

THE 1st DAY OF THE MONTH OF MARCH
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYRED NUN EUDOCIA

(If this feast falleth within the Great Fast, we chant Alleluia at matins; but if it falleth outside the Fast, we chant “God is the Lord ...” and the Troparion of the saint.)

AT VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 3 Stichera of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: “Thou hast given a sign ...”:

Having first fasted * and withered the uprisings of the flesh * through abstinence, * thou didst later set at naught the wiles of the enemy through martyrdom * and having triumphed over him, * O divinely blessed Eudocia, * Jesus, the Lover of mankind, * and the Savior of our souls, ** hath crowned thee for thy twofold struggles.

In the furrows of thy heart * thou didst receive the divine seed * like rich soil, O divinely blessed one, * and thou didst truly put forth the grain of martyrdom, * producing it a hundredfold. * Thou didst lay it up in noetic granaries * through the power of the Spirit Who transformed thee * and wrought in thee a greater change through grace, ** O all-praised Eudocia.

By thy life-creating utterance * thou didst raise up the dead, * O glorious Eudocia, * having first mortified the passions of thy body * with the pangs of abstinence. * And now thou dwellest with the martyrs in the heavens, * having completed the course of martyrdom * with the help of the Spirit, ** and thou prayest for all who hymn thee with faith.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in the same melody:

Rejoice, O beam of solar radiance, * throne of the never-setting Sun, * having shone forth the ineffable Sun! * Rejoice, O mind * shining with divine splendor, * flash of lightning illumining the ends of the earth, * true luster of gold. * O most comely and immaculate one ** who hath caused the unwaning Light to shine upon the faithful!

Stavrotheotokion: **T**he most pure one, * beholding Christ, the lover of mankind, crucified, * His side pierced by a lance, * cried out, lamenting: * “What is this, O my Son? * How have these thankless people rewarded Thee * for the good things Thou hast done for them? * Dost Thou hasten to leave me childless, O most Beloved? ** I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!”

Troparion of the venerable martyr, in Tone VIII:

Having bound thy soul to the love of Christ with uprightness of mind, * as a disciple of the Word thou didst avoid corrupt, transitory and beautiful things by ignoring them; * and having first mortified the passions by fasting, * thou didst put the enemy to shame by thy suffering. * Wherefore, Christ hath deemed thee worthy of a twofold crown. ** O glorious Eudocia, venerable sufferer, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

AT MATINS

Canon of the venerable martyr, in Tone II:

ODE I

Irmos: Come, O ye people, * let us sing a song to Christ our God, * Who divided the sea, * and made a way for the nation * which He had brought up out of the bondage of Egypt; * for He hath been glorified.

Be Thou well pleased to transform the misery of my soul into delight, O Good One, by the prayers of Thy passion-bearer Eudocia; and grant that I may worthily hymn her, O Word.

Who can openly confess the depth of Thy compassion, O Christ? For it hath made into a refuge of salvation one who of old was an abyss of transgressions.

Like good soil thy most glorious soul received the gentle rain of the teaching of the venerable Germanus, bringing forth the fruit of piety.

Having received the noetic ember of Christ within thy heart through baptism, O all-pure one, thou didst truly reduce falsehood and the passions of the flesh to ashes.

Theotokion: Thou hast truly been revealed to be a godly habitation more spacious and honorable than the heavens, O Virgin Theotokos; and the choirs of the angels now rejoice in thee.

ODE III

Irmos: O Lord, who didst slay sin upon the tree, * firmly establish us in Thee, * and in the hearts of us who hymn Thee * plant the fear of Thee.

Thy venerable one, O Christ, having acquired a firm resolve and an unassailable rampart in her bosom, was not shaken by the assaults of the enemy, but utterly destroyed him.

Desiring the beauty of Christ, and consumed by His love, thou didst unite thyself to Him through martyrdom, O divinely wise and all-glorious Eudocia.

Having purified thyself with Christian baptism, by thy tears and, ultimately, by the blood shed by thee in martyrdom, thou didst become a sanctified temple of the Trinity.

