
Was stationed by what is now Sivas, Turkey  
The emperor demanded proof of their loyalty  
"Sacrifice to idols and I'll know that you're  
with me."

### CHORUS:

And it's choose the one  
Choose the one, son  
Tell us, which King will you serve?  
Will you die for your Lord Jesus,  
Or will you lose your nerve?

Forty Christian soldiers refused the  
King's mandate  
Flogged with whips and hooks, still this  
vow they did make:  
"We have learned to deny our bodies  
where  
our souls are at stake,"  
They were ordered to stand naked, bleeding,  
on a frozen lake.

Throughout the long dark night they  
stood,  
completely exposed  
To freezing mountain winds and heavy  
winter snows  
The commander ordered fires, set out  
warm  
baths and heavy clothes  
And offered them to any man who'd forsake  
this God he chose.

### CHORUS

Of forty Christian brothers, one got scared  
and lost his will  
He hobbled from the ice to find some  
shelter from the chill  
He stepped into a heated bath, not knowing  
it would kill  
For frozen hearts thrust into heat in shock will  
be stopped still

Aglaius was a soldier standing guard upon  
the shore  
A light from heaven, crowns he saw upon  
the martyrs pour  
The vision steeled Aglaius, loyalty to Christ  
he swore  
And stripping off his uniform, he evened  
up the score.

### CHORUS

At daybreak, dead and living were both  
thrown into a fire  
Their ashes tossed into the Halys River  
from the pyre.  
The Christians came in secret, stole  
some relics away  
And they are venerated right down to  
this very day.

So come all you people, I'll sing you a song  
About forty soldiers who had done  
nothing wrong  
Only would not deny their faithful  
service to Christ  
And died forty martyrs on the bitter  
Sebaste ice.

### CHORUS



**SCAN  
TO HEAR!**