

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Day of February**  
**Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord; Commemoration of our Venerable**  
**Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus; and our Venerable Father Luke of**  
**Hellas.**

**Vespers**

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera.**

**3 stichera to Saint Parthenius, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “Joy of the ranks of heaven....”***

**The namesake of virginity, /  
The shining beacon of Lampsacus, /  
The bright morning-star radiating miracles, /  
The great Parthenius /  
Calls us all to mystically celebrate his holy memory ///  
As we sing the praises of Christ the Savior.**

**From childhood thou didst bear God within thyself, /  
Destroying legions of demons by the fire of thy prayers; /  
As the shepherd the flock at Lampsacus, thou didst renew thyself in God, /  
By destroying the altars of the idols, ///  
O wise and blessed father Parthenius.**

**A fish, cast from the sea proclaimed thy wonders; /  
A lifeless workman was brought back to life; /  
Barren fields and grapevines were made to bear their fruit /  
When abundant and quenching rains came at thy promise; /  
Wondrous are thy deeds, O minister of the sacred mysteries! ///  
Pray now, that our souls may be saved.**

**And 3 stichera to Saint Luke, in Tone 6: *To the melody, “Having set all aside....”***

**Following the Lord from thy youth, O blessed one, /  
Thou didst leave thy parent’s home /  
Leaving behind the passion and love of earthly things. /  
Thou didst come to live in the wilderness /  
Living a life of fasting and humility: /  
And coming to the end of thy days, burning in spirit, O ven’rable one, /  
Thou didst make well thy purchase /  
Giving thy possessions to the poor /  
In exchange for Christ the precious pearl ///  
And receiving Him, thou didst attain thine inheritance, O right-glorious one.**

**B**eaten, reviled and afflicted /  
At the hands of thine earthly father, /  
For the sake of Christ whom thou didst love, /  
And being wounded with desire for His sake, O glorious one, /  
Thou didst reckon as nothing all the beautiful things of this world, /  
And depriving thyself of thy mother's love /  
Thou didst secretly wander the world in monastic robes. /  
But God revealed thee to all, O venerable Luke, disregarding thy will, /  
Being moved by the prayers of thy mother ///  
In that He is the Lover of mankind.

**H**aving ended the course of thy sacred life, O venerable Luke, /  
Many glorious and wondrous miracles are performed by thee, /  
For God, who pledged thee a divine reward for thy godly labors /  
Hath granted thee an incorruptible crown /  
And eternal glory when He shall come as Judge. /  
Beseech Him now, that we who sing thy praises ///  
May be spared His wrath on Judgement Day.

**Glory..., now and ever..., of the Feast, in the same Tone: (and usual melody; by Germanus)**

**O** Christ our God, /  
Who hast been pleased to rest this day /  
In the arms of the Elder as upon the chariot of the cherubim: /  
Deliver us now from the tyranny of the passions /  
And save us who praise Thee, ///  
O Lover of mankind.

*Or, on a Friday or Saturday evening, the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week.*

**Note:** If it be during Lent, then: **Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and usual melody)**

**O** most pure Lady /  
Visit me quickly for I have been wounded by the violent attacks of the demons /  
And am laying here unable to move on this treacherous path of life in need of mercy; /  
Do thou pour wine and oil upon my festering wounds, /

And restore me to health that I may lovingly sing thy praises /  
And rightly glorify thee ///  
O only pure Mother and Virgin.

**Or the Stavrotheokion, if on a Wednesday of Friday (i.e. on Tuesday or Thursday Evening) in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**A** sword has pierced thy heart, /  
As Symeon said, O most pure Lady, /  
When thou didst behold Him Who shone forth ineffably from thee /  
Condemned by the lawless and lifted upon the Cross, /  
Given gall to eat and vinegar to drink, /  
His hand and feet pierced with nails, His side run through with a spear, /  
Thou didst cry out to Him with a mother's sorrow: ///  
What is this new mystery, O my sweetest Child?

*Or, on a Friday or Saturday evening, the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week.*

**At the Aposticha, the stichera of the Feast, in Tone 6: To the melody, "On the third day...."**

**T**ake up in thine arms, O Symeon, /  
Take up the Creator of all; /  
O Elder, take up Christ to whom the Virgin Maiden gave birth without seed ///  
Unto the joy of mankind.

*Verse:* Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word.