Theotokion: Blossoming forth from Anna as a joy to thy race, O Virgin, thou didst give birth to the King; and women, released from the curse by thee, rejoice in thy birth giving.

Sessional Hymn, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: “Of the Wisdom ...”:

Illumined by divine radiance, thou didst leave behind the darkness of deception and while in the flesh received immaterial life; and being filled with the divine grace of the Spirit, thou didst raise up the dead by thy command. Wherefore at the end of thy life, thou wast divinely adorned with the crown of martyrdom, putting the deceiver to shame, O Eudocia, equal of the angels. Entreat Christ God, that He grant forgiveness of transgressions unto those who honor thy holy memory with love.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

All we, the generations of mankind, * call thee blessed, * in that thou art the Virgin who alone among women * hast given birth without seed unto God in the flesh; * for the fire of the Godhead made its abode within thee, * and thou didst feed the Creator and Lord * with milk as an infant. * Wherefore, we, the race of mankind and of angels, * glorify thy birthgiving, * and together we cry out to thee: * Entreat Christ God to grant forgiveness of sins ** unto those who with faith worship thy most holy Offspring.

Stavrotheotokion: Upon beholding the Lamb, Shepherd and Redeemer * upon the Cross, * the ewe-lamb exclaimed weeping, bitterly lamenting, and crying aloud: * “The world rejoiceth, having received deliverance through Thee, * but my womb doth burn, beholding Thy crucifixion, * which Thou hast endured in Thy merciful loving-kindness. * O long-suffering Lord, * Thou abyss and inexhaustible well-spring of mercy, * take pity, and grant forgiveness of sins ** unto those who hymn Thy divine sufferings with faith!”

ODE IV

Irmos: I have heard report of Thy dispensation, O Lord, * and have glorified Thee * Who alone lovest mankind.

With the river of thy divine blood, O glorious Eudocia, thou didst cause the abyss of ungodliness to dry up.

She who before entrapped the senseless in the snares of fornication doth now draw the faithful into the kingdom of God.

Having rightly distributed the corruptible wealth which thou didst unjustly amass, thou didst inherit the riches of incorruption.

Theotokion: Incarnate of the pure Virgin, O Lord, Thou hast shone forth the Light in the night and darkness of transgression.

ODE V

Irmos: O Lord, Bestower of light and Creator of the ages: * guide us in the light of Thy commandments, * for we know none other God than Thee.

Shining forth, the never-waning Light truly drew the glorious one from the darkness of the passions and, leading her to the path of dispassion, hath shown her to be most radiant.

Having betrothed thyself to the Son of God the King, O most glorious one, by thine honored invocation thou didst raise up the son of the king, who had died a grievous death.

At the tribunal, O glorious one, thou didst profess Christ with manly mind proclaiming Him to be God incarnate; and, beheaded by the sword, thou hast joined chorus with the martyrs.

Theotokion: We the faithful, having thine intercession as our hope, and surrounded by the misfortunes of bitter sufferings, earnestly have recourse unto thee, O Virgin Sovereign Lady.

ODE VI

Irmos: Whirled about in the abyss of sin, * I appeal to the unfathomable abyss of Thy compassion: * Raise me up from corruption, O God.

In that the zeal of thy faith was fervent, thou didst trample underfoot the opinions of the unbelievers, O martyr Eudocia, winning the victory of martyrdom.

Having joined the torrents of thy tears with the drops of thy blood shed in martyrdom, thou hast perfected the one cup of salvation by both.

She who before was full of stench through the magnitude of her impurity, is now filled with a most sweet fragrance and rejoiceth with the choirs of the virgins.

Theotokion: Rejoice, O pure Theotokos, joy of the world! Grant thy joy unto those who in faith cry out to thee with the angel, and banish our grief.

Kontakion of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Having contended well in thy suffering, O all-praised one, * even after thy death thou dost sanctify with outpourings of wonders * us who with faith have recourse to thy divine temple; * and, holding festival, we entreat thee, O venerable martyr Eudocia: ** May we be delivered from spiritual afflictions and draw forth the grace of miracles.

