

The 28th Day of March

**Our Venerable Fathers Hilarion the New, Abbot of Pelekete,
and Stephen the Wonderworker of Triglia.**

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,

3 stichera of St. Hilarion in Tone 4: ¹ *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

Having acquired a chaste life, O father, /
Patience, meekness, and sincere love, /
Extreme abstinence, and standing all night in prayer, /
Divine compunction, true faith and hope, /
Thou didst live on earth as an angel in the flesh ///
O blessed Hilarion, intercessor for our souls.

Thou didst shine forth, O yen’rable one /
As an earthly angel and heavenly man, /
A fountain of compunction, a stream of compassion, a sea of miracles, /
The surety of sinners, a worthy and fruitful olive tree of God, /
Anointing the faces of those who faithfully praise thee ///
With the oil of thy labors, O father Hilarion.

Enlightened with divine understanding, /
Thy mind overcame bodily passions /
By not participating in earthly matters /
But bearing in thyself the imprint of divine goodness, /
Thou art seen as godlike by all through the grace of the Divine Spirit ///
O our father Hilarion, thou adornment of monastics.

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

[If at Presanctified, these stichera are sung at the Praises of Matins.]

Being the truest monk, /
The brightest star and a fountain of compunction, /
Thou wast revealed as one filled with love, /
Meekness, tranquility, compassion and humility, /
Without guile and blameless, O father Stephen, ///

¹ Cf. 6th Day of June.

Therefore Christ placed thee as a shepherd of monastics, honored by miracles.

Awake all night in keeping vigil, /
 And with ineffable abstinence, O venerable father, /
 With a godly life, fervent prayer, faith, hope and sincerity, /
 Thou didst possess wondrous endurance and Orthodox wisdom; /
 And thou didst shine with divine radiance before thy repose. ///
 Therefore we honor thee, O venerable Stephen.

We praise thee, O father, /
 As a brilliant star, a never-waning sun, a shimmering heaven /
Adorned with stars and divine wonders /
 As a garden of fragrant flowers, the delight of paradise, /
 A fountain of sanctification, /
 As a great physician bringing healing to the sick, ///
 As our good shepherd and intercessor, O father Stephen.

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

Shower my thoughts with the dew of the Most Holy Spirit, /
 O most pure Mother of Christ, /
 Who in His boundless compassion, /
 Cleansed the multitude of our transgressions with a drop of dew. /
 Dry up the source of my passions, /
 And through thy prayers, O Lady, ///
 Vouchsafe that I may ever drink at the stream of life.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross, O Lord, /
 The ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, cried out in amazement: /
 “What is this sight, O most-desired Son? /
 What has the ungrateful assembly done to Thee /
 Having once delighted themselves in Thy many miracles? ///
 But I glorify Thy ineffable condescension, O Master!”

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

Note: No Troparion or Kontakion for either Saint given in the Slav Menaion.

The Troparion of St. Hilarion, Tone 5: (to the melody: “Let us the faithful...)

Adorned with gladness of soul, /
A pure vessel of the wisdom of Christ, /
Thou wast a model of the life in God. /
Therefore, thou art resplendent with the light of the virtues, /
O father Hilarion, ///
Guiding us unerringly to the salvation of our souls.

The Troparion of St. Stephen, Tone 8:

As an instructor of Orthodoxy, a teacher of piety and purity, /
A lamp of the universe, and divinely-inspired enrichment of hierarchs, /
O most-wise Cosmas, by thy teachings thou didst enlighten all ///
O spirit-filled voice, beseech Christ God to save our souls.

Matins

The Canon of Saint Hilarion, Tone 2,

having the acrostic: “I praise thy silent virtues, O venerable father,” the composition of Joseph.

The Canon for Saint Stephen, Tone 1,

having the acrostic: “I honor thy divine labors, O blessed one.” The composition of Joseph.

The Kontakion of St. Hilarion, Tone 4:

O righteous father Hilarion, /
Thou didst blossom lie the fruitful olive tree, /
Making radiant with the mystical power of thine oil /
All the faithful who loving sing to thee: ///
“Rejoice, unwavering rule of the righteous!”

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