

## Also on the 31<sup>st</sup> Day of October

### ✦ The Commemoration of the New Hieromartyr John Kochúrov of Chicago and Tsárskoye Seló.

Also the Commemoration of the Apostles of the Seventy: Stachys, Amplias, Urban, Narcissus, Apelles, and Aristobulus.

**Note:** The service to the Apostles is sung whenever the Superior wishes.

## Vespers

**After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessed is the man...,” the first Kathisma.**

**At “Lord I call...,” 8 stichera, in Tone 4:**

**R**ejoice, O holy father John of Chicago, /  
Missionary and evangelizer of America! /  
Thou didst leave thy native land to minister to Christ’s people in the New World. /  
Like Abraham, thou wast a stranger in a foreign land, /  
And like the patriarch, thou didst never lose thy faith in God. /  
With zeal thou didst instruct thy flock in the Orthodox Faith, /  
Guiding them through a new land as through Canaan; /  
Thou didst firmly establish thy flock in the True Faith, ///  
As a true emulator of the apostles and intercessor for our souls. *(twice)*

**R**ejoice, O holy father John, evangelizer of Chicago, /  
Thou didst embody the virtues of the apostles, /  
Traveling to the New World to minister to the people of Christ /  
With patience and charity, /  
Building a strong foundation for the Orthodox Church throughout the Midwest  
of America, /  
Acting in humility and in obedience to the will of God. ///  
By thy prayers, preserve the Church in peace. *(twice)*

**R**ejoice, O holy father John, true disciple and pastor of the Lord, /  
Thou didst return to the Russian lands and served in the city of Narva, /  
And with a zealous love thou didst minister to thy flock /  
In the face of mounting rumors of wars, ///  
Desiring only peace and the salvation of all. *(twice)*

**R**ejoice, O holy father John, martyr of Tsarskoye Seló, /  
The light of thy virtues blinded those consumed by the darkness of this world, /  
And filled with hatred they put thee to death, /  
While thou wast still at prayer, /

Thus granting thee the victory that they were denied. ///

O holy hieromartyr, pray that our souls may be saved. *(twice)*

**Glory..., in Tone 6:**

**R**ejoice, O city of Chicago /  
Dance with joy, O Tsarskoye Seló! /  
You have both shared in the blessed presence of our holy hieromartyr John, /  
The faithful and righteous priest of Christ, /  
The zealous teacher and defender of the Truth, /  
The true shepherd and pastor of the flock of Christ, /  
Who with the holy Patriarch Tikhon and the hieromartyr Alexander /  
Illumined the whole of North America with the rays of the Orthodox Faith, /  
And struggled unto death in defense of the faith in Russia; ///  
With them, he ever prays for the peace of the world and the salvation of our souls.

**Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in Tone 6:**

**W**ho will not bless thee, O Most Holy Virgin? /  
Who will not sing of thy most pure child-bearing? /  
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father, /  
But from thee He was ineffably incarnate; /  
God by nature, yet man for our sake: /  
Not two persons, but one in two natures. /  
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady ///  
To have mercy on our souls.

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

**The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.**

**Three Readings:**

**The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (5:15-6:3)**

<sup>5:15</sup>**T**he righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. <sup>16</sup>Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand; for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. <sup>17</sup>He shall take to him His zeal for complete armor and make the creation His weapon for revenge upon his enemies. <sup>18</sup>He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate and indifferent judgment instead of a helmet. <sup>19</sup>He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. <sup>20</sup>His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the creation shall fight with him against the unwise. <sup>21</sup>Then shall the

right aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, and they shall fly to the mark. <sup>22</sup>And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast out as a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them. <sup>23</sup>Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall

overthrow the thrones of the mighty. <sup>6:1</sup>Hear therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. <sup>2</sup>Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. <sup>3</sup>For power is given to you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Highest, who shall try your works, and search out your counsels.

