

## The 11<sup>th</sup> Day of December

☩ **Commemoration of our Venerable Father among the Saints,  
Daniel the Stylite, of Constantinople.**

### Vespers

**At “Lord I call...,” 6 stichera of the Saint, in Tone 8:** *To the melody, “What shall we call you thee....”*

**What** shall we call thee, O blessed Daniel? /  
A destroyer of the passions and planter of virtues? /  
A true worker of wonders and intercessor for sinners? /  
A valiant exorcist of demons? A beacon shining with piety? /  
A dwelling place of the Spirit and defender of the Church? /  
Pray now, that our souls may be saved! *(twice)*

**What** shall we call thee, O blessed Daniel? /  
A lover of fasting, for thou didst subject the passions to the mind? /  
A martyr, since thou didst courageously endure the struggle on a pillar lifted high  
above the ground? /  
A zealous athlete in the spirit and a most skilled physician? ///  
Pray now, that our souls may be saved! *(twice)*

**What** shall we call thee, O blessed Daniel? /  
A model for monastics, a teacher of abstinence? /  
The adornment of the faithful? A worker of healings? /  
A candle shedding the light of understanding to those in darkness? /  
A fellow-citizen of the angels, equal in honor to them? /  
A dweller in paradise and a heavenly man? ///  
Pray now, that our souls may be saved! *(twice)*

***Note:** But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then the following 3 stichera to the Theotokos are sung at Vespers, at “Lord, I call,” before the above stichera of the Saint, in the same Tone and melody:*

**Strange** and awesome is the mystery /  
Of thy seedless conception, /  
That surpasses the thoughts of all, O pure Virgin. /  
For thou has given birth to Him who is of one essence with the Father, /  
Upon whom the many-eyed cherubīm dare not gaze /  
And before whom all the ranks of angels tremble. ///  
We glorify thee who hath given Him birth, O Bride of God.

**W**hom art thou emulating, O wretched soul? /  
 One who never rises to repentance? /  
 One not afraid of the fire awaiting the wicked? /  
 Arise, and quickly call on her who is our lone defense, /  
 And cry out: “O Virgin Mother! /  
 Entreat thy Son and our God ///  
 That He deliver my soul from the snare of the deceiver!”

**O** immaculate and must-pure Lady, /  
 Who gavest birth to the Ember of divine fire /  
 Which consumeth all sins and sprinkles the faithful with dew: /  
 Burn up the chaff of my countless offenses /  
 And cool my soul with the dew of thy grace /  
 For she hath been withered by my passions, ///  
 So that I, thy servant, may ever glorify thy mercy and thy power!

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**O** Lady, thou helper of all in need, /  
 Send down a drop of thy myrrh and have mercy on me /  
 Who am tossed by the tempest on the sea of darkness /  
 Surrounded by the billowing waves of the evils of this life. /  
 O, stretch out thy helping hand to me, /  
 That I may obtain the portion of the righteous and chosen, ///  
 For thou hast given birth to the Lover of mankind!

**Or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**W**hen she beheld the Lamb /  
 Stretched out by His own will upon the Tree of the Cross, /  
 With maternal tears the Ewe-lamb cried aloud: /  
 “Oh, my Son, what is this strange sight that I see? /  
 How is it that Thou, who giveth life to all as Lord, /  
 Is put to death, O longsuffering One, /  
 While granting the earthborn the resurrection? ///  
 I glorify Thy great condescension, O my God!”

**Note:** But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins, then we sing:

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 5: ( the composition of the Studite)**

**H**aving made good the talent given to thee by Christ /

## VENERABLE FATHER DANIEL THE STYLITE

O ven'rable father, /  
Thou wast revealed after thy repose to be an exorcist of unclean spirits, /  
A physician of many diseases, /  
A true pillar, foundation, and sacred mountain of the Church! /  
Therefore, we beseech thee, O father, Daniel, ///  
To entreat Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

### The Aposticha from the Octoechos.

#### The Troparion to the Saint, in Tone 1:

**T**hou wast a pillar of patience, O ven'rable one /  
Having imitated the forefathers of old: /  
Job in suffering, Joseph in temptations, /  
And living as a bodiless angel while being in the flesh. /  
O Daniel, our ven'rable father ///  
Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved.

