

## The 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of July

☩ **The Commemoration of the Holy Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalēne; and the Translation of the Relics of the Holy Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinopé.**

### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,**

**3 stichera to St. Mary Magdalēne,<sup>1</sup> in Tone 8:** *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder...”*

**B**earing myrrh with tears, O Mary Magdalēne, /  
Thou didst reach the blessed tomb /  
And there beheld a glorious angel who announced to thee /  
The divine Resurrection of the Giver of life and Deliverance of all /  
Then thou didst hasten to the Eleven, and cried out joyfully: ///  
“Rejoice, for Christ is risen from the dead!”

**S**erving Christ God, who became man for our sakes, /  
O all-praised Mary, /  
Thou didst set thy soul and thy mind aflame /  
Becoming a light which illumines all. /  
And beholding the strange wonder of Him hanging upon the Cross /  
Thou didst cry aloud and say: ///  
“How can the Life accept a willing death?”

**We** celebrate thy sacred memory /  
O thou who wast taught by Christ, /  
And who preached His commandments /  
On the deliverance of souls. /  
And we venerate with faith the shrine of thy relics, O Mary, /  
Which pours abundant grace and enlightenment ///  
Upon those come to it with love, O divinely-blessed one.

**And 3 stichera to the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

**T**hou didst offer thyself wholly to Him, O all-praised father Phocas /  
Who endured His salvific suffering for thy sake /  
And thou didst diligently hasten to cleave to Him /  
And to be well-pleasing to Him in the blood of martyrdom. /  
Thus, thou hast been glorified and received thy crown from Him, /

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<sup>1</sup> Greek text differs.

And richly blessed to work wonders and miracles, ///  
O father Phocas, most wise.

**By** enduring thy suffering, O father Phocas, /  
Thou didst cast down the worship of the demons and the arrogance of the adversary; /  
Thou didst proclaim the Savior of all illumining the minds of the faithful; /  
And didst dispel the darkness of idolatry with the light of thy miracles ///  
And the splendor of thy struggles, O beloved of God.

**We** who are beset by misfortunes and the storms of life, /  
The abyss of our transgressions and the assaults of sorrow and grief /  
Have thee as a haven of salvation, O father Phocas, /  
And with faith we entreat thee /  
To save those who honor thy memory /  
From every evil misfortune by thy fervent intercessions ///  
Entreating the Lord and Master who loveth mankind.

**Glory..., of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 6: (By Anatolius)**

**Being** the first to behold the divine Resurrection /  
Of the Cause of all good things  
Who, in the goodness of His heart hast deified our fallen nature, /  
Thou didst show thyself to be the first bearer of the Good News /  
When thou didst cry out to the apostles /  
“Take courage and set aside your grief! /  
Come and behold the risen Christ ///  
Who grants the world great mercy!”

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

**Beholding** her Lamb upon the Cross, /  
The unblemished ewe-lamb, the immaculate Lady, /  
Cried out in maternal amazement: /  
“What is this new and all-glorious wonder, /  
O my Sweetest Child? /  
How hath this ungrateful assembly betrayed Thee to Pilate, /  
And condemn Thee to death, the Life of all? ///  
Yet do I praise Thine ineffable condescension, O Word!”

*Or the Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.*

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

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

**Glory..., of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 8: (by Byzantius)**

As a disciple who faithfully ministered to Christ God /  
Who of His own will and infinite compassion /  
Became poor with our own poverty, /  
And having seen Him stretched upon the Cross and shut in the tomb /  
Mary Magdalène cried aloud, shedding tears: /  
“What is this unwonted sight that I see? /  
How is it that He who brings the dead back to life is numbered with the dead? /  
What myrrh shall I bring to Him who removed from me the stench of demons? /  
What tears shall I shed for Him who has wiped away the tears of our mother, Eve? /  
But the Lord and King of all, appeared to her as the gardener /  
And quenched the heat of her pain with the dew of His words, /  
Saying: “Go to My brethren, and announce to them /  
The glad tidings of the Resurrection. /  
For I shall ascend to the Father, to My God and your God, ///  
That I may grant the world great mercy.”