### **The Reading from Proverbs (10:31-11:12)**

<sup>10:31</sup>**T**he mouth of the righteous bringeth forth wisdom, but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. <sup>32</sup>The lips of the righteous bring forth grace, but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. <sup>11:1</sup>False balances are an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is acceptable to Him. <sup>2</sup>Wheresoever pride entereth, there will be also dishonor, but the mouth of the humble meditateth wisdom. <sup>3</sup>When a righteous man dieth, he leaveth regret, but the destruction of the ungodly is hard at hand, and bringeth joy. <sup>4</sup>The integrity of the righteous shall guide them, but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them. <sup>4a</sup>Riches shall not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivereth from death. <sup>5</sup>The virtue of the

righteous makes straight their paths, but unrighteousness leadeth to deceit. <sup>6</sup>The righteousness of the upright delivereth them, but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. <sup>7</sup>When the righteous dieth, his hope perisheth not, but the boast of the ungodly perisheth. <sup>8</sup>A righteous man escapeth from a snare, but the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. <sup>9</sup>A hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbor, but through knowledge shall the righteous be delivered. <sup>10</sup>In the prosperity of the righteous a city doth prosper, <sup>11</sup>but it is overthrown by the mouth of the ungodly. <sup>12</sup>A man that is void of understanding despiseth his neighbor, but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

### **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15)**

<sup>4:7</sup>**T**he righteous man, though he die early yet shall he be at rest. <sup>8</sup>For old age is not honored for length of time, nor is it measured by number of years; <sup>9</sup>but wisdom is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. <sup>10</sup>There was one who pleased God and was so

beloved of Him, that while living among sinners he was taken up. <sup>11</sup>He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. <sup>12</sup>For the fascination of wickedness obscures that which is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. <sup>13</sup>Being so

perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; <sup>14</sup>for his soul was pleasing to the Lord; therefore He took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. <sup>15</sup>Yet this the peoples saw and did not understand,

*neither did they* take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are upon His holy ones, and He hath care for His elect.

**At the Litya, the sticheron to the temple, and these of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 6:**

**O** hieromartyr John, /  
Thou hast established the Church by thy holy deeds, /  
Preserving her unshaken by the assaults of mighty wolves, /  
Therefore she rightly glorifies thy virtues and praises thy sufferings, ///  
Which thou didst endure for Christ's sake, O blessed one.

**O** good servant of the Orthodox Faith, /  
Tireless laborer for those in need of grace, /  
Thou didst take upon thyself the Cross of Christ /  
And increased the talent given thee. ///  
Truly, thou art the glory of the priesthood, O wondrous father John.

**Glory..., Tone 2:**

**R**ejoice, O holy father John, /  
Great builder of the Church. /  
As thou didst build a great temple to the Holy Trinity, /  
So also, thou hast built up the Church of Christ in both the Old World and the New. /  
By thy words and deeds thou didst add soul to soul, and stone upon stone, /  
Sealing thy work with the mortar of thy blood. /  
Now by thy prayers preserve the Church in peace ///  
And pray that our souls may be saved.

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

**B**ehold a new wonder greater than all the miracles of old! /  
Who has ever known a mother to bear a child without a man, /  
And hold in her arms Him who encompasses the whole creation? /  
It was the will of God to be born! /  
And thou, O all-pure Virgin, hast carried Him, an infant in Thine arms; /  
The boldness of a mother is therefore thine. /  
Do thou pray to Him without ceasing for us who honor thee: ///  
Entreat Him to save our souls and have mercy on us.

**At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 2: To the melody, “Down from the tree...”**

**O** come, all ye faithful, /  
And let us glorify our holy father John, /  
Who was both a missionary and a martyr; /  
A builder of temples and a pillar of the Church; /  
A teacher and guardian of the True Faith; /  
A priest of the Bloodless Sacrifice; /  
And himself, a bloodied sacrifice; /  
A true pastor and good shepherd ///  
Who offered himself for the flock of Christ.

