

THE 29th DAY OF THE MONTH OF APRIL
COMMEMORATION OF THE 9 HOLY MARTYRS OF CYZICUS
COMMEMORATION OF THE VENERABLE MEMNON
THE WONDER-WORKER
AT VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 6 Stichera: 3 of the holy martyrs, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “O most glorious wonder ...”:

O all-praised martyrs of Christ, * when once the mindlessness of the Greeks * held sway * and drew all * into the pit of iniquity, * ye did not leave the straight path * and did not join yourselves to ungodliness, * but suffered With valor of character ** and, slain by the sword, ye have inherited life.

Celebrating with gladness their sacred memory, * with faith let us honor * and with hymns let us bless * Theognes, Rufus and Antipater, * Theostichus and Artemas, * Magnus and Theodotus, * the glorious Thaumasius and the godly Philemon, * who shone forth splendidly in their sufferings, ** enlightening those in darkness.

O beautiful flowers of the martyrs, * ye sacred legion, * company assembled by God, * excellent congregation, * divinely chosen assembly, * holy choir, blessed council, * who struggled for the Trinity: * entreat the Trinity, beseech the Trinity for us, ** that we may receive forgiveness of sins.

And 3 Stichera of the venerable one, in the same melody:

O blessed and venerable Memnon, * having first purified thy soul * by ascetic labor, * thou didst become a pure and comely abode of the Spirit; * wherefore, thou dost expel evil spirits * and ever healest the infirmities * of those who have recourse to thee. * Pray thou to Christ ** on behalf of us who praise thee.

O glorious and venerable Memnon, * having gained control over the passions of thy soul, * thou didst train a legion of monks, * zealously anointing them for the labors of asceticism, * and presenting them * before the Word Who seeth all things; * and having lived a blessed life * and been unsullied by defilements, ** with them be thou ever mindful of us who praise thee.

O venerable and most noetically rich Memnon, * of old thou didst cause * a spring of water to pour forth, * unto the praise of the Lord and for the preservation of souls. * Thou hast saved ships from the depths of the sea, * by thy supplications thou hast preserved some from a plague of locusts, * and dost ever work countless miracles. * Pray thou to Christ ** on behalf of us who praise thee.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Doxasticon from the Pentecostarion.

Or this Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

The pre-eternal God, * taking flesh from thy blood, * hath shown thee forth, O pure one, * as an intercessor for all mankind. * Wherefore, deliver thy servants * from all misfortune and every evil circumstance, * and grant that all who glorify and bow down before thee * be deemed worthy ** of the splendor of the elect.

Stavrotheotokion: **B**eholding Thee nailed to the Cross * and voluntarily accepting suffering, O Jesus, * Thy Virgin Mother, O Master, * cried aloud: Woe is me, my sweet Child! * How is it that Thou dost endure * unjustly inflicted wounds, * O Physician Who healeth the infirmities of mankind, * delivering all from corruption ** in Thy tender compassion?

AT MATINS

ODE I

Canon of the holy martyrs, in Tone IV:

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.

Delighting together in divine beauty, partaking abundantly of a torrent of sustenance, and deified by communion, O crown-bearing martyrs, deliver from cruel misfortunes those who call you blessed.

Having shone forth like rays of the sun, O ye spiritual athletes, with the beams of your steadfast struggles, enlighten all with the effulgence of miracles, dispelling the night of the passions and driving away the gloom of the demons.

Having been slain on earth with painful wounds, ye have passed over together to the life devoid of pain, O greatly suffering youths, wherefore, ye pour forth healings, easing all pain by your God-pleasing supplications, O most noetically rich martyrs.

Theotokion: Through thy precious blood thou hast given birth to God, Who became incarnate in a manner past understanding and assumed an appearance like unto ours, O most immaculate Mother. Wherefore, all of us, the generations of generations, call thee blessed, thou confirmation of the holy martyrs.

Canon of the venerable one, in the same tone:

Irmos: Through the deep of the Red Sea, * marched dry shod Israel of old, * and by Moses' outstretched hands, * raised in the form of a cross, * the power of Amalek was routed in the wilderness.

Shining with the divine grace of the most Holy Spirit, O life-bearing Memnon, by thy radiant supplication, purge the gloom of the passions from those who celebrate thine honored repose.

O venerable one, taking up thy cross, thou didst follow after the Word Who was crucified for our sake, and by abstinence and laying on the ground thou didst mortify the movements of the flesh, O venerable one.