**L**et us praise the Giver of the Law, /  
Before whom the hosts of angels tremble; /  
Come all ye people assembled /  
And let us praise the only Benefactor, ///  
Unto the salvation of our souls.

*Verse:* A light to enlighten the gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

**L**ord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, /  
From the bonds of corruption /  
As thou didst promise, /  
For I have beheld Thee, O Christ ///  
The pre-eternal Light which enlightens the Gentiles and Israel.

**Glory..., now and ever..., of the Feast, in the same Tone: (by John the Monk)**

**L**et the gate of heaven be opened today: /  
For He who is without beginning, /  
The Word of the Father, /  
Has made a beginning in time without forsaking His divinity, /  
And as a babe forty days old /  
He is of His own will brought by the Virgin His Mother /  
As an offering in the temple of the Law. /  
The Elder received Him in his arms, /  
Crying as a servant to the Master: /  
“Let me depart, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.” ///  
Glory to Thee, O Lord, who hast come into the world to save mankind.

**The Troparion to the Venerable Fathers, in Tone 4:**

**O** God of our fathers /  
Deal with us according to Thy compassion /  
Take not away Thy mercy from us /  
But through the prayers of our father Parthenius ///  
Guide our lives along the way of peace.

**Glory..., now and ever..., the Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 1:**

**R**ejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! /  
From thee hast risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, /  
Who gives light to those in darkness. /  
Rejoice, also, O righteous elder; /  
Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls ///  
Who grants us the resurrection.

**Matins**

**At “God is the Lord...,” the Troparion of the Feast, twice:**

**R**ejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! /  
From thee hast risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, /  
Who gives light to those in darkness. /  
Rejoice, also, O righteous elder; /  
Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls ///  
Who grants us the resurrection.

**Glory..., the Troparion to the Venerable Fathers, in Tone 4:** “O God of our fathers...”

**Now and ever..., the Troparion of the Feast:** “Rejoice, O Virgin...”

**After the 1<sup>st</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn of the Feast, in Tone 4: To the melody, "Joseph was amazed ..."**

**T**hou didst become a babe for my sake, O Ancient of days, /  
And performed the rites of purification, O most pure God, /  
That I might be assured that Thou didst assume flesh from the Virgin. /  
Symeon, taught by this, recognized Thee as being God in the flesh, /  
And having kissed Thee, our Life, he rejoiced and cried aloud: /  
"Release me, for I have seen Thee, the Life of all!"

**Glory..., now and ever... Repeat the above:** "Thou didst become a babe..."

**After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn of the Feast, in Tone 1: To the melody; "Let the choir of angels ...."**

**H**e who is seated upon the holy throne with the Father, /  
Has come down to earth born of the Virgin; /  
He who is not bound by time, has become a babe; /  
And Symeon, received Him in his arms and said: /  
"Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, ///  
O Compassionate One, having brought great joy to me."

**Glory..., now and ever... Repeat the above:** "He who is seated..."

### **The Canon**

**The Canon of the Feast, with 6 Troparia, including the Irmos  
and two Canons for the Saints, with 4 Troparia each.**

#### **Ode 1**

#### **The Canon of the Feast, in Tone 3**

*having the Acrostic: "The Elder joyously embraced Christ,"  
the composition of Cosmas.*

**Irmos:** *The sun once shone with its rays upon dry land in the midst of the deep; for the water on both sides became firm as a wall while the people crossed the sea on foot offering songs acceptable to God: Let us sing to the Lord, for He hath been greatly glorified.*

**Refrain:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

**L**et the clouds drop with rain, for Christ the Sun, riding upon a swift cloud, is carried by pure hands as a babe into the temple. Therefore let us the faithful cry aloud: Let us sing to the Lord, for He hath been greatly glorified.

**Y**e hands of Symeon, weakened by age, be strong, and ye, the feeble legs of the Elder, run straight to meet Christ. Forming a choir with the bodiless powers, let us sing to the Lord, for He has been greatly glorified.

**B**e joyful, O heavens stretched out in wisdom, and be ye exceedingly glad, O earth. For Christ the Fashioner, who came forth from the bosom of the Godhead and who was before all things, as a newborn child is offered to God His Father in the temple by His Mother the Virgin: for He has been greatly glorified.

