

HOLY STEPHEN, CHRIST'S DEAR MARTYR
GUILD HYMN OF THE ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF ST. STEPHEN

Tune meter: 87 87 D

Can be sung to the tune of: "Alleluia, sing to Jesus", "Ode to Joy", "Daily, daily, sing to Mary", "Holy light on earth's horizon", "Sing of Mary, pure and lowly".

Holy Stephen, Christ's dear martyr,
first to shed thy blood for him.
What bright glory now surrounds thee?
Glory which no time can dim.
O that we could share that glory,
give for him our life and blood.
Let us praise thy noble story,
told with life's own crimson flood.

Noble witness thou didst render
to the Passion of thy Lord.
Bearing with a love courageous,
weight of stones more cruel than sword.
Mindful of our dying Saviour,
begging mercy in death's throes.
Thou didst raise thine eyes to heaven,
craving mercy on thy foes.

Ours it may not be to suffer,
like Saint Stephen unto death,
but a service we can render
to our last and failing breath,
Ours to serve our loving Saviour,
ours to help his sacrifice,
ours to give him daily homage,
till he call to paradise.