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”**

**B**eholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed to the Cross /  
And accepting suffering of Thine own will, /  
The Virgin, Thy Mother, O Master, cried aloud: /  
“Woe is me, O my sweet Child! /  
How is it that Thou dost endure unjust wounding, /  
O Physician who healeth the infirmities of mankind ///  
And by Thy loving-kindness dost deliver all from corruption?”

**The Troparion of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 1:**

In keeping with His commandments and laws, O Mary Magdalène, /  
Thou didst follow after Christ who, for our sake was born of the Virgin. /  
Therefore, keeping today the feast of thy memorial ///  
Through thy supplications we receive the forgiveness of our sins.

**The General Troparion of a Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:**

**L**ike the apostles in character, /  
A successor on their throne, O divinely-inspired one /  
Through visions thou didst find thy work /

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Rightly dividing the word of truth. /  
Thou didst suffer for the sake of the faith /  
Even to the shedding of thy blood ///  
O Hieromartyr Phocas, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

## Matins

### The Canon

One Canon of the Octoechos; and two Canons, one of each Sint:

#### Ode 1

#### The Canon of the Myrrhbearer, Tone 8

*having the acrostic: "I praise Mary Magdalēne with love,"*

*Irmos: Having crossed the water as though it were dry land and escaped from the wickedness of the Egyptians, the children of Israel cried aloud: Let us sing to our Redeemer and our God.*

*Refrain:* Holy equal-to-the-apostles, Mary Magdalēne, pray to God for us!

**A**s thou art adorned with divine beauty and illumined with the splendor of divine light, illumine my darkened heart by thine intercessions, O Mary.

**T**he Word of the Father sanctified thee, clearly delivering thee from the spirits of evil. And having become His disciple, thou wast filled with the grace of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**T**hou hast been filled with the lifegiving waters from a never-failing fountain, O Magdalēne, and through our Lord, who in His loving-kindness appeared on earth, thou hast dried up the muddy torrents of sin.

*Refrain:* Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

*Theotokion:* **W**e praise thee, the Mother by nature of the Creator who hast reconciled to God the wounded nature of mankind, O most-pure Lady Theotokos.

#### The Canon of the Hieromartyr, in the same Tone

*Irmos: Let us sing to our Deliverer and our God, who hath defeated armies with His mighty strength and led Israel across the Red Sea, for He hath been glorified.*

*Refrain:* Holy hieromartyr Phocas, pray to God for us!

**S**tanding before the unapproachable Light, O Phocas most-wise, illumine thou my thoughts and heart, I pray, that on this day I may rightly praise thy sufferings.

**F**rom the days of thy childhood, O Phocas, thou didst possess divine understanding and wast adorned with the grace to work signs and cast out evil spirits.

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

**G**lory...,

**F**ull of the grace and knowledge of God, O divinely wise Phocas, thou didst possess the power of the Spirit living within thee, and thou didst shine forth like the sun illumining the faithful.

**N**ow, and ever...,

*Theotokion:* **W**ithout seed and without knowing man thou didst contain within thy womb the infinite God, O divinely blessed Theotokos. Never cease entreating Him on our behalf.

*Katavasia.*

**Ode 3**

**The Canon of the Myrrhbearer**

*Irmos:* *O Lord, Creator of the vault of heaven and founder of the Church, strengthen me in Thy love, for Thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful, O only Lover of mankind.*

**L**oving the primal Cause of all good things who, in the goodness of His heart, deified our human nature, thou didst follow Him zealously, O Mary, accepting His divine commands.

**C**oming to the tomb of the Deliverer weeping, O Magdalène, thou wast the first to behold His resurrection. Therefore, thou didst become the first herald of the glad tidings, crying: Clap your hands and rejoice, O ye people, for Christ is risen from the dead!

*Theotokion:* **O** all-pure Virgin, the Word incarnate of thine own flesh and blood saves me by the wealth of His goodness, destroying the sentence of the ancient curse. Beseech Him without ceasing for the salvation of us, the sheep of thine own flock.