### **The Canon of the Holy Hierarch, in Tone 4**

*Irmos: In days of old, Israel crossed the depths of the Red Sea with dry-shod feet and vanquished the power of Amalek in the wilderness by Moses' arms upraised in the form of the Cross.*

*Refrain:* Holy hierarch father Parthenius, pray to God for us!

**T**he radiant glory of thy miracles illumine us all with the grace of the virtues on this festive day, O wise hierarch.

**T**hou didst lift up thy mind to the heights of dispassion, O venerable Parthenius, and entering into the divine mysteries of the Scriptures, thou didst find thyself in the place of the uncreated light, O venerable father.

**D**rawing the word of God as a sword, O holy hierarch Parthenius, thou didst wound the might of the enemy and wast granted trophies for thy victories over the demons.

*Theotokion:* **O** Virgin, in paradise, envy gave birth to the death of mankind; but the Son of God the Father, to whom thou hast given birth, hath destroyed death and granted immortality to our race.

### **The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 6**

*Irmos: When Israel passed on foot over the deep as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud: Let us sing to God a song of victory!*

*Refrain:* Venerable father Luke, pray to God for us!

**S**tanding before the throne of thy Master, O Luke, thou eyewitness of God, grant me the sufficient words to praise thy radiant and splendid life and lift the shadows from darkening my mind.

**T**he venerable Luke loved Thee with all his might, steadfastly applying himself to ascetic labor, enduring hardships and great suffering, through which he found the sweetness of indescribable joy.

**G**lory...

**M**aking thy body strong through abstinence, O wise father Luke, thy frequent night-long vigils and all thy labors stemmed the assaults of the dread passions.

Now and ever...

*Theotokion:* **O** Virgin who bore God in the flesh and gave birth to the Lord, who is inseparable from the Father, yet became incarnate in His compassion for us mortals, grant that I may be unharmed by the malice of the passions.

*Katavasia, the irmosi of the Feast:* The sun once shone with its rays... *(see above)*

### Ode 3

#### The Canon of the Feast

*Irmos:* *O Lord, the firm foundation of those that put their trust in Thee, do Thou confirm the Church, which Thou hast purchased with Thy precious blood.*

**T**he firstborn of the Father before all ages has appeared from an undefiled Maiden as a firstborn child and He stretches out His hand to Adam.

**T**hat He might restore the first-formed man who, through beguilement had become childish in his mind, God the Word has appeared as a Child.

**T**he Creator, having become a young child without undergoing change, has, according to the form of His divinity, reshaped our nature, taken from the earth and destined to return to earth once again.

#### The Canon of the Holy Hierarch

*Irmos:* *The Church rejoices in Thee, O Christ, and it cries aloud: Thou art my strength, O Lord, my refuge and confirmation!*

**F**lourishing like a palm-tree in the land of virtues, O venerable one, thou didst store up the fruits of immortality in the heavens.

**G**race dwelling within thee, O venerable one, revealed thee to be a temple of the God of all; therefore, thou hast been glorified, O holy father Parthenius.

**V**ested by God with the precious robes of a hierarch, O glorious one, thou wast revealed as a master of the sacred mysteries, worthy of His goodness.

*Theotokion:* **O** most pure Lady, the wall of our condemnation hath been ineffably destroyed by thy birthgiving, and by this, have we been united with the divine Essence.

#### The Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* *There is none as holy as Thou, O Lord my God, who hast exalted the power of Thy faithful, O Blessèd One, and hast established us upon the rock of thy confession.*

**F**lying high on the wings of thy fervent love for the Savior, thou didst leave behind the love of thy parents and became a stranger to all the sweet things of this world.

**D**esiring to make thyself into a temple of the Lord, thou didst make thine abode in the wilderness like Elijah of old, contending against the demons, and there, thou didst obtain a blessed end.

**T**hou wast indeed a good servant, obedient to every commandment of God, and observing them well in all humility. Therefore, thou hast won the heights of heaven.

*Theotokion:* **O** Virgin Mother of God, earnestly entreat the Word, who in a manner past all understanding revealed Himself and delivered us all from our irrational sins.

*Katavasia:* O Lord, the firm foundation... *(see above)*

**The Kontakion of the Holy Hierarch, in Tone 3: To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."**

**T**hou didst receive the divine grace of working miracles, /  
O divinely-wise God-bearer and wonderworker Parthenius. /  
Thou dost cleanse all the faithful from their passions /  
And drivest away the evil spirits, O father. ///  
Therefore, we sing thy praise, O great initiate of the mysteries of the grace of God.