*Verse:* The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

**O** come, all ye people, /  
And let us praise Saint John of Chicago, /  
Who came to the Orthodox people in a new land, /  
A land of many cultures and strange doctrines /  
Where, by his words and deeds he taught them to preserve their faith /  
So that the Light of Orthodoxy would shine in the New World, /  
Guiding all to the knowledge of the Truth. /  
Therefore, let us all praise and glorify him ///  
That through his intercessions our souls may be saved.

*Verse:* They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**O** come, all ye people, /  
And let us honor the new hieromartyr John, /  
Pastor of the Church in the Old World and the New, /  
A disciple of the Good Shepherd in all his deeds, /  
Tending his flock, not as a hireling but as a true pastor of his flock; /  
And when the godless descended like wolves on the Church /  
He laid down his life for his sheep and received the martyr's crown. /  
Now he stands before the Chief Shepherd, Christ our God, ///  
Ceaselessly praying that our souls may be saved.

**Glory..., in Tone 5:**

**Rejoice**, O hieromartyr John, great pastor of the Church of Christ, /  
Thou source of consolation and great solace to thy flock, /  
Who, as a humble servant of servants, didst minister to their every need, /  
Guiding them in a foreign land like the great Abraham of old. /

And upon thy return to the land of thy birth, /  
There, thou didst console the people beset by evil and a civil war. /  
 Thou didst not condemn, but prayed Christ for an end to suffering and for peace. /  
 For this, thou didst endure great attacks and slander, /  
 Bearing all in a manner befitting a true servant of God /  
Even to the sacrifice of thine earthly life. /  
 Now, as thou standest before the Prince of Peace, ///  
 Intercede that He may grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls.

**Now and ever..., Resurrectional Theotokion, in Tone 5:**

Thou, all-honorable Virgin, art the temple and the gate, /  
 The bridal chamber and the throne of the King; /  
 For through thee, my Redeemer, Christ the Lord, appeared to those who sat in  
darkness. /  
 He is the Son of Righteousness /  
 Who wishes to enlighten those He fashioned in His own image by His own hand. /  
Therefore, O most praised Lady, having maternal boldness before Him, ///  
 Ceaselessly pray that our souls may be saved.

**After the blessing of the loaves, the Troparion of Saint John,<sup>1</sup> in Tone 2:**

Aflame with love for God, /  
 Thou didst give thy life as a martyr for Christ and neighbor. /  
 For this, thou didst receive a crown of righteousness from Him. /  
 O holy hieromartyr John, /  
Entreat the most merciful God to preserve the holy Church in peace, ///  
 And to save our souls.

**Glory..., another Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 1:**

Thou wast revealed to all as a true shepherd, /  
 O holy hieromartyr John of Chicago. /  
 For thou didst nurture thy people in the Orthodox Faith /  
 Guiding them by word and deed on the path of salvation, /  
 And defending the Faith even unto the shedding of thy blood. /  
 Therefore, we thy spiritual children cry out in thanksgiving: /  
Glory to Him who gave thee strength! /  
 Glory to Him who granted thee a crown! ///  
 Glory to Him who through thee grants mercy to all!

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<sup>1</sup> This Troparion of the Saint approved by the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church (MP) in 1994.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion:** “Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos...”

**Matins**

**At “God is the Lord...” the Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 1:** *(twice)*

“Thou wast revealed to all as a true shepherd...” *(see above)*

**Glory..., now and ever..., the Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion, in Tone 1:**

**W**hen Gabriel greeted thee, O Virgin, /  
He cried out like the righteous David, /  
For in thee, O sacred ark, was the Master of all made flesh /  
And thy womb became more spacious than the heavens /  
For thou didst bear thy Creator. /  
Glory to Him who dwelt in thee! /  
Glory to Him who came forth from thee! ///  
Glory to Him who freed us by being born of thee!