### Matins

#### The Canon

Both Canons from the Octoechos; and that of the Venerable Saint, with 4 Troparia.

#### Ode 1

#### The Canon of St. Daniel, in Tone 8

*Having the acrostic: "I honor St. Daniel the Stylite with hymns of praise,"  
the composition of Joseph.*

***Irmos:** Let us sing a song unto the Lord, who led His people across the Red Sea: for He alone is glorified.*

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

**O** blessèd father Daniel, send down a luminous ray of light from heaven upon me who wishes to praise thy memory with hymns.

**O** father, thou didst shine forth unto the ends of the earth as a truly great sun illumining the assemblies of the faithful with the splendor of thy virtues.

**S**ubmitting to the Laws of the Master, O father, thou didst mortify the flesh with abstinence, and make it subject it to the Spirit.

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

***Theotokion:** The changeless Lord was born from thee, O Theotokos, and appeared as a perfect man, remaining after His incarnation as He had been before.*

*Katavasia:* From the Canon of the Nativity.

### Ode 3

*Irmos:* O Lord, Creator of the vault of heaven and founder of the Church, strengthen me in Thy love, for Thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful, O Thou who lovest mankind.

**H**aving parted the sea of the passions with the rod of abstinence, O father, thou didst traverse it without drowning, and attained unto the mountain of true dispassion, conversing with God in purity of mind.

**H**aving ascended to the heights of the virtues, thou didst become known throughout the world; for thou didst stand, lifted aloft upon thy pillar, illumining with the splendor of thy most glorious miracles, all those who came to thee with faith.

**F**ounded upon the rock of the knowledge of God, thou wast revealed to be unmoved by the temptations of the demons. Therefore, thou didst raise thy body up upon a pillar high above the earth, and from there, didst let thy soul soar to the heavens.

*Theotokion:* Deliver me from the assault of the passions, O Lady, and vanquish now all the enemies that wage war against me! Establish me upon the rock of the will of God, and enlighten my soul, O thou portal of the Light divine.

*Katavasia:*

**Sessional Hymn of St. Daniel, in Tone 1: To the melody, “Thy tomb, O Savior....”**

**H**aving lifted thyself high upon a pillar, /  
Thou didst lay waste to thy flesh through abstinence, /  
Therefore, O father Daniel, thou wast deemed worthy to become a vessel of the Spirit, /  
And having received this divine grace, /  
Thou dost drive away all sickness and infirmity /  
From those who honor thy memory with faith, ///  
O thrice-blessèd one.

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**O** Most Holy Virgin, thou hope of all Christians, /  
Unceasingly, together with the hosts on high, /  
Beseech God, to whom thou hast given birth /  
In a manner past all understanding, /  
That He may grant forgiveness of all our sins and the correction of life ///  
To those who with faith and love ever glorify thee.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:**

**A**s she beheld her Lamb and Shepherd dead upon the Tree, /  
The unblemished Ewe-lamb, cried aloud with a mother's sorrow: /  
How can I endure Thy voluntary suffering, O my Son, /  
And Thy surpassing condescension, O Most gracious God?

**Ode 4**

*Irmos: Thou art my strength, O Lord, my God, my power, my joy; without leaving Thy Father's bosom Thou hast visited our wretchedness. So with the Prophet Habakkuk I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lover of mankind!*

**O** ever-memorable father Daniel, when thou didst behold Simeon, the servant of God, shining like the radiant sun upon his pillar, thou wast illumined by the divine splendors which issued forth from him and thou didst set out to emulate his way of life.

