

The 22nd Day of May
Hieromartyr Basiliscus, Bishop of Comana.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

Crowned as a king, Basiliscus the glorious, /
Thou wast received into the kingdom that abideth forever /
And thou standest now before the King of the ages /
Rejoicing together with all the armies of angels, /
And with them, O blessèd one, /
Thou dost ceaselessly sing the Thrice-holy hymn, ///
Brightly illumined by communion with the radiance divine.

Thou didst walk, rejoicing, /
On the path to thy martyrdom /
Shod in iron sandals with nails driven through the soles of thy feet. /
Thus thou didst trample upon the head of the enemy /
Utterly destroying it, O most-praised one, /
And proceeded with a firm step on thy path to heaven, ///
To stand victorious before the Master, O Basiliscus the glorious.

At thy prayer a barren tree sprouted anew, /
And a spring began to flow with miraculous waters of life; /
The earth was hallowed by the streams of thy blood /
And the air was sanctified by the ascent of thy soul, /
O Basiliscus, thou art richly bless’t by God. /
Therefore, on the day on which thou didst suffer under the law ///
We joyfully celebrate thy holy memory.

Note: But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then the 3 stichera to the Theotokos found on May 20th are sung at Vespers at “Lord I call,” before the above stichera of the Saints, in the same Tone and melody.

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

Thousands of times have I promised /
To repent of my sins, O pure one, /
But the despised, yet cherished, habits of mine evil offenses will not depart from me /
So I fall down before thee, crying out: /
Rescue me from their tyranny, O Lady, ///

And instruct me along the higher path which leads to salvation.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:

Seeing Thee the Lamb and Shepherd on the tree, /
The ewe-lamb who gave birth to Thee lamented, /
And as a mother cried out to Thee: /
“O desired Son, how art Thou hung on the Tree of the Cross, /
O Longsuffering One? /
How art Thy hands and feet nailed by the transgressors, O Word? /
How dost Thou shed Thy Blood, O Master?

The General Troparion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4: *(None given in the Menaion)*

Like the apostles in character, /
A successor on their throne, O divinely-inspired one /
Through visions thou didst find thy work /
Rightly dividing the word of truth. /
Thou didst suffer for the sake of the faith /
Even to the shedding of thy blood ///
O Hieromartyr Basiliscus, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Matins

The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 8,

*having the acrostic: “I piously praise Basiliscus the Great,”
the composition of Joseph. — incomplete as of 4/2016*

The Kontakion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O victorious leader....”*

Thou didst reveal thyself as one strong and mighty in thy struggles, /
And a marvelous wonderworking champ’ion bearing the name of Christ for all to see. /
By this thou didst put the pride of the tormenting tyrants to shame. /
So we honor thee, O glorious Basiliscus, and we cry aloud to thee: ///
Rejoice, O radiant glory of the martyrs!