

The 7th Day of July

Commemoration of our Venerable Fathers Thomas of Mt. Maleum and Acacius of Mt. Sinai, who is mentioned in the Ladder of Divine Ascent.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,

3 stichera of St. Thomas, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “Joy of the ranks of heaven....”*

We have come to know thee as a divinely radiant star /
Illumining the whole world with the mystical light /
Dispelling the tumultuous darkness of the demons. ///
Therefore, with faith, we celebrate thy light-bearing memory, O blessèd one.

Having once led a life resplendent in riches and power /
Thou didst clothe thyself in monastic robes, O father Thomas /
Emulating the poverty of Him who became incarnate for our sake. ///
Therefore, He enriched thee with His many gifts.

Thou wast guided by God toward salvation with a pillar of fire, /
Attaining to the calm harbor and the safe shore of dispassion, /
And waters of healing flowed at thy prayers, O ven’rable one, ///
Giving strength to the lame and sight to the blind

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

Thou didst mortify the cravings of thy flesh through abstinence /
And enlivened thy soul through fasting and the exercise of the virtues. /
Therefore, thou wast truly shown to be alive even after thy repose, /
For death came only as a dream to thee /
As thou didst pass over it to God ///
Who took thy soul into His embrace, O Acacius.

Thou didst put to sleep the stirrings of the passions, O Acacius /
By standing in obedience and humility and keeping all-night vigilance in prayer, /
And instructed by the lessons of the divine Scriptures /
Thou didst keep untroubled thy mind and kept pure thy heart. /
Therefore, thou didst become the receptacle of the Holy Spirit, ///
Shining with rays of miracles upon all the ends of the earth.

Having utterly disdained all earthly attachments /
Thou didst become a vessel of passionlessness, /
And by thy love of divine wisdom, O glorious one, /
Thou didst achieve to the ultimate Desire by thy active ascent /
And beheld with mystical vision the incomprehensible and divine beauty of
the invisible God, ///
O all-wise and blessed father Acacius.

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

Containing within thy womb the uncontainable God, /
Who, in His love for mankind became a man /
And accepted from thee the substance of our flesh /
Thus deifying our nature, /
Do not disdain me, O all-pure one, in my sorrow. /
But come quickly and take pity on me ///
And release me from the harm and enmity of the evil one.

Or this 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?

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

The Troparion of the Saints, in Tone 4:

O God of our fathers /
Deal with us according to Thy compassion /
Take not away Thy mercy from us /
But through the prayers of our fathers ///
Guide our lives along the way of peace.

Matins

**One Canon from the Octoechos, with six Troparia, and two Canons of the
Saints, with eight Troparia**

— incomplete as of 3/23/2015

VENERABLE FATHERS THOMAS OF MT. MALEON,
AND ACACIUS OF MT. SINAI

After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of St. Acacius, in Tone 2: *To the melody, "Seeking the highest...."*

From thy childhood thou didst forsake the world /
And didst follow Christ, /
And imitating His voluntary humility /
Thou didst cast down the tyrant's pride. ///
Pray now without ceasing for us all, O father Acacius.

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of St. Thomas, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake...."*

Inflamed with divine courage and love, /
Thou didst win a great victory: /
Thou didst spurn the kingdom of this world and all its beauty, /
And completed thy earthly journey on Mt. Maleum from which thou didst enter
heaven. ///
O ven'erable Thomas, pray without ceasing to God for us all!

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