**T**hou didst vanquish the demonic legions with the sword of faith, and didst drown them in the torrents of thy tearful prayers, thus causing the destruction of all they had wrought; and thereby, thou didst save those who sang with faith to God: Glory to Thy power, O Lover of mankind!

**H**aving ascended thy pillar, O all-blessèd father, thou didst keep night-long vigils like an angel, and having acquired a keen spiritual eye that acted like a mirror of the Spirit, thou didst receive the radiance of divine grace with a pure mind.

*Theotokion:* **T**he laws of nature are renewed in thee, O most pure Lady, for thou hast given birth, in a manner truly beyond all understanding, to the Word and the Giver of the Law, who hath delivered the race of mankind from ignorance, and which now faithfully sings: Glory to Thy power, O Lover of mankind!

**Ode 5**

*Irmos: Why hast Thou cast me away from Thy face, O never-setting Light? Why hast this dismal darkness covered me, the wretched one? Guide me in return to the light of Thy commandments, I pray Thee.*

**T**hou didst slay the desires of thy flesh, and bridle the urgings of the passions through thy labors of abstinence so that thou, O father, mightest partake of eternal glory. Therefore, thou hast been revealed to be a river of miracles and a wellspring of healings. O ever-memorable father Daniel.

**T**he wondrous Simeon appeared to thee and thou wast struck with fear, O blessed father, when, with two angels, he pointed out the path which thou wast to tread upon the earth, crying aloud: "Come and stand by me, and be borne aloft to God by grace!"

**I**llumined by unwaning radiance of divine grace, O venerable father, thou didst dispel the gloominess of the passions and wast revealed to be a pillar of light, and a stairway truly leading the faithful up to the presence of God.

*Theotokion:* **O** Holy Maiden, Bride of God, who hast given birth to the Master, thou hast been revealed to be more glorious than all the heavenly hosts for thou hast deified the nature of all those born on earth. Therefore, O Virgin, we the faithful glorify thee with all our soul and with all our heart. as she who is most truly, the Theotokos.

### Ode 6

*Irmos:* Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are my transgressions, and lead me from the depths of evil, I pray Thee, and I cry: Hear me, O God of my salvation.

**T**hy mind, O father, was illumined through thy drawing near to God, and so hath remained unconsumed by the fire of temptations and hath remained high above all the passionate attachments to the flesh.

**T**hy soul is filled with the Spirit's gifts of life-creating waters, O divinely wise and all-blessèd one, and thou dost truly pour forth rivers of healing which quench the torrents of the passions.

*Theotokion:* **W**e, the faithful, have all acquired thee as an intercessor and a helper as we struggle in the deep waters of evil and the billowing waves of tribulation which ever seek to drown us, O Theotokos, who alone art the refuge of us mortals.

*Katavasia:*

### The Kontakion of St. Daniel, in Tone 8:

**T**hou didst ascend thy pillar like a great and radiant star, /  
And didst illumine the whole world with the wonders of thy miracles, /  
Thus dispelling the gloominess of deception, O ven'erable one. /  
Therefore, we beseech thee to shine forth now into the hearts of thy faithful  
servants, O father Daniel, ///  
With the unwaning and everlasting light of knowledge of God.

*Ikos:* **F**lawed is the hymn which I now offer in praise of thy great deeds and struggles, O father Daniel; for my heart is impure, in that I have shamefully defiled it. But grant me the words, O venerable one, to praise thy most pure life, at which even the angels marveled, for thou wast thyself like them, an angel, having received the unwaning light of knowledge of God.

### Ode 7

*Irmos:* The Hebrew children in the furnace boldly trampled upon the flame, and they changed the fire into dew as they cried aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers.

**T**he ranks of angels marveled at thy standing atop thy pillar, O all-blessèd and God-bearing father; for having assumed their manner of life while yet in the body, thou didst cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God, throughout all ages!