**The Canon of the Hieromartyr**

*Irmos:* *My heart is strengthened in the Lord, and my horn is lifted up unto my God; my mouth is opened against mine enemies, and I rejoice in Thy salvation.*

**F**rom thy youth, O God-bearing father, thy mind was dedicated to sanctity and all thy life-long, thou wast found to be pleasing unto God. Therefore, hast He glorified thee.

**T**he demon aboard ship could not bear thy presence, O God-bearing father, and took to flight. Thus, Christ is glorified by thy works, O wondrous Phocas.

**T**hy glorious deeds and mighty works and accomplishments are known throughout the land, O wondrous Phocas, thou adornment and boast of the martyrs!

*Theotokion:* **A**s thou art more exalted than the angels, thou didst receive into thy womb the Master of all the angels and the Lord of all creation, O all-immaculate Lady. Therefore, with faith we magnify thee.

*Katavasia.*

**The Kontakion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 6:**

**A**s a hierarch thou didst offer sacrifice to God, /  
In the end, offering thyself as a living sacrifice to Him; /  
Being condemned under the law thou didst bear witness to Christ God /  
And accepting death thou wast given strength by the angels /  
Who cried out to thee: /  
Come with us, O hierarch Phocas, ///  
For no one can stand against us.

*Ikos:* Desiring the life of heaven and spurning the sustenance of earth, let us cleanse our lips and tongue, that we may worthily fashion hymns and songs for Phocas the priest: who, entering through the portals of heaven, found the way unhindered and is now gazing upon Him who is desired above all and who is glorified by the angels. In that he endured torture and suffering for Him, the hieromartyr now entreats the merciful Lord, the healer of our souls' infirmities, on our behalf. Therefore, let us praise him crying out: Look upon us and come with us, O hierarch Phocas, for no one can stand against us.

**The Sessional Hymn of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "Of Wisdom...."***

**A**s His disciple, O Mary Magdalēne, /  
Thou didst faithfully serve the Word, /  
Who in His surpassing loving-kindness didst humble Himself; /  
And thou didst lament and weep beholding Him on the Cross and laid in the tomb. /  
Therefore, we honor thee, O glorious myrrhbearer Mary, /  
And we entreat thee to pray to Christ our God /  
That He may grant the remission of sins /  
To those who with faith and love ///  
Celebrate thy holy memory.

**Glory..., Sessional Hymn of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Quickly go before..."***

**C**ome, all ye faithful who love the feasts of the Church, /  
And let us hasten to the radiant festival /  
Commemorating Phocas the divinely-wise and holy hierarch, /  
Which brings joy and gladness to all the ends of the earth, /  
Shining forth with bright rays of miracles and bearing inexhaustible grace to mankind ///  
For he ever prays to the Lord that he may save our souls.

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

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

**T**hrough thy divine birthgiving, O pure one, /  
Thou didst renew the mortal nature of mankind /  
That was corrupted by the passions; /  
Thou didst raise us up from death to the life of incorruption. ///  
Therefore, we rightly bless thee, as thou didst foretell, O most-glorious Virgin.

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

**O** all-immaculate Virgin, Mother of Christ God /  
A sword pierced thy holy soul when thou didst behold upon the Tree /  
Thy Son and God crucified of His own free will. /  
Cease not to entreat Him, O blessèd one, ///  
That He may grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

**Ode 4**

**The Canon of the Myrrhbearer**

*Irmos: I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation, O Lord; I have considered Thy works and glorify Thy Godhead.*

**W**ith a mind free from the tumult of worldly vanity thou didst minister to Him who came to save the whole world from deception, O Mary Magdalène.

**C**oming to the tomb of the Life in tears, O Mary, there thou didst behold an angel who announced the resurrection of Christ.

**T**hy heart was pure keeping the precepts of Christ, for thou didst desire Him alone, who is beautiful in His goodness, O glorious Magdalène.

*Theotokion: O* pure Virgin Theotokos, the sleep of sin hath overtaken me through the stupor of slothfulness. O rouse me up to repentance by thy vigilant supplications.

