

The 23rd Day of January

Ⲅ Commemoration of the Hieromartyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra,
and the Martyr Agathangelus of Rome, who suffered with him.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:

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

Abiding in the faith as in the vineyard of Christ /
Thou didst suffer many trials and sorrows /
And in accordance to thy name /
Thou didst increase the good fruit of salvation /
Which thou didst bring before the King and Creator of all, ///
O bishop Clement, thou glorious martyr.

For twenty-eight years thou didst suffer cruel torments and torture /
Carried out against thee in many cities and towns; /
Thou wast subjected to cruel scourgings, mutilations and burnings /
Yet thou didst not depart from the love of Christ, ///
And thy sufferings are precious to God and to angels and men.

Having excelled in thy pastorship, O hieromartyr of Christ, /
Thou didst excel in thy martyric struggles, O courageous one, /
And thou didst receive a crown of victory for thine accomplishments /
As a martyr and as a priest. ///
Therefore, we beseech thee to pray that our souls may be saved.

And 3 stichera¹, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “Down from the Tree....”*

Thou wast a branch on the Vine of Life /
Grown and tended by thy mystic labors and sufferings, /
Pruned by thine ascetic deeds, /
And trimmed back by the sword of martyrdom. /
Thus, hast thou provided for us the wine of compunction, O blessed one, ///
And drinking of it we celebrate thy most holy memory.

After offering the awesome and most-perfect sacrifice, O hierarch of Christ, /
Thou didst offer thyself to Him, O Clement most wise, /
Joyfully mingling thy blood with that of the Master /
And being sprinkled by it thou wast fully cleansed, O blessed one, ///
Thou didst show thyself to be wholly pure and sanctified.

¹ The Greek Menaion has 3 stichera for the Martyr Agathangelus.

As a priest thou didst offer in sacrifice the Lamb of God /
 Who taketh away the sins of the world, /
 Who destroyeth all corruption and death; /
 Then, wast thou thyself sacrificed like an innocent lamb /
Joining to Him by the likeness of His life-bearing death. ///
 Now thou dost dwell in His kingdom, O divinely wise and blessed one.

Glory..., in Tone 8:

O holy martyred hierarch Clement, /
 For twenty-eight years thou didst suffer thy crucifixion for Christ, /
 Thou wast beaten and scourged, and thou was cut by the sword, /
 Thou wast dragged throughout the land from town to town. /
 But neither fire, nor scourgings, nor the edge of the sword /
 Could rob thee of the strength of thy soul, /
 And bravely didst thou break the power of the demons. ///
 Thus we implore thee to beseech Christ that our souls may be saved.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion: To the melody, “Thy martyrs...”

“O my Child, I cannot bear to look upon Thee /
 Asleep in death upon the Tree, /
 Who grantest life to all mankind, /
 That Thou mayest impart divine and saving life to Adam /
 Who through disobedience fell into the sleep of destruction” /
 Cried the weeping Virgin, whom we magnify.

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

Glory..., in Tone 1: (the composition of Anatolius)

As one wondrous among the hierarchs, /
 The martyr Clement endure long years of suffering. /
 And he was granted to receive the sweet and rich blessings of the Lord /
 Having been anointed to his struggle by his deeds, /
 And he subjugated his flesh that his mind might not be concerned with death. /
 To him, let us cry out, O ye faithful: /
 By thy supplications to the Lord, O thou great and glorious martyr, /
 Release us from the persistent attacks of our passions, ///
 And deliver us from every evil through thy holy prayers.

Now and ever..., Theotokion; or the Stavrotheotokion in the same Tone: To the melody, “Joy of the ranks of heaven...”

HIEROMARTYR CLEMENT OF ANCYRA

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 Saint, in Tone 4:

O Clement most holy, thou art a vineyard of holiness for the faithful, /
A rod of courage, a flower of purity, and a fruit of great delight granted to us by God. /
As thou didst rise to the dignity of a hierarch /
And suffered together with the martyrs, /
Intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls

Matins

The Canon

**Both Canons from the Octoechos, with 8 Troparia, including the Irmos of the first;
and this Canon of the Hieromartyr, with 4 Troparia, in Tone 6,**

having the acrostic: *“I praise the vine of the noetic tree,”* the composition of Theophanes.

Ode 1

***Irmos:** When Israel passed on foot over the deep as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer
Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud: Let us sing to God a song of victory!*

Refrain: Holy hieromartyr Clement, pray to God for us.

Standing before Christ with the heavenly choirs as a priest and a glorious martyr,
earnestly pray that those who praise thee may be illumined by thy glory.

After suffering unimaginable torments here on earth, O venerable one, thou wast
counted worthy to receive the crown of the kingdom, and the eternal and everlasting
life in heaven.

Glory...,

Delivered by the suffering of the Dispassionate One, through thy suffering didst thou
strive to hasten to Him by emulating His own suffering, O Clement, who dwellest now
with the angels.

Now and ever...,

***Theotokion:** A*dorned with the beauty of the virtues, O all-immaculate Mother of
God, thou didst conceive for us the true God, our Benefactor, who pours forth a well-
spring of good things upon us.

