

The 18th Day of November

Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Plato (*Platón*) and Romanus.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:

3 stichera to St. Plato, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

Filled with wisdom divine, /
And foreseeing the eternal glory that is thine /
Thou didst endure with courageous resolve /
The cutting of thy flesh and the dismemberment of thy limbs, /
The unbearable pain of fire, then starvation and death ///
In expectation of everlasting blessedness, O Plato, thou holy martyr!

Transcending the senses of thy physical body /
And directing thy mind toward the life on high, /
With divine insight and a truly wise and humble soul /
Thou didst renounce the base nature and corruption of visible things /
And with great courage thou wast able to endure
Both the flames and the sword for the sake of Christ.

Thou didst overcome the attacks of the enemy through grace divine /
And defeat the torturers assaulting thee, /
And thus, thou didst earn thy crown of victory. /
O Plato, thou richly-bless't martyr, /
Thou hast been granted the unending joy of beholding ineffable splendor of God! ///
Beseech Him now to grant the remission of sins to those praise thee.

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

Tempered by thine ascetic labors /
And sharpened by many struggles /
And polished by thy manifold sufferings /
Thou didst become a two-edged sword that cut down the legions of demons, /
O martyr Romanus, thou precious adornment of the Church
And the glory of the martyrs who had shed their blood for Christ .

Stretched on a rack and flayed alive /
Cast in to prison, thy jaw broken and thy tongue cut out /
Thou didst attain thy blessed repose by strangulation, O glorious one. /

Therefore, we praise thee, O martyr Romanus, ///
For thou wast truly unshakeable and steadfast through the action of the Holy Spirit.

The child, Barulus, spoke with eloquence and amazed the foolish /
As he faced his death adorned with steadfast and faithful resolve /
For he was enriched with the glory of the holy martyrs /
Whose zeal he didst emulate. /
Together with them now, O Romanus, the glorious, ///
Beseech the Lord to grant the remission of sins to those praise thee.

Glory..., to St. Plato, Tone 6:

Wondrous and glorious are the victories of Thy martyr Plato, O Lord! /
For, emulating the boldness of the fishermen, /
He drowned the myths of Platonic philosophy and stoic blasphemy /
With the woven nets of divine theology. /
And when he was flayed alive and his head was severed /
He choked the enemy with the streams of his blood. /
O all-blessed wonderworker Plato, /
Thou enrichment of the martyrs /
Having so boldly preached the great name of Christ ///
Pray that He may grant our souls great mercy.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody "On the third day...."

Beholding Thee crucified, O Christ /
She who gave Thee birth cried out to Thee: /
"What is this strange mystery I see, my Son? /
How, being hung in the flesh, the Giver of Life, ///
Dost Thou die on the Tree?"

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

The General Troparion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:

Thy holy martyrs, Plato and Roman, 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.

HOLY MARTYRS PLATO AND ROMANUS

Matins

One Canon from the Octoechos, and two for the Saints.

— *incomplete as of 10/17/18*

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Martyr Plato, in Tone 3: *To the melody, “Today the Virgin gives birth...”*

Thy holy memory delights the universe /
And summons us, the faithful, to gather in joy. /
So now we honor thee with hymns of praise
And we call out to thee, O holy martyr Plato: /
Save us, thy people, from our enemies.

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