**The Canon of the Hieromartyr**

*Irmos: I have heard the report of Thee, O Lord, and was afraid, and as Thou art the pre-eternal God who ineffably came forth from the Virgin, I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy condescension and power, O Christ.*

**W**e know thee, O glorious hieromartyr, as a beacon of righteousness, resplendent in thy deeds and martyrdom, that ever illumine the hearts of the faithful with the brilliant light that dispels the darkness of our infirmities.

**T**hou didst reveal to all the beauty of martyrdom, O hierarch Phocas, for the dove of God came to rest upon thine honorable head, O wise one, foretelling thee through the Spirit of thy coming suffering.

**T**hey that travel upon the seas have thy ceaseless prayers to guide them as they are

delivered from the stormy waves, praising Him, who for the sake of thy intercessions, saves their souls.

*Theotokion:* **O** most pure Lady without spot nor blemish, cleanse thou my heart defiled by evil thoughts and tainted through my transgressions, through thy gracious intercessions before God.

### Ode 5

#### The Canon of the Myrrhbearer

*Irmos:* *Why hast Thou cast me away from Thy face, O never setting Light? Why has this dismal darkness covered me, the wretched one? Guide me in return to the light of Thy commandments, I pray Thee.*

**O**ur first mother, Eve, now eternally rejoices with the holy myrrhbearing women for they courageously trampled Satan underfoot, who once deceived her in the garden of old and banished her from paradise.

**O** venerable Mary Magdalēne, wounded with sweet love for Him who was slain and laid in the tomb, thou hast brought myrrh to anoint Him who breathes life into all, with sweet-smelling spices mingled with thy tears.

**A**fter the divine passion and the awesome resurrection of the Savior, thou didst go forth into the world announcing everywhere the good news and drawing multitudes of those once beguiled by darkness into thy net, O most glorious disciple of the Word.

*Theotokion:* **M**ay He, who through His infinite mercy wast pleased to be born of thee, set me straight who had fallen into the tangled pit of sin, O all holy Virgin, and do thou ever entreat Him, that all who sing thy praises with faith may be delivered from all harm.

#### The Canon of the Hieromartyr

*Irmos:* *Grant us peace, O Lord our God! O Lord our God, take us for Thy possession for we know no other God but Thee and we call upon Thy name.*

**O** venerable father Phocas, thou art truly a precious stone, for thy words and miracles brought those who worshiped stone idols to the divine Faith.

**O** glorious father Phocas, thou art truly worthy of praise and emulation among all the martyrs for having so wondrously suffered and vanquishing the enemy.

**T**he hosts of angels lift their voices in song, beholding thy patient suffering, O blessed martyr Phocas, for thou didst vanquish the armies of the bodiless demons while still in thy mortal frame.

*Theotokion:* **S**ave me who am tossed about on the stormy seas of life, O all-pure Lady, and steer me to the calm haven of dispassion and peace, O thou help of all Christians who art full God's grace.

### Ode 6



SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

**The Canon of the Myrrhbearer**

*Irmos:* Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are my transgressions, and lead me from the depths of evil, I pray Thee, and I cry: Hear me, O God of my salvation.

**T**he dew of thy words took away the burning grief of the disciples when thou didst cry: Christ is risen! The Life has appeared with the brilliance of the Sun!

**B**ehold, the splendor of thy festival has come, enlightening those faithful singing thy praises, and driving out the darkness of the temptation of evil demons, O rightly wondrous Mary Magdalène.

*Theotokion:* **T**hou, O Lady, hast appeared to us who praise thee, as the Holy of Holies, as the Mercy seat that none can touch, as the shining lamp and the bridge that leads to God, O most pure Mother of God!

**The Canon of the Hieromartyr**

*Irmos:* Deliver my soul from my sins, O Christ God, as thou didst deliver the prophet from the depths of the abyss, and set aright my life, I pray Thee, for Thou art the Lover of mankind.

**T**he dove sent to thee from on-high spoke with human words of things that would come to pass, O glorious martyr Phocas, telling thee to drink thy cup of salvation.

**A**fter suffering great physical torment, thou didst bow thy head beneath the sword and sanctified the ground with thy blood.