**After the 1<sup>st</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1:** *To the melody, “When the stone....” (i.e., Resurrection Troparion, Tone 1)*

**T**hou didst embody all of the virtues /  
And wast a true shepherd guiding thy flock /  
Who wast revealed as a zealous teacher and defender of the Faith, /  
O righteous priest and martyr John. /  
Now, that thou hast gone to thy reward in heaven, ///  
Never cease praying to God for those seeking help from thee.

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

**O** pure unwedded Virgin Theotokos, /  
The only intercessor and protection of the faithful, /  
Deliver those who trust in thee from affliction and calamity ///  
And through thy holy intercessions, save our souls.

**After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 3:** *To the melody, “The beauty of virginity....”*

**T**oday the demons groan and the godless quake in fear /  
For the victorious hieromartyr John hath received his crown; /  
And a light they believed to be extinguished /  
Now shineth like the sun upon all the world, /  
Gleaming with the never-setting light of the glory of God /  
Against which no darkness can ever prevail. ///



O Christ our God, who art glorious in Thy saints, glory to Thee.

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

**A**wed by the beauty of thy virginity /  
And the exceeding radiance of thy purity, /  
Gabriel called out unto thee, O Theotokos: /  
What worthy hymn of praise can I offer unto thee? /  
And by what name shall I call thee? /  
I am in doubt and stand in awe of thee. /  
Therefore, as commanded, I cry out to thee: ///  
Rejoice, O Lady full of Grace.

**Polyeley and Magnification:**

**W**e magnify thee, / O holy hieromartyr John, / and we honor thy holy memory, ///  
for thou dost pray for us to Christ our God.

*Selected Psalm verses:*

**H**ear this, all nations! Give ear, all inhabited earth!

**M**y mouth shall speak wisdom and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

**After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: To the melody, “As Thou wast voluntarily crucified....”**

**L**et us, the faithful, exalt in glory, /  
At the glorification of our beloved father, John. /  
For he who led us onto the path of salvation /  
Hath now himself attained salvation. /  
He now stands in the presence of Christ, the great High Priest, ///  
To whom he ceaselessly prays for our souls.

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

**O** most pure Mother of God, /  
Who gavest birth to the eternal God, /  
We pray that, together with the hieromartyr John, /  
Thou mayest beseech thy Son, /  
That He may grant us remission of our sins, /  
And that we may amend our lives before the end, ///  
O all-praised Lady.

**1<sup>st</sup> Antiphon of the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone (The Song of Ascents), “From my youth....”**



**Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:**

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *Verse:* What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me?

**Gospel: (63) Luke 12:2-12**

**After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron, to the saint, in Tone 6:**

I am besieged by a storm of merciless passions, /  
And my sins multiply my misery; /  
But I cry out to thee, O hieromartyr John: /  
Be thou my helper and come to my defense, /  
Heal me and enlighten me; /  
Set my soul onto the path of salvation, ///  
And teach me to do the will of God.

**The Canon**

The Supplicatory Canon of the Theotokos (*Paraklesis*) with 6 Troparia, including the Irmos, in Tone 8; and that of the New Hieromartyr with 8 Troparia.

**Ode 1**

**The Canon of the Hieromartyr, Tone 6**

having the acrostic: “We sing praises to John the glorious warrior of Christ.”

***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:** Holy hieromartyr father John, pray to God for us!

Enlightened by the light of Christ, do thou, O John, enlighten by thine intercessions my darkened soul, that I may praise thee, O most blessed one.

Thy pure heart is like an untarnished mirror reflecting rays of light that shed divine knowledge upon the world through thy teachings, O father John.

Thy hands that administered the Sacraments were not raised in anger, nor did thy lips which preached the Gospel invoke wrath, for thou, O father John, didst bear thy sufferings in true emulation of Christ, and now thou standest before the throne of God in glory.

Glory...

As a tireless laborer in the new vineyard of America, thou didst traverse the land

sowing and cultivating the seeds of Orthodoxy. Thy labor complete, thou didst receive thy just wage: eternal life in the company of the saints, O hieromartyr John.