**S**hining brightly with thy lofty and immaterial way of life, and radiant with the splendor of thy gift of prophecy, thou hast shone forth healings upon the world and upon us who piously honor thee, O wondrous father Daniel.

**D**ispel the gloominess of my passions with the fervor of thy prayers, O all-blessèd Daniel, and guide me onto the path of life as I sing: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord God, throughout the ages!

**Theotokion:** **B**e thou merciful unto me, O Virgin, and with the healing power of thy prayers, heal the stinging wounds of my sins as I cry aloud to thee: Blessèd is the Fruit of thy womb, O Theotokos!

### Ode 8

**Irmos:** *The Chaldean torturer became enraged; he ordered the furnace to be heated seven-fold; but seeing the godly youths saved by a great might, he sang to the Creator and Redeemer: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.*

**O** God-bearing father Daniel, thou didst attain to thine ultimate desire, the greatest Good, by soaring aloft on the wings of thy virtuous deeds; and now, together with the angels, thou dost cry aloud: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**T**he power of God truly strengthened thee and enabled thee to endure the bitter cold of winter, the burning heat of the sun, and the sores of thy flesh as it was being consumed by worms, yet throughout all, thou didst cry aloud: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**T**hou wast revealed to be a new Job, O rightly wondrous father Daniel, when thou wast beset by a multitude of temptations and tribulations; and emulating the meekness of David, the guilelessness of Jacob, and the chastity of Joseph, in thanksgiving thou didst cry aloud: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**Theotokion:** **O** all-hymned and all-holy Lady, fulfilling thy words and acknowledging thee to be the Theotokos, we now bless thee in that thou hast given birth unto God for us. And praising Him in two natures and one hypostasis, we cry aloud: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**Katavasia:**

## Ode 9

*Irmos:* Every ear trembled with fear at hearing of the ineffable condescension of God: how the Most High of His own will came down even unto the flesh and was made man from a virgin womb. Therefore, we the faithful magnify the most pure Theotokos.

**W**hen thou didst repose having finished thy course, O venerable one, the gates of heaven were opened unto thee, and the ranks of angels received thee; Christ, the Bestower of crowns, crowned thee with the glory of righteousness, and we, the faithful, magnify Him in song.

**T**hou didst blossom like a lily of the valley in the paradise of abstinence; like a cypress tree didst thou rise to the heights of perfection; and like the olive tree of the Psalms hast thou been made known to us, anointing our faces and hearts with the oil of thine ascetic example.

**C**reation knoweth thee to be a pillar firmly grounded upon the rock of the virtues, an unbreachable rampart, a foundation of miracles, a rightly calm haven, a treasury of healing and the dwelling place of the Spirit. Wherefore, we celebrate thy memory today, O venerable father Daniel.

**T**oday thy holy memory hath shone forth upon us more brightly than the sun, illumining the hearts of the faithful with the light of righteousness, and dispelling the darkness of the soul-destroying passions; and celebrating this, we piously sing thy praises

*Theotokion:* **O** Thou born of her whom Thou didst preserve incorrupt after giving birth, have pity upon me when Thou sittest to judge my deeds, and overlook my many sins; for Thou, alone art without sin, and art the merciful God who lovest mankind.

*Katavasia:*

**Exapostilarion from the Octoechos, and:**

**Glory...**

**O** venerable father Daniel, thy pillar wordlessly proclaimeth thine ascetic feats accomplished while standing unprotected at the mercy of the elements. By them, thou didst shine forth as a luminous beacon, enlightening all creation!

**Now and ever.... Theotokion:**

**We** bless thee without ceasing, O Virgin, for thou hast given birth to One of the Trinity and didst bear in thy divine embrace the transcendent and changeless Word.

**At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos.**

**At the Liturgy**

**The Troparion to the Saint, in Tone 1:**

**T**hou wast a pillar of patience, O ven'rable one /  
Having imitated the forefathers of old: /  
Job in suffering, Joseph in temptations, /  
And living as a bodiless angel while being in the flesh. /  
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