

THE 25th DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYRS MARCIAN & MARTYRIUS, THE
NOTARIES
AT VESPERS

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

Spec. Mel.: “As one valiant among the martyrs ...”:

Having finished the race * and kept the Faith, * ye were crowned with the crown of martyrdom, * O Marcian and Martyrius, * ye unshakable pillars of the Church, * breasts putting forth the milk of truth, * lustrous pearls, * beacons illumining creation ** with the splendors of piety.

Having a single understanding among yourselves * and agreeing as one, * O godly twain, * ye destroyed the division of Arius, * teaching all to worship the Son as consubstantial with the Father * and co-beginningless with the Spirit: * the Trinity in Unity, * the Unity in Trinity, ** the one Godhead indivisible in three Hypostases.

Ye showed yourselves to be like-minded followers, * emulators and zealots * of the sacred preacher Paul, * and with the outpouring of your blood * ye drowned the enemy, * drying up the torrent of grievous heresies * and revealing yourselves to be rivers of piety, * watering the Church of Christ, ** O Marcian and Martyrius.

Glory ..., the composition of German us, in Tone I:

As disciples and followers of the preacher and confessor of the consubstantial Trinity, O blessed ones, and therefore persecuted with him, ye preferred death by the sword to blasphemous heresy. Wherefore, adorned by God with crowns of martyrdom, and having received boldness before Him, pray ye, that those who honor your memory be delivered from misfortunes.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone I:

Spec. Mel.: “O all-praised martyrs ...”:

When she beheld the Lamb upon the Cross * bereft of form and beauty, * the all-immaculate ewe-lamb and Lady * said weeping: “Woe is me! * Where hath Thy comeliness gone, O Thou Who art most sweet? * Where is the shining grace * of Thine image, ** O my Son most beloved?”

On the Aposticha, the Stichera from the Oktoechos; and, Glory ..., in Tone III:

Having cast down heresies with the shield of the Faith, Marcian and Martyrius, the champions of the Trinity and noetic beacons of the Church, illumined the world with the light of Orthodoxy. And, obedient to Paul the equal of the apostles, the pastor and teacher of true dogmas, they set at naught the distinctions of Arius and Nestorius and did away with the confusions of Sabellius and Severus. And theologizing concerning the Unity in Trinity, and God Who was incarnate of the Virgin, the all-praised ones preached that all should piously hymn the one Christ in two natures. Wherefore, having received crowns of victory from heaven, the divinely eloquent ones ask for us great mercy.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone III:

A sword pierced thy heart, O most pure one, * when thou didst behold thy Son upon the Cross; * whereupon thou didst cry aloud: * “Show me not to be childless, O my Son and my God, ** Thou Who hast kept me a Virgin even after I gave birth!”

Troparion of the holy martyrs, in Tone IV:

In their sufferings, Thy martyrs O Lord, * received imperishable crowns from Thee, our God; * for, possessed of Thy might, * they set at naught the tyrants and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. ** By their supplications save Thou our souls.

AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos; and the canon of the martyrs, with 4 Troparia, the acrostic whereof is: “I offer hymnody unto the two martyrs”, the composition of Joseph, in Tone IV:

ODE I

Irmos: **O** Thou who wast born of the Virgin, * drown I implore Thee, in the depth of dispassion * the triune nature of my soul, * as Thou didst the mighty strongholds of the warriors, * that in the mortality of my flesh * as on a timbrel * I may chant a hymn of victory.

Ever most completely illumined with the light of the Holy Trinity, O holy ones, ye became constant luminaries; wherefore, celebrating today your radiant feast with faith, we rejoice in splendor.

Desiring to behold on earth the Word Who shone forth for our sake from the Virgin, O spiritual athletes, and confessing Him to be consubstantial, with most mighty resolve ye suffered a violent death.

Showing yourselves to be followers and disciples of the wise Paul, O divinely eloquent ones, ye preached the Son as equal in honor with the Father; wherefore, cut down with the sword, ye have sanctified the earth with the outpouring of your blood, O spiritual athletes.

Theotokion: **C**onceiving the beginningless Son of God, O pure one, thou gavest flesh to Him, and He became a man in His ineffable mercy; wherefore, worshiping Him, we piously glorify thee, the cause of the deification of all.

ODE III

Irmos: **N**ot in wisdom, nor in power do we glory, * but we glory in Thee O Christ, * the Hypostatic Wisdom of the Father, * for there is none more holy than Thee, O Lover of mankind.

Illumined by the Spirit with the divine truths of Orthodoxy, ye drove away the darkness of Arius, becoming witnesses of the Almighty.