**Now** and ever.... Amen.

*Theotokion:* **T**he whole choir of the prophets, instructed by God, proclaimed the mystery of thine ineffable and divine conception, whereby the Word came forth from thee, O Virgin Mother of God, higher than the cherubīm and more glorious than the seraphīm.

*Katavasia:* I shall open my mouth....

### Ode 3

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

**T**hou wast brought before the Savior of all as a pure and blameless sacrifice, O most wise father John.

**A**s a priest, thou wast made a steward of the consecrated Body of Christ, being instructed that thou wouldst give an account of thy stewardship at the Judgment Seat of God. Now, thou standest before the Lamb as a good and faithful steward of His Body.

**L**ike a gardener, thou didst cultivate the vine planted in the land of America by God. Now we, the fruit of that vine, worthily honor thy holy memory, O hieromartyr John.

**A**s a true disciple of the Lord, O John, thou didst care for those who came to thee in fulfillment of Christ's command.

*Theotokion:* **O** pure Lady, the human mind is unable to understand the awesome mystery of thy birthgiving, for God, having humbled Himself in His compassion, has utterly renewed me in thy womb.

*Katavasia.*

### **Kontakion of the Saint,<sup>2</sup> in Tone 8:**

**T**hou didst zealously fulfill thy pastoral service to thy flock /  
Bringing thy soul to God as a well-pleasing sacrifice, O father John ///  
Entreat Christ our God to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

### **The Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4:**

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<sup>2</sup> This Kontakion of the Hieromartyr approved by the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church (MP) in 1994.

**O** holy hieromartyr John, /  
Through thy great wisdom and the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, /  
Thou didst put to shame the ferocity of the godless foe /  
And traversed the path leading to the divine refuge of paradise. /  
Now, we entreat thee, O holy father John, ///  
Pray to Christ that He may grant great mercy to our souls.

**Glory.... Now and ever.... Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**T**hou art revealed to the world, O Lady, /  
As a mighty fortress, a guardian of those who place their trust in thee, /  
And we run to thy protection, O Mother of God, ///  
As children running to their mother's embrace.

#### Ode 4

***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.*

**B**y thy holy life, through thy divine words, and with thy divine deeds, didst thou make the ascent in thy heart attaining to the true contemplation of God.

**W**ith divine wisdom didst thou direct thy words in accordance with the commandments of the Savior. Therefore, thou wast revealed to be an invincible defender of the Faith.

**T**hou didst truly emulate the prophets, O holy priest John, for thou didst struggle to preserve thy people in the true Faith in a new and foreign land, and, like the prophets, thou wast rejected and slain by thy countrymen. Now thou standest before the cherubic throne, while thy murderers stand condemned.

**L**ike a new Zechariah, O holy father John, thou wast born into a priestly family, and thou didst follow thy priestly calling with humility and zeal, and like the prophet, thou wast slain at the altar of the Lord.

***Theotokion:*** **T**hou didst release us from the curse made in Eden, O Mother of God, for thou hast brought forth for us the source of all holiness — the everlasting Light!

#### Ode 5

***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.*

**S**eeing thy true and exceeding love for Him, Christ, the true Wisdom, granted thee the glory of eternal life, O blessed father John.

**T**hou didst travel throughout the Midwest lands of America like a sower traversing a fertile field, sowing the seeds of Orthodoxy in the New World.

**F**inding thyself surrounded by strange customs and beliefs, thou didst diligently impart the knowledge and beauty of the true Faith to thy people so that not one sheep would be lost from the flock of Christ.

**T**hy devotion to God knew no boundaries, for like the apostles before thee, thy proclamations went out into all the world, spreading the Good News of Salvation.

*Theotokion:* **T**hou didst remain virgin after giving birth, O blessed Maiden, for it was God, who doeth all things as He wills, who was born of thee, O Mary, Bride of God.

### Ode 6

*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!*

**B**oth a sacrifice and a priest, thou hast wholly given thyself unto God for the sake of the Faith, and thus, preserved undefiled the fulfillment of thy ministry to Him.

