

The 3rd Day of May

✙ **Our Venerable Father Theodosius, Abbot of the Kiev Caves Monastery, Founder of Cœnobitic Monasticism in the Russian Lands.**

Small Vespers

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

Thou wast known to be innocent and righteous, /
Venerable and without guile, O blessed one, /
And scorning every evil thing thou wast truly adorned with the virtues, /
Shining brilliantly with piety. /
Therefore, on this day we bless thee ///
And joyfully celebrate thy holy and hon’rable repose.

We truly honor and praise the great Theodosius, /
Both righteous and blameless, /
A lofty pillar unassailable by the wiles of the enemy, /
As one who was pleasing to Christ and His most pure Mother. /
Now we earnestly pray to Christ beseeching Him ///
That our souls be delivered from every misfortune.

Thou didst shine from above the Russian lands /
And like the Sun, didst reveal the monastic rule to all; /
Protecting thy body from assaults through abstinence, /
And mortifying the passions through vigils and prayers. /
Therefore, we beseech thee, O most blessed Theodosius: /
Graciously visit and help us, thy servants!

Glory..., of both St. Anthony and St. Theodosius, in Tone 6:

Come with gladness, O ye assembly of the faithful, /
Let us joyfully enter the hon’rable and holy Church, /
And let us praise the God-bearing fathers on this day. /
Let us exalt in honor of their splendid memory
For Christ our God hath so glorified them.
Therefore, with voices of gladness and our conscience clear /
Let us sing: Rejoice, O most blessed Anthony, /
Thou earthly angel and heavenly man; /
Rejoice, for thou abidest now with the righteous! /
And rejoice thou, O shining star of the East, father Theodosius, /
Thou brilliant luminary and shepherd of monastics! /

Rejoice, for you both are our joy and the helpers of all the world! /
 Rejoice, for you abide now with the angels /
 In the light of the Holy Trinity which hath crowned you with glory! /
 Where you ever pray that those who celebrate your festive memory with faith and
love ///
 Be delivered from every misfortune and from all their visible and invisible enemies.

Now and ever..., Theotokion from the Pentecostarion, in Tone 6:

At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 2: *To the melody, "O House of Ephratha...."*

Thy feast hath dawned for us /
 As a bright and joyful day /
 Illumining the hearts of those who praise thee ///
 And honor thy great deeds, O father Theodosius!

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

The feast of joy hath come /
 And the day of salvation is nigh! /
 Let us come, O ye faithful, and having cleansed our souls ///
 Let us sing the praises of the ven' rable Theodosius!

Verse: Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Having the venerable father Anthony /
 As thy shining example upon the earth, /
 Thou didst shine like him resplendent with virtues /
 Glimmering like a most radiant star. /
 Remember us in thy prayers to the Master, ///
 O ven' rable father Theodosius

Glory..., now and ever, Theotokion, in Tone 6:

Rejoice, O Virgin, /
 For thou didst receive in thy womb the Joy of the world, /
 Christ, the Giver of life, ///
 Who hath eased the grief of our first mother, Eve.

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou wast raised in the virtues loving the monastic life /
 And having valiantly attained thy desire, thou didst come to dwell in a cave. /
 Thou didst adorn thy life with the radiance of fasting, /

And didst abide on the earth in prayer living the life of an angel. /
By this thou didst illumine the lands of Rus' like a brilliant star. ///
O our father Theodosius, beseech Christ God to save our souls.

Great Vespers

After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Kathisma.