Uniting thyself to God by fasting, prayers and tears, thou didst receive from Him the grace to heal infirmities and to expel evil spirits, O most blessed and divinely wise Memnon.

Theotokion: Clothing Himself in human nature in His goodness, O pure and most holy one, God issued forth from thee twofold in activity and nature. Him do thou ever beseech, that He enlighten those who hymn thee.

ODE III

Canon of the holy martyrs

Irmos: Not 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.

In nowise consenting to sacrifice to lifeless graven images, ye offered yourselves as living sacrifices to Him Who was sacrificed for our sake, O all-comely youths, O holy martyrs.

Strengthened by the power of the Spirit, with the divine laws ye cast down the counsels and pursuits of the iniquitous; and having suffered lawfully, ye have received glory.

Let those of great renown be praised: Artemas and Philemon, Theostichus and Magnus, the glorious Rufus, Antipater and Thaumasius, Theognius and Theodotus.

Theotokion: All the weaponry of the enemy hath now been rendered moot, O all-immaculate one, who hast given birth to Christ Who was pierced by the spear, and for Whom the martyrs, being wounded, did suffer.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: Thy Church, O Christ, rejoiceth in Thee crying aloud: * Thou, O Lord, art my strength, * my refuge and foundation.

With the enlightenment of the virtues thou didst shine forth on the earth like the sun, O venerable one, illumining the souls of all with the grace of the Spirit.

Thy loins girded, clothed in dispassion, O venerable Memnon, thou didst manifestly wield thy staff for the mortification of the passions.

Having been compassionate to the poor, O venerable one, thou didst receive from God the great grace to heal incurable suffering.

Theotokion: The Word of God made His abode within thine undefiled womb, O most pure one, and hath taken away all sin from mortal mankind.

Sessional Hymn of the holy martyrs, in Tone I:

Spec. Mel.: “Thy tomb, O Savior ...”:

The radiant choir of sacred athletes, the beautiful company, the divinely assembled council, the band ten in number, having suffered mightily and trampled the tyranny of the enemy underfoot, have been numbered with the choirs of the angels and stand before the Lord.

Glory ..., Sessional Hymn of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “Of the Wisdom ...”:

We all praise thee, O blessed one, as a radiant star illumining the world with virtues and rays of miracles; for thou wast a partaker of divine radiance, O Memnon, and hast passed over to the never-waning effulgence. Wherefore, we ever honor thy

luminous and holy memory, glorifying the Savior, and we cry out to thee with faith: Entreat Christ God, that He grant forgiveness of sins unto those who honor thy holy memory with love.

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

From the snares of enemies visible and invisible, * we have been overcome by the storms of our uncountable sins, * and fleeing unto the safe harbor of thy goodness O pure one, * we have thee as our rampart and sure protection. * Wherefore we thy servants beseech thee * to ceaselessly make fervent supplication, O most pure one, * unto Him who seedlessly became incarnate from thee, * that those who worthily hymn thee ** may be granted the remission of their sins.

Stavrotheotokion: **U**pon 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

Canon of the holy martyrs

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.**

Unto Him Who of His own will was sacrificed and hath slain death did ye offer yourselves as whole-burnt offerings, divinely slain victims, a perfect holocaust and acceptable sacrifices, O ye spiritual athletes. Wherefore, we call you blessed.

Showing forth a great miracle, O ye spiritual athletes, ye straightened bent arms and delivered from dropsy a prominent man who had recourse to your shrine with love, O right wondrous ones.

As is meet let those who suffered be blessed: Artemas and Antipater, Theostichus and Rufus, Magnus, Philemon and Theognes, with the glorious Theodotus, for they cry: **Glory to Thy power, O Christ!**

Theotokion: **H**e Who sitteth ineffably in the bosom of the Father sitteth as a babe in thine embrace, O Virgin; and the right victorious youths, emulating His blessed passion, elected to die.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **B**eholding Thee, the Sun of righteousness, * lifted up upon the cross, * the Church now standeth arrayed and doth worthily cry aloud: * **Glory be to Thy power, O Lord.**

Having purified thy heart with streams of tears, O venerable one, thou didst cause waters to flow forth in a waterless place, O Memnon, God having glorified thee as His favorite.

Shining forth like a star through thy most glorious life, O blessed one, by thy sacred wonders thou wast shown to be another heaven for those who cry out with faith: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Submitting to the laws of the Master, O venerable one, as a shepherd thou didst guide those under thee to Him Who gave thee the talent which, as a dutiful servant, thou didst greatly increase.