**Sessional Hymn of the Holy Hierarch, in Tone 3: To the melody: "Of divine faith..."**

**F**illed with the divine Spirit, /  
Thou didst shine forth in works of piety. /  
Thou didst turn many away from falsehood and error /  
And healed the sufferings of the sick. /  
O holy wonderworker, father Parthenius, /  
Entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**Glory..., now and ever... Sessional Hymn of the Saint, in Tone 8: To the melody: "Of wisdom..."**

**L**oving the virtues from thy childhood, O wise and ven'erable one, /  
Early didst thou avoid all the pleasures of this world, /  
Being most fervent in both fasting and abstinence; /  
And coming to disregard thy mother's desires, /  
Thou didst secretly commit thyself to the life of a pilgrim. /  
But God revealed thee again to thy mother, /  
Who justly lamented of being deprived of thee. /  
Dwelling now with her in the heavens, entreat Christ our God, ///  
That He may grant forgiveness of sins to those who lovingly celebrate thy holy  
memory.

**Now and ever... Sessional Hymn of the Feast, in the same in Tone 8: To the melody, "The shepherd's pipes...."**

**Thou**, who art co-eternal with the Father /  
Wast born on earth, /  
And carried into the temple, O Infinite One! /  
Rejoicing, the elder took Thee in his arms, and cried aloud: /  
Now lettest me whom Thou hast visited depart in peace /  
According to Thy word, ///  
O Thou whose good pleasure it is, as God, to save the human race.

**Note:** If it be during Lent, then: **Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, Tone 8:**

**The Master and Creator of all, /  
Having received flesh from thy most pure womb, /  
O immaculate Lady, /  
Hath shown thee to be the intercessor for all mankind. /  
Fleeing to thee we ask to be cleansed of our transgressions, /  
To be delivered from eternal torments, /  
And from all the oppression of the prince of this world. /  
Therefore we cry to thee: O Sovereign Lady, /  
Entreat thy Son and God that He grant the remission of sins ///  
To those who with faith worship thy most holy birthgiving.**

**Or the Stavrotheotokion, in Tone 8:**

**When she beheld the Lamb, /  
The Shepherd and Deliverer stretched out upon the Cross, /  
With maternal tears the ewe-lamb cried aloud: /  
"The world rejoiceth for it hath received deliverance though Thee, /  
Yet my womb burns at the sight of Thy crucifixion, /  
Which Thou dost endure in Thy compassion and mercy. /  
O long-suffering Lord, and infinite source of mercy, /  
Have pity and grant the remission of sins ///  
To those who faithfully praise Thy divine suffering."**

#### Ode 4

#### The Canon of the Feast

**Irmos:** *Thy virtue, O Christ, has covered the heavens, for proceeding forth from the Ark of Thy sanctification, from Thine undefiled Mother, Thou hast appeared in*

*the temple of Thy glory as an infant in arms, and the whole world was filled with Thy praise.*

**T**he Theotokos cried: “O Symeon, initiate of the ineffable mysteries, with rejoicing take in thine arms Christ, the Word become a child, concerning whom thou wast told long since by the Holy Spirit, and cry aloud to Him: The whole world hath been filled with Thy praise!”

**O** Symeon, receive with joy Christ in age a babe, the Consolation of God’s Israel, for which thou hast hoped, the Maker and Master of the Law who fulfils the order of the Law; and cry unto Him: “The whole world hath been filled with Thy praise!”

**S**ymeon was amazed when he beheld incarnate the Word that is without beginning, carried by the Virgin as on the throne of the cherubīm, the Cause of all being, Himself become a babe; and he cried aloud to Him: “The whole world hath been filled with Thy praise!”

### **The Canon of the Holy Hierarch**

*Irmos: Beholding Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, lifted up upon the Cross, the Church stood rooted in place, and rightly it cried aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!*

**D**elighting in the hidden mysteries of God, O thrice-blessèd hierarch, thou didst learn His secret things and poured forth rivers of understanding to all, O Parthenius.

**C**aught up in mind to heaven, O God-bearing father, thou didst behold the ineffable glory of God. For this thou didst appear on earth to be an equal with the angels, O holy father Parthenius.

**A**ll creation rejoices with the angels beholding the wondrous signs wrought by thee, O holy father. Therefore, we praise the Cause of all as the almighty God.