At “Lord, I call...,” 8 stichera:

3 stichera from the Pentecostarion,

And 5 stichera, in Tone 5: *To the melody, “O venerable father....”*

O venerable and God-bearing father Theodosius, /
Travelling through this temporal life /
Thou didst fortify thyself with vigils, fasting and prayer, /
Becoming an example for thy disciples to follow. /
Rejoicing now together with the angels /
Thou art ceaselessly glorifying Christ, the Word of God from God, /
The Deliverer, who bowed His head upon the Cross, /
Who delivered mankind from the ancient deceiver. /
Beseech Him now, and implore Him, O venerable one, ///
That He grant the world peace and great mercy. *(twice)*

O venerable and God-bearing father Theodosius, /
Rightly didst thou earn thy reward of eternal life /
Through thy love of abstinence and thy purity. /
Thou didst repose from this life to the True Life /
Leaving behind all the things of the earth; /
And now together with the angels thou dost ever glorify Him /
Who ineffably received flesh from the Virgin, /
Who cast down Hades and raised the dead of the ages. /
Beseech Him now, and implore Him, O venerable one, ///
That He grant the world peace and great mercy. *(twice)*

O venerable and God-bearing father Theodosius, /
Through love didst thou obtain thy purity of soul /
For the grace of the Holy Spirit came to dwell in thee.
Thou art become a brilliant light having been brightly illumined by Him, /
And art ever glorifying Christ as One God in two natures, /
Who, having suffered in the flesh on the Cross, remained without suffering in
divinity. ///

Beseech Him now, and implore Him, O venerable one, ///
That He grant the world peace and great mercy.

Glory..., in Tone 8:

Come, all ye faithful gathered to celebrate the memory of our father Theodosius, /
For, as a child, he received the divine calling from above, /
And he was named by the priest, “a gift sent by God”. /
Therefore he became a teacher of the True Faith to the Christ-loving rulers, /
And a firm mentor of the rich, and a merciful father to orphans; /
A warm refuge to the widows, and a comfort to those in sorrow; /
A treasury for the needy, and a ladder raised up to heaven for the choirs of monastics. /
He is an ever-flowing fountain of water to all who hasten to him with faith ///
And he ceaselessly prays that our souls may be saved.

Now and ever..., Theotokion from the Pentecostarion.

The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.

Three Readings:

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (5:15-6:3):

^{5:15}...The righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. ¹⁶Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand; for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. ¹⁷He shall take to him His zeal for complete armor and make the creation His weapon for revenge upon his enemies. ¹⁸He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate and indifferent judgment instead of a helmet. ¹⁹He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. ²⁰His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the creation shall fight with him against the unwise. ²¹Then shall the right aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the

clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. ²²And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast out as a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them. ²³Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. ^{6:1}Hear therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. ²Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. ³For power is given to you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Highest, who shall try your works, and search out your counsels.

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-9):

^{3:1}**T**he souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. ²In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, ³and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. ⁴For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. ⁵And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for Himself. ⁶As gold in the furnace hath

He tried them and received them as a burnt offering. ⁷And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. ⁸They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever. ⁹They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: for grace and mercy is to His saints, and He hath care for His elect.

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15):

^{4:7}**T**he righteous man, though he die early yet shall he be at rest. ⁸For old age is not honored for length of time, nor is it measured by number of years; ⁹but wisdom is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. ¹⁰There was one who pleased God and was so beloved of Him, that while living among sinners he was taken up. ¹¹He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. ¹²For the fascination of wickedness obscures

that which is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. ¹³Being so perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; ¹⁴for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore He took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. ¹⁵Yet this the peoples saw and did not understand, neither did they take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are upon His holy ones, and He hath care for His elect.

At the Litya, this sticheron, in Tone 1:

Come, O ye lovers of the feast gathered together on this day, /
And let us piously celebrate the most glorious and precious memory
Of our great father and luminary Theodosiaus, /
And let us honor him saying; /
Rejoice, O Theodosius, brother of the venerable and the righteous; /
Rejoice, O captain of the regiment of holy fathers /
Rejoice, thou servant and faithful builder of the habitation of the Mother of God, /
Rejoice, for building her a magnificent temple to the glory of God. /
Standing now within it we beseech thee praying: /
Entreat Christ that we be delivered from every temptation and sorrow, /
And the barbaric invasion of the enemy; ///

Pray thou also that our souls may be saved.