Theotokion: **M**y mind, which is drawn to the pleasures of the body, do thou make steadfast through thy mediation, I pray, O Theotokos who alone hast given birth to God the Bestower of good things.

ODE V

Canon of the holy martyrs

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.

Setting fire to your minds like a noetic ember, ye truly consumed all the tinder of delusion, O blessed ones, and quenched the raging flames of idolatry with the dew of faith.

Going forth to suffer for the indivisible Trinity, O spiritual athletes, it was as though ye were not separated in many bodies; wherefore, ye destroyed the whole legion of the devil.

He who with zeal went to your precious reliquaries and was freed from the legion of the evil one hymneth your wonders, O godly martyrs.

Theotokion: **T**hou hast been revealed to us as one who delivereth those who hymn thee from misfortunes and corrupting transgressions, passions, sorrows and evil circumstances, O Ever-virgin Theotokos.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **T**hou, O Lord, who camest into the world, * art my light, * a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance * those who sing Thy praises in faith.

With thy mind fixing its pure gaze upon God, O blessed of God, thou wast shown to be above the pleasures of the flesh.

As a physician of bodies, O most noetically rich father, with the grace of the Spirit drive away the bestial passions from all of our souls.

Blessed art thou, and well is it with thee, O most blessed one, for thou hast vanquished the malice of the enemy and mortified the passions.

Theotokion: **T**hou gavest birth to God, yet remained a Virgin, O Bride of God; wherefore rejoicing, the whole race of mankind calleth thee blessed.

ODE VI

Canon of the holy martyrs

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.

The death of the divine athletes hath been revealed to be precious in Thy sight, O God of all, and honoring them now, Thou hast manifestly shown them to be unmercenary healing for the sick.

Lifting up your hands and hearts to the highest with lofty intent and manly mind, O God-bearing martyrs, ye put down the assaults of the wicked one.

Theotokion: **T**hy womb was shown to be like a granary holding the Grain of immortality, Who feedeth the souls of all the faithful and enlighteneth the martyrs.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **T**he church crieth out unto Thee O Lord, * 'I will sacrifice unto Thee with a voice of praise' * having been cleansed of the blood of the demons' * by the blood that for mercy's sake flowed from Thy side.

At the mere utterance of thy name the locusts and all the wrath of the demons have been driven away, O Memnon, for thou wast known to be pleasing unto God, Who hath greatly glorified thee, O father.

Having vanquished the assault of carnal knowledge, thou didst receive the grace of the Spirit, to dispel infirmities and to heal souls sick with sin, O right wondrous one.

O the wonder! How at the mere invocation of thee, O most glorious Memnon, the faithful who sail the seas are saved, beholding thee hastening to still the tumult of the waves.

Theotokion: **M**ortify the wisdom of my flesh, O Virgin, in that thou didst conceive the Slayer of death and the Bestower of life and hast given birth to Him in a manner past all telling and comprehension, O most pure one.

Kontakion of the holy martyrs, in Tone II:

Spec. Mel.: "Seeking the highest ...":

The steadfast and most splendid choir of the ten martyrs, * who confessed the three-Sunned Godhead, * cried out to Him at the tribunal: * "O Master, we offer our blood, souls and bodies to Thee * as an unblemished sacrifice! * Number us among Thy heavenly choirs, ** in that thou art our merciful God!"

ODE VII

Canon of the holy martyrs

Irmos: **T**he three youths in Babylon, * regarded the tyrant's command as foolishness, * and cried aloud in the midst of the flame: * Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

Your labors ever pour forth divine streams of healings, O right wondrous martyrs, drying up rivers of pain and washing away all the defilement of the passions.

The spiritual athletes rejoiced with ineffable joy when they suffered, and, cut down by the sword, they chanted: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

O ye glorious spiritual athletes, ease for us the heavy burdon of our infirmities, the sufferings of our hearts, the pangs of our bodies and every sorrow which doth beset us.

Theotokion: **H**aving been shown forth as the great might of all the martyrs, O pure Mother of God, thou hast shown thyself to be the help of all those who hymn thee with sacred songs.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **I**n the Persian furnace the youths and descendants of Abraham, * burning with a love of piety * rather than by a flame of fire, * cried aloud saying: * Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord.

With showers of tears thou didst extinguish the furnace of the passions, O blessed one, and now, with the fire of thy miracles and grace, thou dost truly consume the material harm of infirmities.

Thou didst love thy Creator with all thy heart, O blessed and wise Memnon; wherefore, thou didst stand aloof from the flesh and the world, crying: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

Planted like a tree by the waters of abstinence, O most noetically rich father Memnon, in due season thou didst produce the abundant fruit of working miracles.