*Theotokion:* **T**he mysteries of thy birthgiving are ineffable, most glorious and amazing, O most pure Theotokos, and our minds are overawed in contemplating them, O Lady.

### **The Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos: Christ is my strength, my God and my Lord, the sacred Church sings in a manner befitting God, with a pure mind, keeping festival unto the Lord.*

**T**hou wast innocent, righteous, meek and chaste, O venerable father Luke; wherefore, thou wast called bless’t by the Creator and Master of all.

**B**eholding the purity of thy life, the hater of mankind was enraged and raised up a multitude of temptations against thee; yet thou didst overpower the hungry wolf with thy powerful words and left his gaping mouth empty.

**W**ith a virtuous mind, rightly didst thou guide thy life toward that which is higher, O all-blessèd father, desiring to behold the summit of all desires.

*Theotokion:* **T**he Lord found thee to be more beautiful than all others, O pure Virgin, and He made His abode within thy womb, thus delivering me from the disfigurement of the passions and the darkness of hell.

### Ode 5 The Canon of the Feast

*Irmos:* *In a figure Isaiah saw God upon a throne, lifted up on high and borne in triumph by angels of glory; and he cried: “Woe is me! For I have seen before-hand God made flesh, Lord of the light that knows no evening and King of peace.”*

**T**he aged servant of God, seeing before him the Word held in the arms of His Mother, understood that this was the Glory made manifest of old to the prophet; and he cried, “Rejoice, O holy Lady; for as a throne dost thou carry God, Lord of the light that knows no evening and the King of peace.”

**T**he Elder bent down and reverently touched the footprints of the Mother of God who knew no wedlock, and he said: “O pure Lady, thou dost carry Fire. I am afraid to take God as a babe in my arms, Lord of the light that one, thou dost bear Fire! I fear to hold the infant God, Lord of the light that knows no evening and the King of peace.”

“Isaiah was cleansed by receiving the coal from the Seraph,” cried the old man to the Mother of God. “Thou dost fill me with light as thou dost entrust to me, with thy hands as with tongs, Him whom thou holdest, Lord of the light that knows no evening and the King of peace.”

### The Canon of the Holy Hierarch

*Irmos:* *Thou hast come, O Lord, as a light into the world: a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance those who sing to Thee with faith*

**O** father Parthenius, thou wast anointed with the oil of the Spirit to serve the Lord who adorned thee with glory. Earnestly didst thou study the Scriptures, O father, and finding Christ, the Pearl of great price, thou didst give Him to thy flock.

**P**ossessing inexhaustible grace from God, O wise one, thou dost pour forth glorious miracles upon all the world, O wonder-working, father Parthenius.

*Theotokion:* **L**et heaven sprinkle grace and gladness upon the earth; for God hath given it the greatest cause for joy, the only Theotokos.

### The Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* *With Thy divine light, O Good One, illumine, I ask Thee, the souls of those who in love keep vigil that they may know Thee, O Word of God as the true God Who recalls them from the darkness of sin.*

**R**eceiving the reward of thy labors from Him who enriched thee, O venerable father, thou wast revealed to all to be a well-spring of miracles, washing away the infirmities of those who come to thee.

**T**hou wast not shaken by the assaults of the enemy, O father, nor wast thou frightened by his attacks, but thou didst stand like a firm pillar, clad in the breast-plate of humility.

**H**aving completed well the course of thy holy life, O all-blessèd father, and receiving the grace of healings from Almighty God, thou dost give sight to the blind and make whole the lame and paralyzed both in body and in spirit.

*Theotokion:* **C**ome all ye people and let us praise her who ineffably gave birth to the Word of God yet remained an incorrupt Virgin even after giving birth, for she is the intercession of all and our salvation.

### Ode 6

#### The Canon of the Feast

*Irmos:* *The Elder, having seen with his eyes the salvation that was to come to the people, cried aloud unto Thee: "O Christ that comest from God, Thou art my God."*

**T**hou hast been set up in Sion as a stumbling stone and rock of offense for the disobedient, but unto the faithful Thou art salvation which cannot be broken

**B**earing faithfully the image of Him who begat Thee before all ages, Thou hast now from pity put on the weakness of mortal man.

**N**ow lettest Thou depart in peace him who worships Thee as the Son of the Most High and Son of the Virgin; God become a Child.

