

The 26th Day of August

Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Adrian and Natalia and their 33 Companions, at Nicomedia; also the Commemoration of the Meeting of Vladimir Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, whose service is to be found after this. — incomplete as of 3/2018

Vespers

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

Beholding the venerable struggles /
And the valiant feats of the martyrs /
Thou didst voluntarily go out into the arena, O glorious one, /
Full of courage and thinking not of thy body in thy love for God. /
Heroically didst thou accomplish great deeds /
And humbled the pride of the enemy ///
Through thy patient longsuffering, O martyr Adrian.

Beaten with the sinews of oxen, /
Shut in prison, bound in fetters of iron /
And crushed under stones together with a multitude of martyrs, /
Thou didst receive the blessing of heaven, O glorious one, /
Together with thy spouse, Natali-a, /
Who also trusted in God, ///
O valiant martyr Adrian.

Adam was exiled from paradise /
By the words of Eve through the counsel of the serpent; /
But Natali-a, encouraged her husband by her holy exortations /
And wisely led him toward paradise /
Urging him with her words to endure the pain of his suffering /
And through this mediation won eternal glory ///
And the rewards of heaven.

Glory..., in Tone 6

O ye holy pair of martyrs, chosen by the Lord, /
O wonderful union blesst by God, /
O far-famed couple belovèd of Christ, /
Who cannot but marvel at hearing of your glorious deeds? /
A woman found the courage to stand against the tyrant /
And give strength to her husband, /

That he might not surrender to wickedness, but rather die for the faith. /
O, the divine words of Natali-a, wise in God!
O, her divine teachings that transcended the heights of heaven, /
And set her with the glorious Adrian before the very throne of Christ the King! /
O you heavenly couple, entreat God for us who lovingly keep your memory ///
That we may be delivered from every tribulation and sorrow.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, "Having set all aside...."

A sword has pierced thy heart, /
As Symeon said, O most pure Lady, /
When thou didst behold Him Who shone forth ineffably from thee /
Condemned by the lawless and lifted upon the Cross, /
Given gall to eat and vinegar to drink, /
His hand and feet pierced with nails, His side run through with a spear, /
Thou didst cry out to Him with a mother's sorrow: ///
What is this new mystery, O my sweetest Child?

At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos, and:

Glory..., now and ever..., in Tone 1: (the composition of Ephraim of Karyes)

The zeal of a pious man /
Stirred his God-loving wife to speak inspired words /
And the noble Adrian was encouraged by the exhortations of Natali-a /
And completed his course of suffering. /
O, the strength of the God-loving spouse! /
She did not bring her husband to corruption as did Eve, /
But rather, she offered to him eternal life. /
Therefore, praising them both let us cry aloud to Christ: ///
Help us through the holy prayers of Thy holy saints.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone 1: To the melody, "Joy of the ranks of heaven...."

Standing before the Cross of thy Son and God, /
And beholding His long-suffering,
O pure Mother, thou didst cry out weeping: /
Woe is me, O my Child most sweet! /
What are these things which Thou dost suffer unjustly, ///
O Word of God, that Thou mightest save mankind?

The 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.

Matins

**Both Canons from the Octoechos, and this of the Martyrs, with 4 Troparia, in
Tone 6**

— incomplete as of 3/19/2018

After the Third Ode, The Kontakion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:

O Adrian, martyr of Christ God, /
Thou didst preserve in thy heart the divine words of thy pious wife. /
And together with her /
Thou didst earnestly accept martyrdom ///
And together obtained crowns of victory.

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