**T**he light of thy virtues blinded those preferring to sit in darkness, for having slain thee, they believed thy light to be gone forever, but instead, they were dismayed by the radiance of the unfading light of God.

**T**o thy persecutors, thou wast no better than a dog to be shot, but to us, the faithful, thou art the true image of Christ; a pure and blameless lamb, led innocently to the slaughter.

**H**aving come face to face with wicked godlessness, thou didst not pray for divine wrath and retribution, but rather that divine mercy be granted — to both the righteous and the wicked.

*Theotokion:* **S**tanding before the Cross on Golgotha, the most pure Virgin cried out lamenting: Woe is me, my Child! How is it that Thou who didst suspend the whole earth upon the waters art now hanging on the Tree? Why dost Thou suffer unjustly, in Thy desire to save mankind!

*Katavasia.*

### Another Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 3:

**N**ow the holy hieromartyr is glorified, /  
For he took up his cross and followed Christ; /  
In so doing, he showed us the model of true discipleship. /

Therefore, let us all cry aloud to him: ///  
Rejoice, O father John, the glory of priests.

***Ikos:*** Thou didst labor tirelessly to implant the Orthodox Faith in the New Land of America. Thou didst teach the faith to the catechumens and the unlearned, both young and old. Thou didst preach the Good News, minister the Sacraments of the Church, aid those in need, and reunite those from the Unia to the bosom of Orthodoxy. Upon returning to the land of thy birth, thou didst continue thy good works in a country beset by strife and civil war. Thou didst pray not for an earthly victory, but for heavenly peace. For this thou wast put to death by godless oppressors. Now, we the faithful, enlightened by thy words and deeds, cry out in thanksgiving: Rejoice, O father John, the glory of priests.

### Ode 7

***Irmos:*** *An angel made the furnace moist with dew for the godly children and the command of God consuming the Chaldeans made the tyrant cry out: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!*

**O** John, thou hast passed over from this temporal life and entered into the temples and habitations of honor, where thou dost dwell and rejoice with the angels. Therefore honoring thee, O most blessed one, we with boldness cry aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

**T**he holy hierarchs Tikhon and Raphael, and the holy priests Alexis and Alexander were thy companions and fellow workers in the Mission of North America, O holy father John. Now, thou dost stand together with them in heavenly glory, having firmly established the Church of Christ in the New World.

**T**hou didst bring the Truth to a new and foreign world, and with this as thy anchor of faith, thou didst weather the tempest of false doctrines with thy flock.

***Most Holy Trinity our God, glory to Thee!***

***Triadicon:*** **T**he Holy Trinity — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — is the One True God whom thou didst serve, and in whose name thou didst erect a temple in which generations of the faithful are nourished in the True Faith.

***Theotokion:*** **R**ejoice, O Queen of heaven, unshakeable pillar of the Church, the boast of the priesthood and the people, the impregnable bastion of the Orthodox Faith, and the confirmation of every Orthodox habitation, city, and land.

### Ode 8

***Irmos:*** *Out of the flames Thou didst drop dew on the godly ones, and with water didst kindle the sacrifice of the righteous one, for Thou doest all things as Thou willest, O Christ; we exalt thee throughout all ages!*

**F**ervently didst thou fulfill the ministry of the mysteries of Christ, and like a spiritual lamb didst thou offer thyself unto Him as an acceptable and well-pleasing sacrifice, perfected with the spilling of thy blood, O blessed father John.

**L**ike Moses in the wilderness, thou didst erect a tabernacle to God, a place of spiritual refuge and nourishment, in the wilderness of a new and foreign land.

**T**hou wast devoted to the Lord from the days of thy childhood, O John, and thou didst willingly answer thy calling, becoming a divine instrument in which Christ revealed the true image of holiness.

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

**Triadicon:** **T**he Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit — One God in nature, yet three in persons — is the True God whom thou didst preach. This is the True God who thou didst serve in everyone thou didst meet. This is the True God for whom thou didst give thy life, O, holy father John.