#### The Canon of the Holy Hierarch

*Irmos:* *"I will sacrifice to Thee with a voice of praise, O Lord," the Church cries out to Thee, having been cleansed of the blood of demons by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.*

**W**ith the sound of the Spirit, O most glorious one, thy God-bearing life trumpets to all the world thy gifts and wondrous miracles.

**T**hou didst sprinkle the water of adoption upon thy flock, washing away the stain of impiety with thy teachings and illumining them with the light of grace, O Parthenius.

*Theotokion:* **O** Virgin Birthgiver of God, thou didst bring into the world the Fruit of Life who is the eternal Lord and Mediator of incorruption for those who honor thee with faith and love.

### The Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* Beholding the sea of life surging high with the storm of temptations, I have fled to Thy tranquil haven and cry out unto Thee: Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One!

The ancient power of evil over us hath been destroyed and the many wiles of the wicked one have disappeared; for, behold! a simple and innocent youth hath cast thee, the great deceiver, down.

Thou gavest no slumber to thine eyes, nor sleep to thine eye-lids, O venerable one, until thou didst cast down all the wiles of the deceiver who raised up all manner of temptations against thee.

Thou didst reach the end of thy chaste life offering hospitality to strangers and giving alms richly and abundantly to all the poor. Therefore, thou hast received incorruptible glory and all the delights of paradise.

*Theotokion:* Thou hast given birth in the flesh to One of the Trinity, O most pure Birthgiver of God, in a manner beyond all understanding and all reason. Therefore, I cry aloud to thee: by thy prayers make me to be a dwelling-place of the divine Trinity.

*Katavasia:* The Elder, having seen... (see above)

### The Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, /  
And didst bless Symeon's hands, O Christ God. /  
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. ///  
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of mankind!

*Ikos:* Let us hasten to the Theotokos desiring to behold her Son brought to Symeon. The bodiless powers, looking at Him from on high, were filled with amazement, saying "Now we see wondrous and most marvelous things, past all telling and understanding. He who created Adam is carried as a babe; He who cannot be contained is encompassed by the arms of the Elder; He who rests unconfined in the bosom of His Father, is voluntarily circumscribed in the flesh, but not in His divinity, He who alone loveth mankind."

### Ode 7

### The Canon of the Feast

*Irmos:* O Word of God who in the midst of the fire hast dropped dew upon the children as they discoursed on things divine, and who hast taken up Thy

*dwelling in the pure Virgin; Thee do we praise, devoutly singing: "Blessèd art Thou, O God of our father!"*

**"I** depart," cried Symeon, "to declare the good tidings to Adam abiding in Hades and to Eve;" and with the prophets he sang rejoicing: "Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!"

**"T**o deliver our kind formed from dust, God will go down even unto Hades." He will give freedom to all the captives and sight to the blind, and He will grant the mute to cry aloud:" Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!"

**"A** sword shall pierce thy heart, O all pure Virgin," Symeon foretold to the Theotokos, "when thou shalt see thy Son upon the Cross to whom we cry aloud: "Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!"

### **The Canon of the Holy Hierarch**

*Irmos: In the Persian furnace the youths, descendants of Abraham, burned with a love of piety rather than by the flames of fire, and they cried aloud saying: Blessèd art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!*

**T**he divine grace of the Spirit which dwelt within thee, O wise Parthenius, truly made thee a temple and church of glory, wherein the Father, the Son and the Comforter Himself found their abode.

**T**hou didst burn up all the thorny delusion of ungodliness on earth with divine grace, O venerable father, and didst sow divine teachings amongst thy flock, producing for them the fruits of eternal life.

**O**nce, thou didst draw thy flock out of the abyss of error into the bright light of life with the rod of thy tongue, O father Parthenius, and now, by thy prayers, thou dost catch many faithful with the net of grace.

*Theotokion: O* Virgin Birthgiver of God, the angels beheld the corrupt nature of our race returned again to life and heavenly glory by thy glorious birthgiving.

### **The Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos: The children in Babylon were not afraid of the fire; when cast into the midst of the flames they were covered with dew and sang: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!*

**T**he shrine of thy holy relics is truly a well-spring of healings, O glorious father Luke, where everyone who takes refuge is delivered from all passions, blessing thee, O venerable one, and praising thy Master, Christ.

