

## The 11<sup>th</sup> Day of November

**Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Mēnas, Victor, Vincent, and the Holy Martyr Stephanie (Stephanida); and the Commemoration of our Venerable Father Theodore, the Studite; and the Commemoration of the Repose of St. Maxim Fool-for-Christ and Wonderworker of Moscow, whose service is found following this. — incomplete as of 10/2018**

### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:**

**3 stichera of the Martyrs, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”***

Thy body was pierced by weapons of iron, /  
Cruelly flogged with leather whips, /  
And thou wast burned by the flaming fire; /  
Still thou didst not deny the saving name of Christ, /  
Nor didst thou waver in thy courage of mind, /  
Nor didst thou make sacrifice to idols; /  
But thou didst make thyself a willing whole-burnt offering, /  
And a most perfect sacrifice ///  
To thy Master, O martyr Mēnas.

Thine eyes were plucked out, and thou wast hanged on a tree, /  
Thy whole body was branded and covered with welts and sores /  
And thy sinews were cruelly cut by the raging judge /  
Who then severed thy head with a sword; /  
Then didst thou rejoice, O Victor, the glorious, /  
Thou passion-bearer of the Savior /  
For thou didst vanquish the legions of the enemy ///  
By the power and action of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord awarded thee a crown of grace, /  
O greatly suffering Stephanie, /  
For with the greatest spiritual courage /  
Thou didst willingly submit thyself to a cruel death: /  
Tied between two palm trees that were bent down to the ground /  
At their release thy body wast torn in two /  
And like a released sparrow thou didst take flight to God ///  
Leaving only thy flesh in the bloody hands of the tormentors, O glorious martyr!

**And 3 stichera of the Venerable Saint, in Tone 8: To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”**

**T**rue to thy name, O father Theodore, /  
Thou didst receive gifts from heaven /  
That surpassed all understanding. /  
Then thou didst piously share them with those who loved thee; /  
Thus increasing the talent given thee, O blessed one, /  
And thou didst hear the voice of God calling thee to His presence, /  
Where thou dost now abide forever before the throne of the King of all, ///  
O truly wondrous Theodore.

**O** father of fathers, Theodore, /  
Thou didst bring a multitude of monastics to Christ /  
Thus becoming a cause of their salvation, /  
Illumined with doctrines and revealed, prophetically, to be the mouth of the Lord. /  
Standing now before Him, remember us all, ///  
O all-wise father Theodore.

**T**he abundant grace of the Spirit /  
Was clearly poured out onto thy lips, /  
O wise minister of the mysteries, /  
And a torrent of divine teaching flowed forth from thee /  
Revealing thee as a champion of piety /  
And a zealous teacher of the Truth, /  
A pillar and fortress of the Orthodox Faith, ///  
And an excellent rule of the monastic life, O wise father Theodore.

**Glory..., of the Martyrs, Tone 6:**

**T**he yearly commemoration of your feast has come /  
O ye beacons of the world, /  
Holy martyrs Mēnas, Victor, Vincent, and Stephanie /  
Who enlighten the hearts of the faithful /  
By your struggles for the Lord and His Cross. /  
Therefore, in hymns we praise Christ our God, ///  
Who hath crowned you with glory and honor.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone, or the Stavrotheotokion: To the melody, To the melody, “On the third day....”**

**W**hen the Virgin, Thy pure Mother, /  
Beheld Thee unjustly nailed to the Tree by lawless men /

HOLY MARTYRS MĒNAS, VICTOR, VINCENT & THE HOLY MARTYR STEPHANIE; AND  
VENERABLE FATHER THEODORE THE STUDITE.

Her womb, O Savior was wounded, ///  
As Symeon had foretold.

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

**The Aposticha from the Octoechos,**

**And this sticheron to the Martyrs, in Tone 2:**

**Verse:** Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

**C**ome all ye that love the martyrs /  
And let us honor this thrice-radiant choir: /  
The martyrs Mēnas, with Victor, and Vincent. /  
For they purchased eternal life with the price of their blood /  
And with their words they opposed author of evil: /  
Saying, “We shall not prefer corruptible things to the incorruptible; /  
We shall not do battle for an earthly and mortal king, /  
But we shall fight for the eternal living King who ceaselessly calls to  
the faithful: ///  
‘He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live!’”

**Glory..., of St. Theodore, in Tone 6:**

**O** ven’rable father Theodore /  
Thine instructions have gone out into all the earth; /  
Destroying the legions of demons; /  
By this thou hast found the reward of thy labors in heaven; /  
And attained to the ranks of the angels, /  
Whose life thou didst blamelessly emulate. /  
And having great boldness before Christ God ///  
Entreat Him that peace be granted to our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, “On the third day....”**

**B**eholding Thee crucified, O Christ /  
She who gave Thee birth cried out to Thee: /  
“What is this strange mystery I see, my Son? /  
How, being hung in the flesh, the Giver of Life, ///  
Dost Thou die on the Tree?”

**The General Troparion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:**

Thy holy martyrs, O Lord, /  
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God' /  
For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons. ///  
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

**Glory..., the General Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8**

**A**s an instructor of Orthodoxy, a teacher of piety and purity, /  
A lamp of the universe, and divinely-inspired enrichment of monastics, /  
O most wise Theodore, by thy teachings thou didst enlighten all ///  
O spirit-filled voice, beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion.**

**Matins**

**One Canon from the Octoechos, with 6 Troparia including the Irmos; and two for the Saints, with 4 Troparia, each.**

*— incomplete as of 10/7/18*

**After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of St. Theodore, in Tone 2:**

Thine ascétic life, equal to that of the angels /  
Was illumined through thy struggles and suffering, /  
And thou wast revealed to dwell together with them, O Theodore, bléss't by God. ///  
Cease not to beseech Christ God together with them, on behalf of us all.