Katavasia from the Meeting of the Lord.

Ode 3

Irmos: There is none as holy as Thou, O Lord my God, Who hast exalted the power of Thy faithful, O Blessèd One, and hast established us upon the rock of thy confession.

As a branch of the life-giving Tree, thou didst bring forth beautiful fruit, and adorning thyself with the beauty of martyrdom, thou didst dedicate them all to Christ.

Thou didst follow the example of the Apostle Paul by travelling throughout the world, sanctifying it by the baptism and sprinkling of thy martyr's blood, O blessèd one.

Theotokion: There is none as pure as thou, O immaculate Theotokos, for thou alone, in a manner beyond all words, gavest birth to God the Word, the true and pre-eternal God, the Creator of all.

Katavasia.

The Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8: To the melody, "Of Wisdom"

Let us the faithful honor our holy father Clement, /
The divine star shining forth from Ancyra, /
The boast of Cappadocia, the much suffering martyr and the glory of all priests; /
The praise of the venerable, the intercessor for orphans, and the champ'ion of the
poor, /
Who, having suffered for twenty-eight years, hallowed and enlightened his native
land; /
The much-suffering martyr who now prays to Christ our God /
That He may grant the remission of sins ///
To those who lovingly honor his precious memory.

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

All generations bless thee, O Virgin, /
As she who alone amongst women /
Gavest birth to God in the flesh without seed; /
For the fire of the Godhead came to dwell in thee /
And with thy milk thou didst feed thy Creator and Lord. /
So, together with the angels we worthily glorify thee, /
And we praise thine all-holy birthgiving, and cry to thee: /
Entreat Christ God that He grants the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully honor His All-holy Nativity.

Or this Stavrotheotokion:

When she beheld the Lamb, /
The Shepherd and Deliverer stretched out upon the Cross, /
With maternal tears the Ewe-lamb cried aloud: /
“The world rejoiceth for it hath received deliverance though Thee, /
Yet my womb burns at the sight of Thy crucifixion, /
Which Thou dost endure in Thy compassion and mercy. /
O longsuffering Lord, and infinite source of mercy, /
Have pity and grant the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully praise Thy divine suffering.”

Ode 4

***Irmos:** Christ is my strength, my God and my Lord, the sacred Church sings in a manner befitting God, with a pure mind, keeping festival unto the Lord.*

Traversing the whole world during thy suffering, O Clement, thou didst joyfully wave the branch of thy struggles as it gave forth a sweet-smelling fragrance, O blessed bearer of the passions of Christ.

Beholding the meadow of thy contest, O blessed one, we now gather the flowers of thy wounds as they gladden our senses with the multitude of thy miracles.

***Refrain:** Holy martyr Agathangelus, pray to God for us.*

For the martyr Agathangelus: **T**hou wast a child of the day and the never-waning light, O wondrous martyr, shining ceaselessly with the light of the threefold Sun and the glory of His precious teachings.

Theotokion: **O** most-pure Mary, as thou art the pure vessel that held the limitless and boundless God, cleanse the filth and the depravity of my soul.

Ode 5

***Irmos:** With Thy divine light, O Good One, illumine, I ask Thee, the souls of those who in love keep vigil that they may know Thee, O Word of God as the true God Who recalls them from the darkness of sin.*

Enduring the pain of thy torture for many years. O most wise one, thou didst suffer greatly; and now thou hast inherited the everlasting sweetness of eternal life.

Having made thy steadfast faith thine anchor and laying hope and love as thy foundation, thou didst set thyself up as a temple consecrated to the honorable and Holy Trinity, O richly-blessed father.

For the martyr Agathangelus: **T**hou didst struggle in the arena, O divinely-adorned

and radiant martyr, and, having received life everlasting as thy reward, thou hast joined chorus and dost now rejoice with the angels.

Theotokion: **D**esiring to save the human nature from corruption, the Lord and Creator of all made His abode, and ineffably formed Himself, within the womb of the all-pure Lady.

Ode 6

Irmos: Beholding the sea of life surging high with the storm of temptations, I have fled to Thy tranquil haven and cry out unto Thee: Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One!

Thy godly life, thy lengthy suffering, and thy countless wounds adorned thee mystically with a diadem of beauty and the clothes of incorruption.

For the martyr Agathangelus: **H**aving suffered under the writ of the law, thou hast received thy crowns from the hand of the Master and the gifts of working healings to cure the infirmities of the faithful.

Theotokion: **O** most pure Lady who gavest birth to the Lord and Helmsman, still thou the grievous turmoil of my passions and grant peace to calm my heart.

Katavasia.

The Kontakion, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "As Thou wast voluntarily crucified...."*

O Clement, worthy of all praise, /

Thou didst become a precious vine in the vineyard of Christ and His noble champ'ion. /

At the time of thy martyrdom /

Together with them that suffered with thee, thou didst cry: ///

Thou art the radiant joy of thy martyrs, O Christ.