*Now and ever..., Amen.*

**Theotokion:** **T**hy birthgiving has freed us from the ancient curse, O most blessed Maiden, full of grace, and so, we praise thee with the greeting of Gabriel: Rejoice, O cause of the salvation of all!

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

*Katavasia.*

**Magnificat:** My soul magnifies the Lord....

### Ode 9

**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!*

**T**hy radiant memory, O John, hath shone forth, illuminating the souls of those who reverently celebrate it, making them, O right wondrous one, partakers of the divine light. Therefore we offer thee hymns of praise, O divinely-wise one.

**O**nce, thou didst lead thy people in singing hymns of praise to God, and now thou dost sing the triumphant Thrice-holy hymn together with the angelic choir. O holy hieromartyr John, pray that we too, may be found worthy of this joy.

**L**ike a true pastor seeking the lost sheep, thou didst find those estranged from the

Church and reunited them with their brothers and sisters in Christ.

**T**he city of Chicago and the town of Tsárskoye Seló were blessed to be stops along thy journey, O glorious father John, for in thy heart thou didst ever long for thy true home. The new Jerusalem, on high.

*Theotokion:* **T**hy miraculous icons of Sitka, Cicero, and Tikhvin have bestowed countless blessings upon the American land, O Most Holy Theotokos, and we entreat thee: Continue to watch over us, and together with our holy father, the new hieromartyr John, intercede with thy Son and our God that our souls may be saved.

*Katavasia.*

### **Exapostilarion of the Saint:**

**T**oday the city of Chicago and the town of Tsárskoye Seló join together in rejoicing, for their beloved father John is now crowned with glory by God. He was a zealous laborer in the vineyard of Christ, cultivating it by his words and deeds. In his final moments on earth he nourished his vineyard with his own blood. Now he nourishes it by his prayers to the Great Gardener, Christ.

### **Glory..., now and ever.... Theotokion:**

**T**he golden candlestick of the temple prefigured thee, O Virgin, for Christ, the radiance of the glory of God, shone forth from thee to enlighten those in darkness. Entreat Him to have mercy on us who turn to thee in faith.

**At the Praises, 4 stichera, in Tone 8:** *To the melody, “What shall we call thee?...”*

**T**o whom shall we compare thee, O glorious one? /  
Solomon, for thou didst erect a glorious temple to God; /  
Zechariah, for like him thou art the illustrious fruit of a priestly family; /  
Moses, for thou didst lead thy people through the wilderness; /  
Noah, for thou didst preserve them amidst a flood of destruction; /  
Myrrh-bearer, for thou didst not forsake Christ even in the darkest hour; /  
Protomartyr, for thou wast the first clergyman killed by the Bolshevik oppressors! ///  
O hieromartyr John, pray now that our souls may be saved.

**W**hat shall we call thee, O hieromartyr John? /  
Luminous beacon, for thou didst hold high the Light of Christ for all to see; /  
River of grace, nourishing the American and Russian lands by thy words and  
thy deeds; /  
Candlestand, guiding those lost in the darkness; /  
Lamb, for thou wast innocently led to the slaughter; /  
Cornerstone, for like the Lord, thou also was rejected; /



Now, thou art become the firm foundation for the faithful! ///

O hieromartyr John, pray now that our souls may be saved.

**W**hat shall we call thee, O father John? /

Confessor, for thou didst proclaim the Gospel amidst great hardship and trial; /

Teacher, for thou didst instruct thy flock in the True Faith; /

Mentor, for thou didst give us the example of a righteous and virtuous life; /

Angel, for thou dost guard us by thine intercessions before God; /

Shepherd, for thou didst defend thy flock even unto death! ///

O hieromartyr John, pray now that our souls may be saved.