**R**efusing to worship in lifeless temples thou didst endure death to attain life after death. Therefore, we magnify thee, O richly-blessèd one.

*Theotokion:* **H**e that dwellest in the highest made His abode within thy holy womb and appeared on earth clothed in human flesh. Therefore, O pure Theotokos. we glorify thee.

*Katavasia.*

**The Kontakion of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 3: To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."**

**S**tanding before the Cross of the Savior with many others, /  
Suffering and shedding tears together with the Mother of God , /  
Thou didst offer these words in praise, /  
O glorious saint Mary Magdalène: /  
"What is this strange wonder that I see? /  
How is it that He who sustains all creation wills to suffer on the Tree? ///  
Glory to Thy power, O Lord!"

*Ikos:* Christ the King and Master of all creation, without leaving the heavens, chose to descend and was pleased of His own will to accept corruptible flesh. And when His

immaculate Mother beheld Him nailed to the Cross, she stood weeping together with the honorable virgins and Mary Magdalēne. And when the Magdalēne who had followed Christ gazed upon the tomb, she showed her fervent faith and cried aloud: “It was Thy good will to suffer; glory to Thy power, O Lord!”

### Ode 7

#### The Canon of the Myrrhbearer

*Irmos:* The Hebrew children in the furnace boldly trampled upon the flame, and they changed the fire into dew as they cried aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers.

**H**aving the Word working within thee, thou hast driven out diverse diseases, O myrrhbearer Mary, and thou standest now before Him crying aloud: Blessèd art Thou, forever, O Lord God of our fathers!

**T**hou alone, O Magdalēne, before all others, hast beheld the Risen Christ, our Life. And taking Him to be the gardener, thou didst cry aloud: Blessèd art Thou, forever, O Lord God of our fathers!

*Theotokion:* **H**aving conceived and given birth to the Immortal God, O pure one, thou hast checked the tide of death. To Him let us all sing: Blessèd art Thou, forever, O Lord God of our fathers!

#### The Canon of the Hieromartyr

*Irmos:* An angel saved the three children in the thundering furnace by quenching the flames with dew. Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

**T**hou didst pass through the flames through the power of Christ who dwelt within thee, and like the three children in the furnace thou didst remain unburnt, O martyr.

**S**et aflame within by the fire of divine love, O martyr Phocas wise in God, thou didst remain unconsumed though touched by material fire.

**A**dorned with the divine beauty of thy wounds, thou didst hasten to God the Judge, receiving from Him thy crown of victory.

*Theotokion:* **D**elivered from all condemnation by thy wondrous birthgiving, we praise thee with joyful voices, O ever-blessèd Virgin.

### Ode 8

#### The Canon of the Myrrhbearer

*Irmos:* The Chaldean torturer became enraged; he ordered the furnace to be heated seven-fold; but seeing the godly youths saved by a great might, he sang to the Creator and Redeemer: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**S**plendid was thy life, O Magdalēne, shining as the dawn with the light of thy virtuous deeds, the proclamation of the divine message at the behest of God, and with the radiance of

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

thy divine love for the Creator, whom thou dost now praise together with angels, singing: Praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**T**hou hast stood by the Cross completely engulfed in groans and tears, O Magdalène, beholding the slaughter of Him who, in His ineffable mercy, abased Himself for our sakes; and with tears thou didst cry aloud: What is this strange mystery that I see? How is He, who put death to death, slain and put to death, who is by nature Life?

*Theotokion:* **W**ith one mind, O most pure Lady, we all glorify thee as highest of all creation, O Theotokos, for in thee the curse of Adam is destroyed and the fallen nature of man itself sings aloud: Praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.

**The Canon of the Hieromartyr**

*Irmos:* *O Thou who coverest the beams of Thy chambers with the waters, who settest a margin for the sands of the sea and sustainest all things: the sun hymns Thee, and the moon glorifies Thee, and all creation sings Thy praises forever, for Thou art the Creator of all.*

**G**od, the Creator of all, sanctified thee from thy days in swaddling clothes, O martyr Phocas, and, when thou didst attain the measure of age, thou didst suffer and triumph over the power of the prince of evil; and bearing thy victor's crown thou didst attain to the mansions on high.