And these stichera, in Tone 2:

O disciple of the Savior, /
Divinely-wise father Theodosius /
Heavenly instrument, lips speaking by the inspiration of God, /
Spiritual commander, good shepherd, and the praise of monastics: /
Seeking God, thou wast illumined by Him with the radiant rays of divinity, /
Conversing with Him, thou wast enveloped with the beams of His cleansing light, /
Enlightening thy mind with a fountain of tears, thou wast revealed as a tower of
light, /
O all-blessèd praise of monastics, glory of the fathers, and servant of the Trinity, ///
Preserve us all through the power of thy intercessions.

O ven'erable father Theodosius, /
Being bountiful to those dying from the heat and thirst, /
Thou didst relieve them through a miraculous sign /
As an exceptional servant piously emulating thy Master: /
Their wine was increased and their empty granaries were filled at thy command, /
And the empty vessels wondrously overflowed with honey. /
Seeing hidden things revealed thou didst bathe the church in light; /
Courageously thou didst bear great suffering; /
In thy mercy to all, many received healing and thou didst love the poor; /
Thou didst live on bread and water in imitation of the angels. /
For all these things we give thee glory and we beg of thee: ///
Abandon us not but preserve us, thy servants, through the power of thy intercessions.

The blessèd Anthony and Theodosius /
Shone brightly as two great lights in the sky; /
For both, through their divine words, sprinkled the earth with heavenly dew; /
Both brought down fire from heaven; /
Both received grace from the Trinity and clearly proclaimed the future; /
Bringing down a storm of rain, accusing the prince of unrighteous hatred toward his
brother; /
Both received the grace to behold the physical presence of the Lord, /
And, like Elijah, both were seen standing in the air amidst a flaming light above the
monastery /
Lifting up their arms in supplication to God. /
Now rejoicing together with the angels they intercede for us ///
That we be granted to behold the true Light, and that our souls may be saved.

Glory..., in Tone 6:

Preserving unharmed that which was made according to the Image of God, /
 Raising thy mind as lord over evil passions, /
 Through abstinence, thou didst ascend in the likeness, as far as thou wast able; /
 By having courageously constrained thy nature /
 And striving to subject the lower to the higher, /
 Thou didst enslave the flesh to the spirit. /
 Therefore, thou art revealed, O dweller of the wilderness, /
 To be the highest pinnacle of monastics, /
 A teacher of those desiring to live a life of goodness, /
 And a most famed example of the rule of virtue. /
 Now dwelling in the heavens, O our father Theodosiaus /
 Thou dost gaze perfectly upon the Holy Trinity ///
 Ever praying for those who with faith and love honor thee.

Now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

At the Aposticha, these Stichera, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "O most glorious wonder...."*

O divinely-wise father Theodosiaus /
 From the womb thou didst direct thine intentions toward God /
 And drawing near to the Almighty, /
 Being humbly adorned with wreaths of virtue /
 Thou didst bring Him gifts worthy of thy labors, O ven'erable one, /
 And through them didst obtain the rewards of blessedness, ///
 O rightly wondrous one!

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

O preceptor of monastics, /
 Thou star shining brightly from above the Russian lands, /
 The whole world is glowing with thy miracles. /
 For God hath chosen thee from the womb, O father, /
 To be the shepherd of His reasoning sheep. /
 Therefore hath the assembly of the right-ven'erable saints received thee; /
 And together with them pray, we humbly beseech thee, ///
 To grant us, thy flock, the remission of our sins

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Rejoice, O most praised Lady, /

For by thy fiery staff thou didst select the pasture /
 Where thy chosen and godly flock was to graze. /
 There, Theodosius immediately erected a most wondrous and beautiful temple /
 And dedicated it to thee /
 Where we, the faithful, now celebrate thy Dormition, ///
 And stand about the tomb of thy chosen one, O most pure Mother of God.

Glory..., in Tone 8:

O our father Theodosius, /
 We honor thee as the teacher of a multitude of monks, /
 For, by thine example, we rightly know the way upon which to walk. /
 Blessèd art thou, for thou hast labored for Christ, /
 And rebuked the power of the enemy, /
 O thou converser with the angels /
 And companion of the ven' rable and righteous saints. ///
 Pray together with them to the Lord that He may have mercy on our souls.