Thou didst cause the harm wrought by the locusts to cease by thy divine commands, O wise Memnon, and didst halt the waters of the river, crying and saying: Blessed art Thou, O my God!

Theotokion: **D**eliver me from the tempest of my innumerable sins, O Maiden, thou only mighty help of the lowly and the cleansing of transgressions. Blessed art thou among women, O all-immaculate Sovereign Lady!

ODE VIII

Canon of the holy martyrs

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.

O passion-bearing martyrs, we offer joyous praises unto Him Who hath given you as great helpers to us who cry: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord!

Rooted well like branches on the rock of faith, the martyrs have brought forth the fruits of suffering for us who chant with faith: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord!

O greatly renowned physicians of the passions, heal the suffering of my soul and, beseeching Christ our God, deliver me from Gehenna and the outermost darkness thereof.

Theotokion: **T**hou hast given birth to Christ the Bestower of life Who hath crowned the lawfully suffering passion-bearing martyrs. Him do thou entreat, O Maiden, that He heal me who am vanquished by the law of sin.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **H**aving spread his hands, Daniel closed the lions' jaws * in their den; * while the zealously pious youths, * girded with virtue, * quenched the power of the fire and cried aloud: * Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord.

Thou didst shine forth like the dawn, like a star, like the great sun, O divinely inspired Memnon, illumining with grace the souls of those who have set thee forth as an excellent guide, a sacred teacher and a wondrous instructor, who dost cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

When thou didst acquire humble wisdom through the grace of the Spirit, O most blessed one, thou didst deal a deep wound to the enemy who gave rise to death, casting his arrogant mind down to the earth and trampling underfoot his soul-corrupting snares.

Having lived a good life, O holy one, thou wast deemed worthy to behold the blessedness and everlasting delight of heaven and the splendors of the saints; and now thou dost cry out with joy: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

The place which before was waterless is now filled with water, proclaiming thy faith in the Lord, O venerable one, and the grace of the miracles which thou didst perform, crying out to the Bestower of good things: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Theotokion: **V**ouchsafe visitation unto my lowly soul, which is afflicted with the weight of evils and is drowning, O Sovereign Lady, full of the grace of God, and show it to be utterly restored to health, that it may cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

ODE IX

Canon of the holy martyrs

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.

“Lo! the gates of heaven have been opened for you who have suffered!” Christ said to the passion-bearers; “Enter in and, rejoicing, and receive everlasting rewards for your pangs, as befitteth those who have fought bravely!”

Ye were beautiful in the wounds of your bodies and emulated the angels; and now ye stand before the Beauty of all, ever rejoicing and manifestly adorned with the communion of beautiful things, O most honored ones.

Let us stand in the house of God, praising the sufferings of Antipater and Theostichus, Rufus and Philemon, and the wonders of the divine Thaumasion, Magnus and Artemas, and the invincibility of Theognis and Theodotus.

Today hath the festival of the saints shone forth salvation upon us, and, celebrating it with supplication, let us cry out to them with faith: O radiant summit of the martyrs, illumine the hearts of us all!

Theotokion: **C**lothed by thee in the purple robe of the body, the King issued forth, supremely adorned from thy womb, vanquishing all enemies and granting victory to the spiritual athletes, O only pure Ever-virgin.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **A** cornerstone not cut by hand O Virgin, * was cut from thee the unhewn mountain: * even Christ, Who hath joined together the disparate natures; * therefore rejoicing we magnify thee, * O Theotokos.

Strengthened by the might of the Godhead, O divinely wise Memnon, thou wast able to overcome all the power of the enemy; wherefore, having received a crown as a victor, pray thou to Christ on our behalf.

Streams of healings pour forth from thy shrine as from a well-spring, O venerable one, washing away pain and defilement by the power of the divine Spirit, and giving drink to the minds of those who honor thee.

Today thy memorial doth enlighten every age and mind like the sun, O father Memnon, for thou hast accomplished the works of Light; and having now departed unto the never-waning Light, thou hast made thine abode with Him.

Thou wast taken up into the eternal mansions, and beholding God as is meet, thou hast been numbered among the flocks of the venerable, O blessed Memnon. With them be thou ever mindful of those who commemorate thee here on earth.

Theotokion: **O** Virgin, we joyously declare to thee the cry of the archangel: Rejoice, O annulment of the curse, glory of the venerable, boast of the martyrs, preaching of the prophets and salvation of mankind!