

## The 30<sup>th</sup> Day of September

### Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Gregory the Great,<sup>1</sup> Illuminator of Armenia.

Also the Commemoration of Our Venerable Father among the Saints, Gregory of Pleshmé, Wonderworker of Vologdá; and our Father among the Saints, Michael, first Metropolitan of Kiev, Wonderworker of All-Russia, whose services are found following this — *incomplete as of 4/2018.*

### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera, in Tone 6: To the melody, “Having set all aside....”**

**H**aving dyed thy priestly vestments /  
With the purple blood of thy martyrdom, /  
Thou hast entered into the Holy of Holies, /  
Where the ineffable light shines with radiant glory of God,  
Into the place sounding with festive rejoicing,  
There to receive the rewards of thy labors, O holy one, /  
The unfading crown of victory, eternal glory and thy dwelling place in paradise! ///  
Pray now, O wise Gregory, to God on behalf of our souls. *(twice)*

**N**either the dreadful waves of torture /  
Nor long imprisonment in the gloomy pit /  
Broke thy steadfast soul, O longsuffering martyr, /  
But thou didst shine forth like a light unto those threatened by the darkness of vanity /  
And revealed them to be truly the children of the day /  
Through their regeneration by the washing by baptism /  
And by the saving example of thy divine way of life, ///  
O divinely-inspired and all-wise hierarch Gregory. *(twice)*

**O** Master of all creation /  
Rhapsime loved Thee as her immortal Bridegroom /  
And for this she endured the flaying of her skin from her body /  
After already stripping from herself the dark garment of her passions  
through abstinence.  
And the ever-memorable Gaiána also suffered with her, /  
Followed by a whole company of virgins /  
Who fought the good fight and overcame the ancient seducer of our first mother, Eve. ///  
We glorify Thee, O Christ, as we worthily praise their holy memory. *(twice)*

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<sup>1</sup> St. Gregory is venerated as a Venerable Hierarch by the Armenian Church, not as a Hieromartyr.

**Glory..., in the same Tone: *in the usual melody (by Sergius)***

Who can worthily describe the victory of thy virtues? /  
What lips can plainly describe thy patient endurance of torture? /  
For thou didst excel on both accounts. /  
And since thou hast been well-pleasing to Christ /  
And thou hast great boldness before Him /  
Cease not to beseech Him, O Gregory, ///  
That He may save our souls.

**Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in the same Tone.**

**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!'

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

**Glory..., in Tone 6:**

The holy martyr and hierarch Gregory /  
Spiritually entered into the never-setting radiance of the ineffable light /  
And was instructed in the inexpressible secrets of the divine mysteries; /  
And being enlightened as a martyr /  
And instructing his flock as their shepherd, /  
He received a double crown of victory from on high ///  
And now he ceaselessly prays to Christ that He may save our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone.**

**Or the Stavrotheotokion: *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?"

**The Troparion of Saint, 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 Gregory, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**Another Troparion of Saint, in Tone 4:**

Today, we the faithful have assembled to sing a hymn /  
Exalting the daystar of the never-setting Light, /  
The truly heroic pastor, and long-suffering shepherd, /  
Model of ascetics and martyrs and the radiant glory of the Church of Armenia. /  
Let us bless with hymns of praise /  
The divinely inspired Gregory ///  
Who is adorned with a martyr's crown.

**Matins**

Two Canons from the Octoechos (*excluding the Troparia to the Martyrs*)  
and one Canon of the Saint, in Tone 6,  
*with the acrostic: "I praise thee, O brave pastor!" — incomplete as of 4/2018*

**After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 2:**

O come, all ye faithful, /  
And let us today extol with songs and spiritual hymns /  
The glorious hieromartyr Gregory, /  
The shepherd of souls and our vigorous teacher,  
The bright star and the fighter for truth ///  
Who intercedes now with Christ our God to save our souls.