Preaching the dogma of the equality of the Word with the Father, O holy Marcian and Martyrius, ye preferred to die, and have passed over to life without end.

Through sacred enlistment ye have been numbered with the angels, and have most radiantly joined the choirs of the martyrs; wherefore, we praise your honored memory.

Theotokion: **A**dorned with golden robes like a queen, O Lady, thou standest now before God the King, praying for thy servants.

Sessional Hymn of the holy martyrs, in Tone III:

Spec. Mel.: “Of the divine Faith ...”:

Continuing to confess even unto the shedding of your blood, O glorious martyrs, ye accepted the divine ordinance concerning God, denouncing the delusion of the heretics and preserving the Orthodox Faith. Pray ye unceasingly to Christ God, that He grant us great mercy.

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

Without separating Himself from the divine Essence, * when taking flesh in thy womb, * He remained God though He had become a man; * and even after thy birthing, preserved thee, His Virgin Mother, * as immaculate as thou wast before giving birth. * Him do thou earnestly beseech, ** that He grant us great mercy.

Stavrotheotokion: **T**he unblemished ewe-lamb of the Word, * the incorrupt Virgin Mother, * beholding Him Who sprang forth from her without pain * suspended upon the Cross, cried out, maternally lamenting: * “Woe is me, O my Child! * How is it that Thou dost suffer willingly, * desiring to redeem mankind ** from the indignity of the passions?”

ODE IV

Irmos: **H**e who sitteth in glory upon the throne of the Godhead, * Jesus the true God, * is come in a swift cloud * and with His sinless hands he hath saved those who cry: * **Glory to Thy power, O Christ.**

The martyrs of the Lord, made steadfast by their valiant mind and the perfect wisdom of Orthodoxy, finished the contest of martyrdom, having driven away the darkness of heresy.

He who did not profess that the Word is consubstantial with the Father and was mindlessly wroth against you, O martyrs, was strangled with the cords of your sacred struggles and by the grace of God was drowned in the torrents of your blood.

With joyous hymnody let the valiant Marcian and Martyrius be praised: the breasts of the Church pouring forth the milk of Orthodoxy and nurturing the pious.

Theotokion: **O**f old, the sacred prophet called thee the divine mountain of God greatly overshadowed by the virtues, O most pure Virgin, from whom the Savior and Word appeared for the restoration and enlightenment of our souls.

ODE V

Irmos: **T**he wicked will not behold Thy glory, O Christ, * but we who rise early to hymn Thee shall behold Thee, * the Only-Begotten effulgence of Thy Father's divinity, * **O Lover of mankind.**

Ye showed yourselves to be followers of the most wise dogmas of Paul; the divine hierarch, O martyrs; and emulating his ways, ye suffered patiently and have been lawfully crowned.

Like stars ye shine forth radiantly at the summit of the honored Church, driving away the most profound darkness of the heresy of Arius, O most valiant martyrs.

Withdrawing from the beauties of life, O holy ones, ye drew nigh unto Christ, and by shedding but a little blood ye have inherited the unshakable kingdom, O glorious spiritual athletes.

Theotokion: On earth thou hast given birth to the Son and Truth Who is consubstantial with the Father and the divine Spirit, O Birthgiver of God. Him do thou unceasingly entreat, that He have compassion on our souls.

ODE VI

Irmos: I have reached the depths of the sea * and the tempest of my many sins hath engulfed me; * but do Thou raise up my life from the abyss * O Greatly-merciful One.

Following the words of Paul, the most wise pastor, ye kept the Orthodox Faith, and like lambs ye were slaughtered by the swords of the blood-thirsty, rejoicing.

Precious in the sight of the Lord was your death, O right glorious and wise warriors; wherefore, every year ye are blessed by all with honors, O saints.

O all-blessed and valiant spiritual athletes Marcian and Martyrius, the Church of Christ ever rejoiceth, possessing you as a well-spring of miracles.

Theotokion: With mouth and tongue we truly confess thee to be the Mother of our God, O Virgin. Him do thou earnestly entreat, O pure one, that our souls be saved.

Kontakion of the holy martyrs, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: "Having been lifted up ...":

Having struggled well from childhood, * O Marcian and wise Martyrius, * ye cast down the apostate Arius, * preserving the Orthodox Faith untainted, * following Paul, the wise teacher. * Wherefore, with him ye have found life, ** as most excellent champions of the Trinity.

Ikos: As servants of the piety of God, the Lover of mankind, O blessed twain, go ye quickly before me and deliver me from evils, bestowing upon me words of wisdom, that I may praise your suffering for the Faith, O holy ones who suffered with constant integrity and have received heavenly crowns. And ye rejoice with the choirs of spiritual athletes and apostles, teachers and honored hierarchs, as preachers of the Word of God and most excellent champions of the Trinity.

