

The 7th Day of October

Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus.

Vespers

At “Lord I call...,” 6 stichera,¹ in Tone 6: *To the melody, “Having set all aside....”*

Renouncing all earthy power /
And coming to disregard the flesh /
You came to love God alone, /
And wearing the robes of dishonor put on you in mockery /
You received indestructible garments of light from heaven. /
Now you rejoice in paradise wearing your crowns, O richly blessed ones, /
And we entreat you to cover us from above with a veil of protection /
For we have been stripped naked by the deceptions of the enemy. *(twice)*

O all-praised Bacchus and all-glorious Sergius, /
You are vessels of the Holy Spirit /
That pour torrents of healing upon all;
O steadfast protectors and mighty champions of the Church, /
Voluntary sacrifices and honored offerings, /
You illumine the ends of the earth with the light of piety. /
We entreat you to drive away the gloominess of evil ///
And dispel the darkness which surrounds our souls. *(twice)*

Having fled your corruptible bodies, O glorious martyrs, /
You received in return spiritual joy and eternal light, /
Everlasting life, and the mansions of heaven that do not pass away. /
Yet pray for us that we also may receive these things /
Though we have been slain by our passions /
And have not turned away from our sins. /
O holy Sergius and Bacchus, the heavenly intercessors for the faithful, ///
Pray with boldness on behalf of our souls. *(twice)*

Glory..., in Tone 4:

Radiant is the two-fold splendor of the martyrs /
Bacchus and Sergius, /
For they cast down the savagery of the tormentors /
And abolished the falsehood of idolatry /
And, preaching with clear voices they proclaimed the perfect mystery of divine
knowledge. /
Through their prayers, O Christ, Thou giver of the Law, /
And perfect Judge of the contest and the bestower of crowns, /

¹ Greek text differs.

Vouchsafe that we too may receive our crowns ///
In the battle against the invisible powers of evil.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 4,

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

Beholding Christ, who loveth mankind, crucified, /
His side pierced by a spear, /
The all-pure one, cried aloud, lamenting: /
“What is this, O my Son? /
How have these thankless people rewarded Thee /
For all the good things Thou hast done for them? /
Dost Thou hasten to leave me childless, O most belovèd Son? ///
I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!”

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

The Aposticha from the Octoechos, then:

Glory..., in Tone 8:

The ranks of Christ’s army of martyrs have been strengthened against the enemy, /
For among them now stand two glorious warriors /
The excellent Sergius and Bacchus, /
Who both shine like the most radiant stars. /
For by them the evil host of demons was turned to flight; /
By them the tyrants were amazed and the angels were astonished /
Beholding as the bodiless foe was trampled by mortal men. /
And the Church of the faithful now celebrates their joyful feast /
And it cries out with universal joy: /
O Thou, who through the weakness of the flesh bound the power of the enemy, ///
O Lord, save our souls through the prayers of Thy saints.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 8,

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

“**W**hat is this sight that I see, /
What do mine eyes behold, O Master? /
Thou, who sustainest all creation, lifted up on the Tree, /
Dost die granting life to all,” /
Cried the Theotokos, weeping, when she beheld upon the Cross ///

MARTYRS SERGIUS AND BACCHUS

The God-man Who had ineffably shone forth from her.

The Troparion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:

Thy holy martyrs, Sergius and Bacchus, O Lord /
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Theé, our God. /
For having Thy strength they laid low their énemies /
And shattered the powerless boldness of démons. ///
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, sáve our souls.

Or this Troparion, in Tone 5:

O Sergius the much-suffering and Bacchus the glorious, /
You are the adornment of the martyrs of Christ, /
And you are the eyes of His holy Church, /
For you enlighten the eyes of our souls. /
Entreat ye the Lord, that we may escape the darkness of sin /
And may be behold the everlasting light, ///
Through your holy prayers, O glorious martyrs.

Matins

The Canon of the martyrs with 6 Troparia, in Tone 1,

*having the acrostic: "I praise Sergius the martyr and the ever-memorable Bacchus,"
the composition of Theophanes — incomplete as of 4/2018*

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion, in Tone 2:

Courageously arming your mind against the enemy /
You destroyed all his lies, O all-laudable martyrs. /
And you received the trophy of victory from on high /
And cried out with loud voices in unity of mind: ///
Behold how good and joyous it is to be with God!

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