**O** father, thou wast glorified with wondrous signs, by the Lord whom thou didst glorify with thy labors of abstinence while crying aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

**O** venerable one, thy life was truly radiant, resplendent in miracles, and steadfast in all good works. Therefore, thou hast received the kingdom of God as the reward for all thy labors.

*Theotokion:* **S**ave thy people and our homes, O immaculate Birthgiver of God, thou mediatrix for all who cry out to thee with: Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, O Lady most pure!

### Ode 8

#### The Canon of the Feast

*Irmos:* **S**tanding together in the unbearable fire yet not harmed by the flame, the children, champions of godliness, sang a divine hymn: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord, exalt Him above all forever.

**O** people of Israel, beholding your Glory, Emmanuel, the Child of the Virgin, offered before the Ark of God, dance now and sing together: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord, exalt Him above all forever.

**“Behold,”** cried Symeon, “this is He who is at once God and a child, who shall become a sign that is spoken against.” Unto Him let us, the faithful, sing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord, exalt Him above all forever.

**H**e that is Life, God the Word, has here become a little child: and He shall be the fall of the disobedient and the rising again of all those who sing with faith: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord, exalt Him above all forever.

#### The Canon of the Holy Hierarch

*Irmos:* **S**tretching forth his hands, Daniel the prophet closed the mouths of the lions in the pit; and the young lovers of piety, girded with strength, quenched the power of the fire, crying out: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

**W**ith the staff of faith thou didst demolish the temples of the pagans, O wise and venerable father, and didst raise up temples to God our Savior in which thou didst offer up to Him the pure sacrifice of praise, singing: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

**T**hou didst offer thyself as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, O wise Parthenius, and by the fire of abstinence thou didst send up a pure fragrance to the divine and unapproachable altar of God, singing: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

**P**ossessing divine grace from God, O venerable father Parthenius, thou dost pour forth healings upon those who have recourse to thee, cleansing their infirmities, driving away hordes of the demons, and instructing all the faithful to ceaselessly sing to their Creator and God: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

*Theotokion:* **T**he Son and Word of God, who is unapproachable in His essence, made His abode within thee, O most pure Lady, and having, in His compassion, clothed Himself in our own image, became incarnate and dwelt amongst us on earth. Therefore, with great love, we praise and honor thee

### **The Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* *The blessèd children endangered themselves in Babylon for the sake of their fathers' laws; they ignored the ignorant command of the king, and cast into the furnace they suffered no harm, but sang a song pleasing to their mighty Master: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!*

**O** thou didst drive away all the evil passions, O blessèd father Luke, cleansing lepers, strengthening the sick, straightening the bent limbs of the infirm, and healing the deaf and the blind, while crying aloud with them: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

**T**aking upon thyself the pain of ascetic struggles, night-long vigils, the exhaustion of the flesh, fasting, afflictions, countless prostrations, and every other restraining of the flesh for the love of thy Creator, O venerable father, thou didst attain to the glory which is without pain, and thou dost now rejoice, abiding with Him forever. Entreat thou Him, that all who magnify thee with love and faith may be saved.

**T**hou didst enter the kingdom of heaven because of all thy many labors and virtues, O venerable father, where thou dost now rejoice forever delighting in the beauty of thy Master; and where, with the angels thou dost sing the holy hymn: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

***Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!***

*Theotokion:* **O** most pure Virgin, without knowing a man, thou hast given birth to Him who was not separated from the bosom of the Father yet ineffably became a man. Entreat thou Him that He may give me the strength to cast aside every attack of the enemy and every evil thought, so that I may magnify thee and do His divine will,

***We praise, bless and worship the Lord singing and exalting Him throughout all ages!***

*Katavasia:* Standing together... *(see above)*

### **Ode 9**

### **The Canon of the Feast**

*Irmos:* *We faithful saw the figure in the Law and the Scriptures; every male child that open'd the womb was holy to God. Therefore we also magnify the Only-begotten Son of the unoriginate Father, the First-born Son of the unwedded Mother.*

**O**f old the people offered a pair of doves and two young pigeons. In their stead, the godly Elder and Anna the Prophetess, sober in spirit, ministered and gave glory to the Child of the Virgin, the Only-begotten Son of the Father, as He was brought into the temple.

**“**Thou hast committed to me the exceeding joy of salvation, O Christ” cried Symeon. “Take Thy servant, who is weary of the shadow, and make him a new preacher of the mystery of grace, as he magnifies Thee in praise.”

