

The 20th Day of June

Commemoration of the Hieromartyr Methodius, Bishop of Patara.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera of the Saint, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

Thy day of thy splendid memorial hath come, /
O holy hierarch Methodius, /
Bringing to us the gift of saluation. /
Therefore, we sing these songs of praise to thee /
And proclaim the wonders of thy the radiant struggles /
By which thou didst defeat the machinations of the evil one ///
And, rejoicing, didst weave for thyself a crown of victory.

Thy words have enlightened the fullness of the Church, /
O divinely-revealed Methodius, /
And through thy torments and sufferings /
Thou hast driven away the gloominess of idolatry, /
And hast now passed over to the place of the never-setting light. /
Therefore, O hieromartyr Methodius, made luminous by thy piety, ///
We celebrate today thy great and glorious festival.

Having dyed thy priestly vestments /
With the blood of thy martyrdom, /
Thou hast entered with joy into the Holy of Holies, /
There to behold the divine grace of the Holy Trinity
And to learn the awesome nature of God past all understanding, /
O richly-bless't and most-excellent hierarch.

Note: But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then these 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.

Rejoice, thou divine radiance /
Rejoice, thou throne of the never-setting Sun /
Who shone forth with Its ineffable Light upon u the world! /
Rejoice, O divine perception, shimmering with knowledge divine, /
Flashing with the lightening that enlightens the ends of the world! /
Rejoice, thou good, all-pure and golden radiance, ///
That shines the unwaning Light upon us the faithful.

Wash away the filth of the passions of my heart /

O all-praised Theotokos /
 And cleanse all the wounds which come from my sins and their corruption, /
 O pure one; /
 Set in order my unstable mind /
 So that I who am condemned and am thy worthless servant ///
 May magnify thy power and great protection.

O all-pure Virgin Mother of God /
 Remove all weakness and despondency from my soul /
 And translate it to health and vigor /
 That I may fulfill the commandments of Christ with love and fear /
 Hoping to escape the unbearable flames of Gehenna ///
 And joyfully receive the heavenly portion of life eternal.

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

Take pity upon me, O Lady, /
 For I am failing under the assaults of the demons /
 And am falling into the pit of destruction, /
 And establish me upon the rock of virtues; /
 And having overturned the designs of the enemy /
 Grant me to fulfill the commands of thy Son and our God, ///
 That on the Day of Judgment I may receive remission of my sins.

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

Beholding Christ, who loveth mankind, crucified, /
 His side pierced by a spear, /
 The all-pure one, cried aloud, lamenting: /
 “What is this, O my Son? /
 How have these thankless people rewarded Thee /
 For all the good things Thou hast done for them?” /
 Dost Thou hasten to leave me childless, O most beloved Son? ///
 I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 2 :

Thy blood cries out to God from the earth like that of Abel, /
 O divinely-wise holy hierarch Methodius, /
 For thou didst openly preach the incarnation of God /
 And put the heresy of Origen to shame. /

Thus, thou wast translated to the mansions of heaven ///
Where thou dost pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Matins

**Both Canons from the Octoechos, and that of the Saint,
with 4 Troparia in Tone 7,**

the composition of Theophanes. —incomplete as of 2/2015

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 3: *Today the Virgin....*”

As a priest of the mysteries of the Holy Trinity /
And a preacher of the commandments of God that surpass understanding, /
Thou didst confirm the Orthodox Faith, O Methodius. /
For thou didst expose the errors of the heretics /
Shedding thy blood for the True Faith; /
Now thou standest before Christ together with the angels. ///
Beseech Him that He may save our souls.