Now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

After the Blessing of the Loaves, the Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou wast raised in the virtues loving the monastic life /
 And having valiantly attained thy desire, thou didst come to dwell in a cave. /
 Thou didst adorn thy life with the radiance of fasting, /
 And didst abide on the earth in prayer living the life of an angel. /
 By this thou didst illumine the lands of Rus' like a brilliant star. ///
 O our father Theodosius, beseech Christ God to save our souls. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., and then, in Tone 4: “Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos....

(once)

Matins

At God is the Lord the Troparion from the Pentecostarion *(twice)*, then: “Glory..., St. Theodosius; Now and ever...,” from the Pentecostarion *(once)*.

After the First Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Quickly go before....”*

Thou didst follow after the call of thy Lord /
 Abandoning the world and all its pleasures, most blessèd Theodosius, /
 And enduring bodily distresses thou didst strengthen thyself in a cave /
 And in that confined place courageously drove away armies of the demons ///
 Therefore, we faithfully praise thy memory. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

After the Second Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "Of Wisdom...."*

Thou didst quench the thirst of thy soul, O wise father, /
With the abundant streams of thy tears; /
And didst reap a rich harvest through thy bountiful virtues; /
As a shepherd of sheep, thou didst nurture them in the sweetness of abstinence. /
Therefore, upon thy release from this life, O Theodosius, /
Thou didst join the heavenly choir of the fathers. /
Therefore, we cry out to thee: /
Entreat Christ God that He grant remission of sins ///
To those who lovingly honor thy holy memory. (*twice*)

Glory..., now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

Polyeley and Magnification:

We magnify thee, // O holy father Theodosius / and we honor thy holy memory, / for
thou dost pray to Christ our God for us!

Selected Psalm verses:

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer.

He set my feet upon a rock and guided my footsteps.

Yea, I would wander afar and would dwell in the wilderness,

After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Of Wisdom...."*

Thou wast truly sanctified from the womb, O blessed one, /
And didst truly live on earth like an angel, /
Mortifying thy flesh, thou didst dwell in a cave following the example of Anthony, /
And wast shown pleasing to the Trinity, /
Joining to thy zealous life a multitude of monastics, O glorious one. /
Therefore, O our God-bearing father Theodosius, /
Entreat Christ God that He grant remission of sins ///
To those who lovingly honor thy holy memory. (*twice*)

Glory..., now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

1st Antiphon of the 4th Tone (Song of Ascents), "From my youth...."

Prokeimenon in the Tone 4:

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?

Let every breath....

Gospel: (24) Luke 6:7-23

After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron, of the Saint, in Tone 8:

Thou didst ascend to the heights of heaven /
Attaining, through fasting and virtues, the city on high; /
Thou didst travel from the earth to the heavenly Jerusalem, /
Receiving there the just reward for all thy labors and sufferings, /
Where thou dost rejoice together with all the heavenly hosts; /
And being now an heir of the kingdom /
And all its eternal blessings, /
Pray thou to the Savior of all, /
O our blessed and God-bearing father Theodosius ///
That He grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls.

The Canon

One Canon from the Pentecostarion, with 6 Troparia, including the Irmos,
and two Canons of the Saint, with 4 Troparia each; the first in Tone 8,
the second in Tone 6 — *incomplete as of 2/28/2014*

After the Third Ode, the Kontakion and Ikos from the Pentecostarion.

The Sessional Hymn, of the Saint, in Tone 4:

O venerable father,
Thou wast shown in a manner past understanding /
To be a sacred and divine garden here on earth /
Planted in the midst of the house of the Lord /
Giving the harvest of the fruitful sufferings to thy disciples, /
For from thy lips came forth the grace of the Spirit. /
Truly thou wast an example of great accomplishments /
And didst set the rule for those who love the Lord. ///
Pray now ceaselessly for the salvation of those who praise thee. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 3: *To the melody, “Today the Virgin”*

Let us honor today the blessed Theodosius, /
The star of the lands of Rus' /
Which shone forth from the East upon the lands of the West, /
Thus enriching the whole earth and us all by his goodness and miracles, ///
Doing this by the grace of the monastic rule.