**H**oly Anna, sober in spirit and venerable in years, with reverence confessed the Master freely and openly in the temple; and proclaiming the Theotokos, she magnified her before all who were present.

### **The Canon of the Holy Hierarch**

*Irmos: Thou Christ, the chief Cornerstone not cut by human hands, who united two different natures, was cut from thee, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin. Therefore, we joyfully magnify thee, O Theotokos!*

**H**aving been cleansed of the filth of the passions of the flesh, O blessed hierarch Parthenius, thou didst immerse thyself in the divine life of immaterial delight, where, with great rejoicing, thou dost watch over us, the children of thy flock.

**B**eholding with delight the beauty of thy miracles during this, the commemoration of thy holy memory, O incorrupt Bearer of God, we lift up thy deeds like spiritual flowers and weave them into ornate wreaths of victory .

**T**hou didst transcend all things in this world, O God-bearing father Parthenius, and having joined the chorus of the bodiless choirs of heaven, pray thou for us who with faith keep thy holy memory.

*Theotokion:* **I** praise thy grace, O Virgin, and magnify thy glory; for thou art truly the enlightenment and consolation of my soul, my ready helper, my protectress and my deliverance.

### **The Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos: It is not possible for men to see God upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze, but through thee, O All-pure One, was the Word incarnate revealed unto men, whom magnifying together with the heavenly hosts, we call thee blessed!*

**W**ho among us mortals is able to recount all thy struggles and thy sufferings, O father Luke, for which thou hast received thy reward from God? For thou, O venerable one, wast revealed to be a divine receptacle of the Spirit, and a true, upright, righteous and guileless friend of Christ the Lord.

**D**welling now in the mansions on high, thou dost enjoy divine beauty delighting in all the flowers of God’s paradise, O all-blessed one! Remember us now in thy holy

prayers before the throne of God.

*Tradicon:* **O** only Tri-hypostatic Essence, thrice-radiant and indivisible Power, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one Godhead: save those who magnify Thee as One God in three Persons.

*Theotokion:* **O** all-praised Virgin, Theotokos, our mortal minds are unable to fathom thy mystery; for without knowing a man, thou didst conceive without seed, yet remained Virgin even after giving birth, and bore the Word who is equally eternal with the Father.

*Katavasia:* We faithful saw... *(see above)*

### **Exapostilaria of the Feast:**

**T**he Elder brought to the temple by the Spirit, took in his arms the Master of the Law and cried to Him: “Now let me depart in peace from the bonds of the flesh, O Lord, according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen the revelation that brings light to the Gentiles and the salvation of Israel!

**Glory..., now and ever...** *Repeat the above:* “The Elder...”

**At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 2:** *To the melody, “O House of Ephrata ...”*

**B**ehold, the most-pure Mother of God, /  
Bears the Master and Creator as an infant in her arms ///  
As she enters into the temple!

*Verse:* Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

**R**eceive, O Symeon, /  
The Lord of Glory, /  
**B**ehold, He comes, as was foretold to thee ///  
By the Holy Spirit!

*Verse:* A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

**M**ine eyes have now beheld Thy promise, O Good God, ///  
Release me now, Thy servant, O Lover of mankind!

**Glory..., now and ever..., in the same Tone:**

**R**ejoice, O Virgin, /  
Thou who received the Joy of the world, /  
Christ the Giver of life, /  
Who caused the grief of our first mother Eve to cease.

## Liturgy

### The Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

**R**ejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! /  
From thee hast risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, /  
Who gives light to those in darkness. /  
Rejoice, also, O righteous Elder; /  
Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls ///  
Who grants us the resurrection.

### The Troparion of the Saints, in Tone 4:

**O** God of our fathers /  
Deal with us according to Thy compassion /  
Take not away Thy mercy from us /  
But through the prayers of our father Parthenius ///  
Guide our lives along the way of peace.

### The Kontakion of St. Parthenius, in Tone 3: *To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."*

**T**hou didst receive the divine grace of working miracles, /  
O divinely-wise God-bearer and wonderworker Parthenius. /  
Thou dost cleanse all the faithful from their passions /  
And drivest away the evil spirits, O father. ///  
Therefore, we sing thy praise, O great initiate of the mysteries of the grace of God.

### The Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

**B**y Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, /  
And didst bless Symeon's hands, O Christ God. /  
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. ///  
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of mankind!