**H**ow shall we praise thee, O righteous father John? /

Blessed pastor gathering the faithful entrusted to thee; /

Vessel of wisdom, nourishing and sustaining us in the Orthodox faith; /

Courageous defender of the Church before the godless foe; /

Glorious martyr, for thou didst give up thy life so thy flock might live! ///

O hieromartyr John, pray now that the souls of us, thy spiritual children, may be saved.

### **Glory..., in Tone 2:**

**T**oday the choirs of sanctified priests rejoice /

For another has joined their company, /

The glorious missionary and hieromartyr John, /

The glory of Chicago and Tsarskoye Seló. /

He who once preached the Word of God to the faithful /

Now stands before the Word of God in heaven; /

He who once nourished the faithful with the Holy Mysteries is now nourished at the heavenly banquet; /

He who once comforted the needy now enjoys comfort in the heavenly mansions; /

He who proclaimed the victory over death by the death of Christ, now shares in that same victory ///

As he continues to pray to God that the souls of us, his spiritual children, may be saved.

### **Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**B**eneath thy compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos, /

Despise not our prayers in our necessity, /

But deliver us from all misfortune, ///

O only pure and only blessed one!

### **The Great Doxology, and the Dismissal.**

**Liturgy**

**At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the third Ode, and 4 from the sixth Ode of the Canon of the Saint.**

**1.** Thou wast brought before the Savior of all as a pure and blameless sacrifice, O most wise father John.

**2.** As a priest, thou wast made a steward of the consecrated Body of Christ, being instructed that thou wouldst give an account of thy stewardship at the Judgment Seat of God. Now, thou standest before the Lamb as a good and faithful steward of His Body.

**3.** Like a gardener, thou didst cultivate the vine planted in the land of America by God. Now we, the fruit of that vine, worthily honor thy holy memory, O hieromartyr John.

**4.** As a true disciple of the Lord, O John, thou didst care for those who came to thee in fulfillment of Christ's command.

**5.** Both a sacrifice and a priest, thou hast wholly given thyself unto God for the sake of the Faith, and thus, preserved undefiled the fulfillment of thy ministry to Him.

**6.** The light of thy virtues blinded those preferring to sit in darkness, for having slain thee, they believed thy light to be gone forever, but instead, they were dismayed by the radiance of the unfading light of God.

**7.** To thy persecutors, thou wast no better than a dog to be shot, but to us, the faithful, thou art the true image of Christ; a pure and blameless lamb, led innocently to the slaughter.

**8.** Having come face to face with wicked godlessness, thou didst not pray for divine wrath and retribution, but rather that divine mercy be granted — to both the righteous and the wicked.

**First Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 2:**

Aflame with love for God, /  
Thou didst give thy life as a martyr for Christ and neighbor. /  
For this, thou didst receive a crown of righteousness from Him. /  
O holy hieromartyr John, /  
Entreat the most merciful God to preserve the holy Church in peace, ///  
And to save our souls.

**Another Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 1:**

Thou wast revealed to all as a true shepherd, /

O holy hieromartyr John of Chicago. /  
For thou didst nurture thy people in the Orthodox Faith /  
Guiding them by word and deed on the path of salvation, /  
And defending the Faith even unto the shedding of thy blood. /  
Therefore, we thy spiritual children cry out in thanksgiving: /  
Glory to Him who gave thee strength! /  
Glory to Him who granted thee a crown! ///  
Glory to Him who through thee grants mercy to all!

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 3:**

**N**ow the holy hieromartyr is glorified, /  
For he took up his cross and followed Christ; /  
In so doing, he showed us the model of true discipleship. /  
Therefore, let us all cry aloud to him: ///  
Rejoice, O father John, the glory of priests.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 7:** Let the saints be exalted in glory; / let them sing for joy on their couches. *Verse:* Sing to the Lord a new song; His praise in the assembly of the saints.

**The Epistle: (334) Hebrews 13:7-16**

**The Alleluia, Tone 2:** Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness and Thy saints shall rejoice! *Verse:* The Lord hath chosen Sion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

**The Gospel: (67) Luke 12:32-40**

**The Communion Hymn:** The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.