Ikos: Let us faithfully honor and praise the branch on the Vine of Life, Christ the King, who was nurtured from his childhood in sanctity; for he hath truly been revealed to be honored with joy and beauty, steadfast amid his tortures and sufferings, a model priest and hierarch, and an heir to the kingdom of God. For counting the temples of the idols and the ragings of the tyrant as nothing, he joyously confessed the One Savior in the midst of the arena, crying out: Thou art the radiant joy of thy martyrs, O Christ.

Ode 7

Irmos: The children in Babylon were not afraid of the fire; when cast into the midst of the flames they were covered with dew and sang: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Thou didst illumine the whole world with the radiance of thy martyrdom, O father, singing to Christ in purity of mind and soul: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

The most sacred celebration of the lessons which thou didst teach us, O father, shines with heavenly light, illumining those who cry: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

Theotokion: **O** Virgin, thou art the Mother of the all-wise Word of Wisdom, who wisely guides all with His natural goodness. Blessèd is the Fruit of thy womb, O Lady most pure!

Ode 8

Irmos: *The blessèd children endangered themselves in Babylon for the sake of their father's laws; they ignored the ignorant command of the king, and cast into the furnace they suffered no harm, but sang a song pleasing to their mighty Master: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!*

For the martyr Agathangelus: **H**aving been revealed to be a radiant beacon upon the earth, O richly-blessed martyr, thou dost illumine the firmament upon which stands the holy Church, and the celebration of the angels in heaven with the splendor of thy suffering, as thou dost rejoice and cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

For the martyr Agathangelus: **We** joyfully celebrate the memory of thy struggle, O martyr, for like a first-born angel didst thou endure the three-fold billows of thy tortures, and in reward thou didst richly receive life everlasting, as thou didst cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

For the martyr Agathangelus: **Richly** arrayed in the vesture of glory rather than in the despondency of the forlorn, thou didst exchange thy torments for an abode with the angels, receiving life everlasting, as thou didst cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

Theotokion: **The** Word who is equally everlasting and known to be begotten of the eternal Father, became incarnate in these latter days of the Virgin, rendering His human nature divine, and uniting Himself, hypostatically to our nature without confusion. O bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; exalt Him throughout all ages!

Katavasia.

Ode 9

Irmos: *It is not possible for men to see God upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze, but through thee, O all-pure one, was the Word incarnate revealed unto men, whom magnifying together with the heavenly hosts, we call thee blessèd!*

Made perfect through the radiant fount of baptism and anointed to the priesthood, thou wast washed in the blood of martyrdom, O divinely-blessed Clement, and being thus adorned, thou didst hasten, rejoicing, to join the ranks of heaven.

The Word of God, the never-setting Sun of righteousness, the Crown of the holy

martyrs, adorned thy holy brow with the crown of spiritual gift, O wondrous Clement; and for His sake didst thou endure thy long struggles, rejoicing.

Theotokion: The unoriginate Son and Word of God became the incarnate Son of the Virgin at the good pleasure of the Father and the cooperation of the Holy Spirit; and as the omnipotent Master of all, He hath restored my fallen nature.

The Exapostilarion: Thou didst traverse the world like the Apostle Paul during thy long years of torture, and in thy net, O Clement, thou didst find Agathangelus, the namesake of glad tidings to be thy companion in thy martyric journey.

Glory..., now and ever.... Theotokion: Thou art my help and mighty refuge, O all-pure Lady; thou art my intercessor and my protection; and I fall down before thee crying: Deliver me from all my sorrows in that thou hast given birth to Joy, and rescue me from the everlasting flames, O Virgin, for I have set my hope on thee.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the Octoechos, and 4 from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Hieromartyr.

1-4. From the Octoechos.

5-6. As a branch of the life-giving Tree, thou didst bring forth beautiful fruit, and adorning thyself with the beauty of martyrdom, thou didst dedicate them all to Christ.
(twice)

7. Thou didst follow the example of the Apostle Paul by travelling throughout the world, sanctifying it by the baptism and sprinkling of thy martyr's blood, O blessed one.

8. Theotokion: There is none as pure as thou, O immaculate Theotokos, for thou alone, in a manner beyond all words, gavest birth to God the Word, the true and pre-eternal God, the Creator of all.

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 4:

O Clement most holy, thou art a vineyard of holiness for the faithful, /
A rod of courage, a flower of purity, and a fruit of great delight granted to us by God. /
As thou didst rise to the dignity of a hierarch /
And suffered together with the martyrs, /
Intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.

The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 4:

O Clement, worthy of all praise, /

HIEROMARTYR CLEMENT OF ANCYRA

Thou didst become a precious vine in the vineyard of Christ and His noble champion. /
At the time of thy matyrdom /
Together with them that suffered with thee, thou didst cry: ///
Thou art the radiant joy of thy matyrs, O Christ.

The Prokeimenon, in Tone 7: Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *Verse:* What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me?

The Epistle: (334) Hebrews 13:7-16

The Alleluia, in Tone 2: Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness and Thy saints shall rejoice! *Verse:* Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

The Gospel: (36) John 10:9-16

The Communion Hymn: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.

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