*Ikos:* Let us now praise Theodore, the radiant beauty of the ascetics and the confirmation of the Church of Christ; for he hath appeared as a new pillar of fire burning the heads of heretics and enlightening the souls of those who believe in the Orthodox Faith, leading them to Jerusalem on high, the city of God, as another Israel. So, let us cry out to him: O most blessed father Theodore, cease not to beseech Christ God on behalf of us all.

**And the Sessional Hymn of the Martyrs, in Tone 8: To the melody, "Of wisdom...."**

**T**hou didst shine forth from the land of Egypt, O wise martyr Mēnas,  
Which once was held fast by the cruel darkness of ignorance /  
As a great beacon to all the world, /  
And the rays of thy divine struggles dispersed the night of godlessness. /  
Therefore, we joyfully celebrate thy holy and light-bearing festival today, /

HOLY MARTYRS MĒNAS, VICTOR, VINCENT & THE HOLY MARTYR STEPHANIE; AND  
VENERABLE FATHER THEODORE THE STUDITE.

And we earnestly cry out to thee, O adornment of the martyrs: /  
Entreat Christ God that He grant the remission of sins ///  
To those who lovingly celebrate thy holy memory.

**Glory..., of St. Theodore, in Tone 3: *To the melody, “The faith divine....”***

**E**nriched by the divine doctrines, /  
Thou didst hold fast to the Orthodox Faith; /  
And thou didst brave dangers for its sake, /  
Suffering both scourging and imprisonment. /  
O our venerable father Theodore, ///  
Entreat God that He may grant us all great mercy.

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

**T**hou art the divine tabernacle of the Word, /  
O only most pure Virgin Mother of God /  
Surpassing even the angels in thy purity. /  
Cleanse me with the waters of thy tears, O Lady, /  
For more than any others I am dust, defiled by my transgressions ///  
And grant me thy great mercy, O pure one.

**Or, the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:**

**W**hen the chaste ewe-lamb and incorrupt Virgin Mother, /  
Beheld Him hanging on the Cross /  
The One who sprang forth from her womb without giving pain /  
She cried out lamenting with a mothers’ sorrow: /  
“Woe is me, O my Child, /  
How dost Thou voluntarily endure suffering /  
In Thy desire to save mankind ///  
From the passion of impiety.

**After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast appeared today....”***

**O** passion-bearing martyr Mēnas, /  
Thou didst leave behind the army on earth /  
And wast made a member of the army of heaven /  
By Christ our God, ///  
Himself, the unfading Crown of the martyrs.

**Ikos:** The memory of the martyrs brings great joy to us for it shows forth their

courage amidst their suffering and their victory over the enemy in a radiant and joyful confession of grace. Come therefore, all ye that love this feast, and let us rejoice and be glad keeping the memory of the passion-bearer Mēnas, as the better and more perfect of all joys, that we may find the end of our passions to be a gift given to us by Christ our God, the unfading Crown of the martyrs.

**Exapostilarion from the Octoechos, and that of the Martyrs:**

The stars adorn the heavens, and the martyrs Mēnas, Victor, Vincent and Stephanida adorn the Church. Grant Orthodox Christians victory over their adversaries for their sake, O Jesus.

**Glory..., the Exapostilarion of St. Theodore:**

Thou wast revealed to be a living fortress of the dogmas of Orthodoxy, denouncing the deceptions of the iconoclasts. Wherefore, having ended thy time of witness by thy suffering, thou hast been glorified, O father Theodore.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion.**

All we, the faithful, have thee as our mediatrix before Him who was born of thee and crucified for us. Wherefore, cease not to intercede for us, O Virgin.

**The Aposticha from the Octoechos,**

**And this sticheron to the Martyrs, in Tone 2:**

*Verse:* The righteous cried and the Lord heard them and He delivered them from all their troubles.

Come all ye faithful, /  
And let us honor Mēnas the glorious passion-bearer of Christ, /  
Who was mighty in battle and steadfast in piety, /  
And cast down the dominion of the rulers and the tyrants. /  
And as he hath great boldness before Christ our God ///  
He ceaselessly prays to Him that our souls may be saved.

**Glory..., of St. Theodore, in Tone 8:**

We honor thee as the instructor of a multitude of monastics, /  
O our father Theodore; /  
For truly we have learned to walk aright by following in thy steps. /  
Blessed art thou, for having labored for Christ, /  
Thou hast destroyed the power of the enemy, /  
O converser with the angels and companion of the righteous, ///  
Pray with them to the Lord that He grant our souls great mercy.

HOLY MARTYRS MĒNAS, VICTOR, VINCENT & THE HOLY MARTYR STEPHANIE; AND  
VENERABLE FATHER THEODORE THE STUDITE.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *To the melody, "Standing before the Tribunal...."***

**When it beheld** thee, the Sun of Righteousness, /  
Suspended on the tree /  
The sun hid its rays and the moon turned to darkness, ///  
And Thy immaculate Mother was wounded in her womb.

### **Liturgy**

**The Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:** The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who are in His land. *Verse:* I keep the Lord always before me; for He is at my right hand, and I shall not be moved.

**The Epistle:** (233) Ephesians 6:10-17 (**Martyrs**); and (335) Hebrews 13:17-21

**The Alleluia, in Tone 4:** The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their troubles. *Verse:* Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

**The Gospel:** (38) Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30 (**Martyrs**); and (10) Matthew 4:25-5:12 (**Saint**).

**Communion Hymn:** Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just! Alleluia....

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