Ikos: Who is able to speak of thy spiritual accomplishments, O father? Or who can count up the multitude of thy labors and astonishing wonders? For while yet being in the flesh thou didst behold an incorporeal angel conversing with thee in the flesh, bringing thee as a gift, divine gold sent by God. Thou wast revealed as being more than a man, having a manner of humility and meekness, filled with spiritual wisdom; and receiving the Spirit within thee, thou wast seen to be filled with the light, shining like the Sun. Therefore, enlighten me by the radiance of thy monastic rule, who am crying out to thee, O divine and venerable Theodosius.

The Exapostilarion of the Saint:

Accepting the light of the consubstantial Trinity within thy heart, O Theodosius, thou father among the fathers, thou didst find strength within the cave with the great Anthony, and didst illumine the pious, O dweller with the angles. Now together with them, remember us who faithfully sing thy praises. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

At the Praises, 4 stichera, of the Saint in Tone 2: *To the melody, "Down from the tree...."*

Thou didst bind thyself with faith and love to Christ /
And rejecting the world thou didst follow Him; /
Leaving behind thy homeland and thy family, O blessed one, /
Thou didst hasten to the venerable Anthony who taught thee wondrous things; /
And the things not heard by thine ears thus entered into thy heart. ///
So with him we praise thee, honoring thy sacred memory, O father Theodosius.

(twice)

Desiring a life of purity, /
Patience, love and humility, /
Prayer in all-night vigil and abstinence, /
Through these, thou didst mortify the passions of the flesh; /
Through these, thou dost now rejoice with the choirs of those pleasing to God. /
Forget us not, O blessed one, and entreat the remission of sins ///
Of those who rightly sing thy praises.

When the enemy, the author of all evil, sent outlaws to attack thy flock, /

Desiring to destroy them, O ven'rable one, /
 They fled when they beheld the church held aloft in the air by the grace given to thee by
 God, /
 And they heard from within the wondrous singing of angelic voices. /
 Rejoicing together with them, O blessed one, ///
 Forget us not who faithfully praise thine honored and radiant memory.

Glory..., in Tone 6:

O venerable father Theodossius, /
 The instructions of thy monastic rule has gone out into all the world, /
 Destroying the legions of demons; /
 By this thou hast found the reward of thy labors in heaven; /
 And attained to the ranks of the angels, /
 Whose life thou didst blamelessly emulate. /
 And having great boldness before Christ God ///
 Entreat Him that peace be granted to our souls.

Now and ever..., from the Pentecostarion.

The Great Doxology, and the Dismissal.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the appointed Ode of the Canon of the Pentecostarion, and 4 from Ode 6 from the first Canon of the Saint.

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou wast raised in the virtues loving the monastic life /
 And having valiantly attained thy desire, thou didst come to dwell in a cave. /
 Thou didst adorn thy life with the radiance of fasting, /
 And didst abide on the earth in prayer living the life of an angel. /
 By this thou didst illumine the lands of Rus' like a brilliant star. ///
 O our father Theodosius, beseech Christ God to save our souls.

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

Let us honor today the blessed Theodossius, /
 The star of the lands of Rus' /
 Which shone forth from the East upon the lands of the West, /
 Thus enriching the whole earth and us all by his goodness and miracles, ///
 Doing this by the grace of the monastic rule.

VENERABLE THEODOSIUS OF THE KIEV CAVES

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 4: Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness and Thy saints shall rejoice! *Verse:* The Lord hath chosen Sion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

The Gospel: (11) Matthew 5:14-19

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

RLE 2/28/2014 SDA
UPDATED 6/23/2017 SDA
5/12/2023 SDA