**T**hey that sail upon the seas have thee as their excellent helmsman, O wise martyr, and are delivered, by thy pleasing supplications, from every misfortune upon the waters, praising God the King and Creator, forever.

**I**n thine honorable old age, the enemies slaughtered thee like an innocent lamb, O glorious Phocas, who slayed forever the enemy, the author of evil by the sword of thy bold confession.

*Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!*

*Theotokion:* **H**aving given birth to the Lamb of God who, in His infinite loving-kindness takes away the sins of man, thou hast cleansed our fallen and corrupt nature. Therefore, we joyfully praise thee, O Virgin Mother of God.

*We praise, bless, and worship the Lord singing and exalting Him throughout all ages!*

*Katavasia.*

**Ode 9**

**The Canon of the Myrrhbearer**

*Irmos:* *Every ear trembled with fear at hearing of the ineffable condescension of God: how the Most High of His own will came down even unto the flesh and was made man from a virgin womb. Therefore, we the faithful magnify the Most-pure Theotokos.*

**T**hou hast been translated to divine joy, to the wide spaces of paradise, to the spiritual heavenly mansions, where the ranks of righteous monastics dwell and where is heard the pure sound of those that rejoice, O God-bearing Mary. Therefore, we call thee blessed.

**N**othing on earth hast thou preferred to the love of Christ our God, but mitten by His goodness alone and following in His steps, and directly illumined by His light, O most honored Magdalēne, thou didst cry aloud: I magnify Thee, O greatly merciful One!

**M**ade like unto God by God and delighting in the streams of grace, by divine command thou hast thou received the rewards of thy labors and been counted among the ranks of angels, O Mary Magdalēne, disciple of the Word. Do thou, then, protect by thy prayers those who honor thee with love.

*Theotokion:* **A**s Mother of Him who suffered for our sake, preserve me from the soul-corrupting passions, loosen the cords of my offences, and as thou art merciful, restore my soul, afflicted by the temptations of demons, O Virgin Theotokos, that I may ever praise thee, O most honored Lady.

### **The Canon of the Hieromartyr**

*Irmos:* *Blessèd art Thou, O Lord God of Israel, who hath raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, whereby the Dayspring from the East hath visited us from on-high, and hath guided our lives on the way of peace.*

**T**hou art known through thy miracles which make the heavens pulse with stars, ever illumining the earth below and dispelling all evil passions. Therefore, we honor thee with faith, O holy martyr Phocas.

**T**hou didst tread the narrow path while on earth in the hope of attaining everlasting blessings, O martyr Phocas, and growing strong in piety, thou didst constrain the evil schemes of the enemy.

**A**s we solemnly celebrate thy holy festival which brings us perfect joy, we honor the brave and mighty struggles through which thou art glorified, and we entreat thee to remember us, O passion-bearing martyr Phocas.

*Theotokion:* **“**Thou bearest my likeness while possessing the countenance of Thy Father, O my Son!” cried the all-pure Lady as she held the Christ-child in her arms. Her do we praise with voices never-ceasing.

**The Exapostilarion of the Myrrhbearer:** The never-setting Sun who shone forth from the Father in the beginning, O maiden Magdalēne, was sealed in the tomb by the assembly of the wicked, yet thou, O Mary, didst behold Him risen and announced this to the disciples.

**G**lory...

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

**The Exapostilarion of the Hieromartyr:** Thou wast shown to be the adornment of hierarchs, the helper of the poor, and a pillar of the virtues, O Phocas, wise in God; therefore, remember all of us who praise thee in thy holy prayers.

Now, and ever...

*Theotokion:* The prophet Daniel of old described thee as the unquarried mountain from whence the precious Stone was cut that broke into pieces, the temples of the idols, O Mary, Theotokos.

