

The 13th Day of July

The Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel; and the Commemoration of our Venerable Father Stephen of St. Sabba's Monastery.

Vespers

At "Lord, I call...", 6 stichera,

3 stichera of the Archangel, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Thou hast given a sign...."*

The pre-eternal God /

By divine communion fashioned thee as a second, glorious star /

To enlighten the whole universe O Archangel Gabriel, /

And reveal to us the truly great and divine mystery which was from all ages: /

Of Him who assumed our flesh in the Virgin's womb, /

And though incorporeal, became a man ///

In order that He might save mankind.

Standing before the throne of the Three-fold Godhead /

And radiant with the divine splendor shining from it, /

Do thou deliver us from the gloominess of passions, /

Who on earth form a joyful chorus and praise thee, O Gabriel, /

And illumine and enlighten us, ///

O Archangel and intercessor for our souls.

Cast down the insolence of our enemies /

Who descend like wolves upon thy flock; /

Heal thou the schisms of the Church; /

Still the tempest of the boundless temptations which beset us; /

And deliver from every misfortune and sorrow, /

Those who honor thee with love and have run to thy protection, ///

O Gabriel, thou Archangel and intercessor for our souls.

And 3 stichera of St. Stephen, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "O most glorious wonder"*

O our God-bearing father Stephen, /

Having strengthened thy mind with divine wisdom, /

Courageously didst thou restrain thy passions and desires with chastity, /

Making thy soul a beautiful chariot of the virtues, /

Upon which thou didst joyously ascend to the heavens, /

O most glorious one.

O divinely-eloquent father Stephen, /

Fortifying thy mind with theology, /

Thou didst aim thy wrath, like a spear, against the blaspheming heretics. /

And yearning for the nourishment of heaven, /
 Thou wast deemed worthy to partake of it ///
 Standing now before the throne of the King and Ruler of all.

O divinely-eloquent father Stephen, /
 Having honed thy mind through temperance and discipline, /
 Thou didst ascend on high to the Cause of all things. /
 Thus, thou didst silence the tumult of this world /
 And made firm the purity of thy mind /
 By the power of Him, who was thine ultimate desire, ///
 O divinely-wise and ven'rable one.

Glory..., in Tone 6: *(in the regular melody. The composition of Byzantius)*

Rejoice together with us ye ranks of angels, /
 For today Gabriel, the commander of the archangels, /
 Who is foremost among your ranks, and our great defender, /
 Sanctifies the temple of God named in his honor /
 By revealing himself to us. /
 Therefore, we worthily praise him and we cry aloud: ///
 Shelter us under the shadow of thy wings, O most glorious Archangel Gabriel!

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 6,

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *To the melody "On the third day...."*

Beholding Thee crucified /
 The all-pure Theotokos cried aloud /
 With maternal sorrow: /
 "My Son and my God, and my sweetest child ///
 How dost Thou endure the shameful Passion?

Or Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection service.

The Aposticha is from the Octoechos, then:

Glory..., now and ever... to the Archangel, in Tone 8: *(The composition of the monk John of Damascus)*

As thou art the champion and foremost of the angels, /
 Free those who faithfully sing and beseech thee, O glorious one, /
 From every illness, sorrow, evil sin and necessity; /
 For clearly, thou who hast no material form /

ARCHANGEL GABRIEL; AND OUR
VENERABLE FATHER STEPHEN THE SABBAITE

Canst behold the Immaterial One, /
And art illumined by the immaterial light of the Master's glory. /
For He in His love for mankind received our flesh from the Virgin ///
Desiring to save mankind.

The Troparion of Archangel, in Tone 4:

O Gabriel, commander of the heavenly hosts /
We who are unworthy beseech thee /
By thy prayers to encompass us /
With the shadow of thine immaterial glory. /
We fall down before thee, and cry out ceaselessly: /
Deliver us from all danger! ///
Since thou art the prince of the ranks of dominions on-High!

Matins

One Canon from the Octoechos, and two Canons of the Saints

— incomplete as of 3/23/2015

After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Archangel, in Tone 2:

In heaven gazing on the glory of God /
And granting grace to earth from on high, /
O commander of the angels, Gabriel the Wise, /
Minister of the glory of God and divine cham'pion of the world, /
Save and protect those who cry out to thee: ///
Be our helper and no one will prevail against us.

After the Sixth Ode, another Kontakion of the Archangel, in Tone 2:

O commander and minister of the glory of God, /
Leader of the angels and instructor of mankind: /
Implore of His great mercy all that may be profitable for us ///
In that thou art the commander of the heavenly hosts.

At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos, and

Glory..., in Tone 5:

Where Thy grace overshadows, O Archangel, /
From thence the power of the devil is driven away; /
For he, as the falling morning star, cannot endure to see thy light. /

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Therefore, we beseech thee: /
Extinguish his fiery arrows which come upon us, /
By thy protection, deliver us from his seductions, ///
O Praiseworthy Commander Gabriel,

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