ODE VII

Irmos: Of old the Children of Abraham in Babylon * trampled down the flame of the furnace, * crying aloud with hymns: * O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

Following well the sacred pastor, and adorned with Orthodoxy, in vain were ye slain at the hands of the heretics, O most glorious warriors.

Faithfully preserving the law of God unadulterated, O divine martyrs, ye suffered lawfully and were slain together at the hands of the iniquitous.

After your sacred burial, O saints, ye bury the infirmities of those who approach your tomb with faith, through your holy mediation before the Bestower of life.

Theotokion: **D**elivered from eternal damnation by thy birthgiving, O Mother of God, we cry out to thee: Rejoice, O ever blessed and joyous one!

ODE VIII

Irmos: **O** almighty Redeemer of all, * having descended and bedewed the children * in the midst of the flame, * Thou didst teach them to sing: * All ye works bless and hymn the Lord.

Professing the Lamb of God to be consubstantial with the Father, ye were slaughtered like two lambs; and brought to the banquet on high, ye have been reckoned among the assembly of those who suffered.

Strengthened by the power of the Spirit, ye uprooted the savagery of delusion, O wise martyrs, and, having suffered mightily, ye heal those who are grievously afflicted by infirmities.

As physicians of the passions of our souls, O holy martyrs, by your divine supplications free us from cruel infirmities and the uprisings of the adversary.

Triadicon: **W**e hymn the unbegotten Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the one uncreated Essence, the one Divinity; and we cry out together: All ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord!

Theotokion: **O** Birthgiver of God and Lady, who hast given birth to the Life of all, thou glory of the martyrs and the righteous, and fervent cleansing of transgressions: thou hast brought life to us who are dead.

ODE IX

Irmos: **E**ve dwelt under the curse of sin * because of the infirmity of disobedience; * but thou, O Virgin Theotokos, * hast through the Offspring of thy pregnancy * blossomed forth blessing upon the world. * Wherefore, we all magnify thee.

Enlivened by divine strength, O spiritual athletes, ye were not afraid of death, and, zealously bowing your necks beneath the sword, ye valiantly finished your divine contest. Wherefore, ye are worthily called blessed.

Like two radiant beacons ye illumine the fullness of the world with the splendors of divine sufferings, O wise Marcian and Martyrius, driving away the gloom of the dark heresy of Arius.

Having vanquished Macedonius who is blind of mind, ye received from God crowns of glory as is meet. Standing before the throne of the Master, O right glorious ones, ask for us perfect remission of transgressions.

Your divine memory hath shone forth more brightly than the sun, illumining the hearts of all who celebrate it, O blessed ones. Thereon beseech ye the Lord, that He deliver us from the darkness of our offenses.

Theotokion: **A**s the dwelling-place of the Light, O pure and all-immaculate one, illumine the eyes of my soul which have been darkened by negligence and are ever afflicted with the most profound gloom of ignorance, that I may bless thee with faith.

Exapostilarion of the holy martyrs:

Spec. Mel.: “By the Spirit in the sanctuary ...”:

As followers of the all-blessed Paul, ye finished your course and with him have received the kingdom of Christ and immortal glory; and ye stand together with all the saints before the adored Trinity, glorifying the Godhead as is meet.

Theotokion: **T**he ranks of the incorporeal ones praise thy birthgiving; for thou alone hast filled those on earth with joy. Wherefore, we the faithful glorify thee who art all-immaculate, praising thee with hymns. For upon those in darkness thou hast shone forth the Light Which shineth forth today like the dawn.

AT LITURGY

Troparion of the holy martyrs, in Tone IV:

In their sufferings, Thy martyrs O Lord, * received imperishable crowns from Thee, our God; * for, possessed of Thy might, * they set at naught the tyrants and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons. ** By their supplications save Thou our souls.

Kontakion of the holy martyrs, in Tone IV:

Having struggled well from childhood, * O Marcian and wise Martyrius, * ye cast down the apostate Arius, * preserving the Orthodox Faith untainted, * following Paul, the wise teacher. * Wherefore, with him ye have found life, ** as most excellent champions of the Trinity.

Prokeimenon, in Tone IV: Wondrous is God in His saints, * the God of Israel.

Verse: In congregations bless ye God, the Lord from the well-springs of Israel.

EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS, §224B (EPH 4:7-13)

Brethren: Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Alleluia, in Tone IV: The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations.

Verse: Many are the tribulations of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW, §34 (MT 10:1, 5-8)

At that time, when Jesus had called unto Him His twelve disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them saying: "Go not into the way of the gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."

Communion Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.