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

**Glory..., of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:**

From thy youth thou hast loved the Lord, /  
O most blessed and wise martyr Phocas, /  
Thou didst shoulder the Cross as thy weapon /  
And bravely, thou didst set out upon the path of the truth. /  
Thou didst become the beloved of the angels, /  
And the opponent of demons, ///  
And an excellent intercessor for the world.

**Now and ever..., of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 8: (by Byzantium)**

As a disciple who faithfully ministered to Christ God /  
Who of His own will and infinite compassion /  
Became poor with our own poverty, /  
And having seen Him stretched upon the Cross and shut in the tomb /  
Mary Magdalène cried aloud, shedding tears: /  
“What is this unwonted sight that I see? /  
How is it that He who brings the dead back to life is numbered with the dead? /  
What myrrh shall I bring to Him who removed from me the stench of demons? /  
What tears shall I shed for Him who has wiped away the tears of our mother, Eve? /  
But the Lord and King of all, appeared to her as the gardener /  
And quenched the heat of her pain with the dew of His words, /  
Saying: “Go to My brethren, and announce to them /  
The glad tidings of the Resurrection. /  
For I shall ascend to the Father, to My God and your God, ///  
That I may grant the world great mercy.”

**Liturgy**

**At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Myrrhbearer,**

**and 4 from the Sixth Ode of the Canon of the Hieromartyr.**

**1-2.** Loving the primal Cause of all good things who, in the goodness of His heart, deified our human nature, thou didst follow Him zealously, O Mary, accepting His divine commands.

**3.** Coming to the tomb of the Deliverer weeping, O Magdalēne, thou wast the first to behold His resurrection. Therefore, thou didst become the first herald of the glad tidings, crying: Clap your hands and rejoice, O ye people, for Christ is risen from the dead!

**4. Theotokion:** O all-pure Virgin, the Word incarnate of thine own flesh and blood saves me by the wealth of His goodness, destroying the sentence of the ancient curse. Beseech Him without ceasing for the salvation of us, the sheep of thine own flock.

**5.** The dove sent to thee from on-high spoke with human words of things that would come to pass, O glorious martyr Phocas, telling thee to drink thy cup of salvation.

**6.** After suffering great physical torment, thou didst bow thy head beneath the sword and sanctified the ground with thy blood.

**7.** Refusing to worship in lifeless temples thou didst endure death to attain life after death. Therefore, we magnify thee, O richly-blessèd one.

**8. Theotokion:** He that dwellest in the highest made His abode within thy holy womb and appeared on earth clothed in human flesh. Therefore, O pure Theotokos. we glorify thee.

**The Troparion of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 1:**

In keeping with His commandments and laws, O Mary Magdalēne, /  
Thou didst follow after Christ who, for our sake was born of the Virgin. /  
Therefore, keeping today the feast of thy memorial ///  
Through thy supplications we receive the forgiveness of our sins.

**The General Troparion of a Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:**

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 Phocas, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**The Kontakion of the Myrrhbearer, in Tone 3:** *To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."*

SAINT MARY MAGDALÈNE, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES, AND  
ST. PHOCAS OF SINOPE.

**S**tanding before the Cross of the Savior with many others, /  
Suffering and shedding tears together with the Mother of God , /  
Thou didst offer these words in praise, /  
O glorious saint Mary Magdalène: /  
“What is this strange wonder that I see? /  
How is it that He who sustains all creation wills to suffer on the Tree? ///  
Glory to Thy power, O Lord!”

**The Kontakion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 6:**

**A**s a hierarch thou didst offer sacrifice to God, /  
In the end, offering thyself as a living sacrifice to Him; /  
Being condemned under the law thou didst bear witness to Christ God /  
And accepting death thou wast given strength by the angels /  
Who cried out to thee: /  
Come with us, O hierarch Phocas, ///  
For no one can stand against us.

**The Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:** God is wondrous in His saints, / the God of Israel.  
*Verse:* Bless God in the churches, the Lord, from the wellsprings of Israel.

**The Epistle:** (141) I Corinthians 9:2-12

**The Alleluia, in Tone 1:** I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer. *Verse:* And He brought me up out of the pit of misery and from the mire of clay.

**The Gospel:** (34) Luke 8:1-3

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

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