Ikos: The church of the passion-bearer hath been shown to be a paradise, having acquired in its midst a tree of immortality, her precious body; and those who partake of the fruit thereof are mightily sanctified by its branches. And beholding how a dead body truly poureth forth healings, all are amazed, and brought to their senses. Wherefore, with haste come ye all now with me, the lowly one, and, washing away our filth, let us draw forth the grace of miracles.

ODE VII

Irmos: When the golden image was worshipped on the plain of Dura, * Thy three children spurned the impious command, * and, cast into the midst of the flame, * they were bedewed, and sang: * O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Trampled underfoot, the enemy and deceiver, who of old ensnared thee, striving to capture thee with the down-pouring of evil, cried aloud, saying: “Woe is me! I have been vanquished by thy sacred union with God, O pure and all-praised Eudocia!”

Having mortified the wisdom of thy flesh with great abstinence, thou didst resurrect the dead by thy boldness before God and by thine unwavering entreaty, O Eudocia; for He fulfilleth the will of those who fear Him.

Bearing the sufferings of Christ upon the shoulders of thy soul like a divine adornment, thou didst attract Him by thy desire for incorruption; wherefore He betrothed thee as His bride who blamelessly crieth aloud: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Theotokion: Manifestly proclaiming thy divine birthgiving, O pure one, Gideon bore a bowl full of the water he had wrung from the fleece; for the whole Godhead made its abode within thee, O most pure one: the blessed Fruit of thy womb.

ODE VIII

Irmos: God Who descended into the fiery furnace * with the Hebrew children, * and transformed the flame into dew, * do ye works hymn, * and supremely exalt as Lord throughout all ages.

Having noetically approached thy true Love, without hesitation thou didst endure the wounding of thy flesh and the bitter pain of the fire, O all-glorious martyr, blessing Christ throughout all ages.

Having won victory by the three-fold billows of tribulations with the mast of the Cross and the rudder of the spirit, thou didst reach the safe harbor of the kingdom of God, O glorious one, blessing Christ throughout all ages.

Thou didst cast off the ugliness of the passions and didst clad thy soul in the beautiful robe of dispassion; wherefore, Christ, betrothing thee to Himself as a bride, hath granted thee to dwell in the mansions of heaven.

Theotokion: By thee, O Theotokos, our ancestress have been freed from the curse; and, lo! women now suffer for Christ, and the female nature rejoiceth, as said the protomartyr Thecla the virgin.

ODE IX

Irmos: God the Word, God of God, * Who by ineffable wisdom came to create Adam anew * after his grievous fall to corruption through eating * and Who took flesh beyond all telling from the Holy Virgin for our sake, * Him we faithful with one accord magnify in song.

The vision of thy countenance, which shone like the sun in spiritual radiance, O pure one, was revealed to be a sight strange to the unbelievers who looked on; for, having loved Christ, thou wast glorified by Him as is meet, O most honored one.

Having lighted the lamp of thy soul, O martyr, thou hast now entered into the splendor of the bridal chamber of Christ rejoicing with the wise virgins, bearing thy blood as oil. With them be thou mindful of all who praise thee with faith.

Like a sweet-smelling rose, O divinely wise Eudocia, thou didst blossom forth beautifully from the thorns of deception, perfuming the souls of the faithful, and dispelling the foul stench of the deception of unbelievers; wherefore, we call thee blessed.

O pure martyr, by thy supplications to God our Redeemer save those who lovingly celebrate thy memorial, and take away the spiritual defilement of us who so poorly hymn thee.

Theotokion: Cease thou never to entreat thy Son and God, the Lover of mankind, O Virgin, on our behalf; for we have acquired thee as our hope, and by thine intercession we who glorify thee with faith are delivered from tribulations and passions, and from transgressions and sufferings.

AT LITURGY

Troparion of the venerable martyr, in Tone VIII:

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