

The 25th Day of June

Afterfeast of Nativity of St. John the Baptist; the Commemoration of the Venerable Nun Martyr Febrónia; also, the Commemoration of the Venerable Saints Peter and Fevrónia Wonderworkers of Murom, whose service is provided following this. — *incomplete as of 3/14/2017*

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,

3 stichera to the Forerunner, in Tone 4: *(by John, the monk of Damascus)*

When John was born, he loosed the silence of his father, /
For it was not fitting for Zachariah to stay silent when the Voice had come; /
But as his tongue was bound because he would not believe, /
So, when the Baptist appeared he freed his father /
And revealing himself he preached the good tidings to men. /
Born was the Voice of the Word and the Forerunn^{er} of Light ///
Who intercedes for our souls. *(twice)*

Today as the Voice of the Word releases the voice of his father, /
Which was restrained because of his unbelief /
And reveals the blessed prosperity of the Church /
By releasing his mother’s bonds of barrenness. /
The Candlestick of the Light goes forth before the Sun of Righteousness /
Announcing the splendor of His coming ///
For the renewal of all and the salvation of our souls.

By Anatolius:

When the Word of God was to be born of the Virgin /
His messenger and the foremost of the prophets, /
The greatest man to be ever born, /
Sprang forth from the barren loins of an agèd woman, /
Heralding the Word, the all-Glorious Beginning of things divine, /
The Offspring beyond all time conceived without seed. ///
O Thou who workest wonders for our salvation, glory to Thee!

And 3 stichera to the Martyr, in the same Tone: *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

Thou didst endure a double measure of suffering /
In thy contest, O all-glorious Febronia, /
By mingling the sweat of abstinence with the blood of martyrdom. /

Therefore, the Benefactor of all hath given thee a double crown, /
And thou didst come before Him splendidly adorned ///
As an invincible martyr and blameless virgin.

The beauty of thy body /
Was mingled with the beauty of thy divine soul /
And thou didst shine like a pure lily in the mansions of the righteous /
Adorned with royal purple drops of thy blood, /
O thou immaculate bride. /
Therefore, the beautiful Bridegroom hath received thee ///
Into the eternal bridal chamber as a virgin and martyr.

O most-lauded Febronia /
The angel of deliverance hath come to protect thee, /
For since thy childhood thou wast known to love the Lord /
And didst bring thyself to the Almighty as a pure and cherished offering. /
Therefore, thou didst trample the foolishness of Selenus under thy feet ///
And didst earnestly hasten to Christ, thy Bridegroom.

Glory..., now and ever..., in Tone 8:

Behold, Elizabeth speaks to the Virgin Mary: /
“Why is the Mother of my Lord come to me? /
Thou dost carry the King and I, the soldier; /
Thou the Law-giver, and I, the enactor of the Law; ///
Thou, the Word, and I, His voice proclaiming the kingdom of heaven!”

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a resurrection service.

At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos, and

Glory..., now and ever..., of the Forerunner, in Tone 6:

Elizabeth conceives the Forerunner of grace /
And the Virgin conceives the Lord of Glory, /
Both mothers embrace each other with a kiss, /
And the babe John leaps up within his mother's womb. /
For the servant praises his Master. /
And the mother of the Forerunner, marveling, cries aloud: /
“Why is this granted to me, that the Mother of the Lord should come to me?” ///
That He might save the despairing people, in that He hath great mercy.

AFTERFEAST NATIVITY OF THE FORERUNNER; VENERABLE
NUN MARTYR FEBRONIA

The Troparion of the Forerunner, in Tone 4:

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, /
Although we cannot praise thee worthily /
We honor thee in love at thy nativity, /
For by it thou didst end the silence and break the barrenness ///
Preaching to the world the incarnation of the Son of God.

The Troparion of the Venerable Nun Martyr, in the same Tone:

O Jesus, Thy lamb Febronia /
Cries out to Thee with great love: /
“O my Bridegroom, I long for Thee in pain, /
I am crucified with Thee, and in baptism buried with Thee; /
I suffer for Thy sake in order to reign with Thee, /
I die for Thee in order to live in Thee. /
Accept me as a spotless victim /
Since I am put to death because of my love for Thee.” ///
Through her prayers, O Merciful One, save our souls.

Matins

At “God is the Lord...” the Troparion of the Forerunner, (twice); Glory..., that of the Nun Martyr; Now, and ever..., Theotokion or the Stavrotheotokion.

The Canon

One Canon of the Octoechos, with 6 Troparia, including the Irmos;
and two Canons, one of the Forerunner, with 4 Troparia, and that of the Nun Martyr,
with 5 Troparia:

—incomplete as of 3/14/2017

**After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Nun Martyr, in Tone 6: To the melody:
“Steadfast protectress....”**

“O my Bridegroom Jesus, most sweet,” /
Cried Febronia, “It is not difficult for me to follow Thee, /
For the beauty of Thy mercy hath sweetened my heart, /
And the sweetness of Thy love hath given wings of hope my soul, /
That I might drain the cup of sufferings in emulation of Thee /
That Thou mayest truly reckon me among the wise virgins who rejoice with
Thee in Thy bridal-chamber.” /

Therefore, O venerable passion-bearer, we honor the struggles of thy labors and cry out to thee: ///

Entreat the Lord, that we may not be left outside the doors of His bridal-chamber.

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Forerunner: To the melody: Today the Virgin...

Today shé who once before was barren /
Now giveth birth to the Forerrunner of Christ. /
He is the fulfillment of every prophecy, /
For as the prophets proclaimed, once he laid his hands upon Him in the Jordan ///
He would be revealed as the Prophet, Herald and Forerrunner of the Word of God.

At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos, and

Glory..., of the Forerunner, in Tone 2:

Let us praise John the Glorious with psalms and spiritual songs /
As the greatest prophet among all the prophets and the dweller in the wilderness, /
Who sprang from barrenness and is greater than any man born of a woman, /
And to him let us cry aloud: /
O Baptizer and Forerrunner of the Word, /
As thou hast great boldness before Him because of thine hon'rable nativity, ///
Entreat Christ that He may grant the world peace and great mercy to our souls.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone,

Or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, "When from the Tree..."

Beholding thee nailed to the wood of the Cross, O Jesus /
She who know not wedlock cried out weeping: /
"O sweet Child, Thou Unapproachable Light of the All-unoriginate Father, /
Why hast Thou left me alone, who gave birth to Thee?
But hasten Thou and glorify Thyself ///
That they who glorify Thy divine sufferings may receive divine glory!"

Liturgy

The Prokeimenon of the Feast, and for the Saint, in Tone 4: God is wondrous in His saints, / the God of Israel. *Verse:* Bless God in the churches, the Lord, from the wellsprings of Israel.

The Epistle: (181) 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

AFTERFEAST NATIVITY OF THE FORERUNNER; VENERABLE
NUN MARTYR FEBRONIA

The Alleluia of the Feast, and for the Saint, in Tone 1: I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer. *Verse:* And He brought me up out of the pit of misery and from the mire of clay.

The Gospel: (33) Luke 7:36-50

Communion Hymn: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia.

RLE 3/15/2017 SDA
12/29/2017 SDA
5/20/2023 SDA