

The 2nd Day of March

Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Cyrenia.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

Revealing thyself to be a most-sacred priest, /
An unshakeable pillar and very foundation of the Church, /
A true wonderworker given to us by God, O all-glorious one; /
And as a bright and holy lamp, /
Thou didst acquire Jesus, the Giver of Life /
And come to the Tree of Life in the middle of Paradise, ///
O hieromartyr Theodotus.

Beaten with the sinews of oxen, /
Shut in prison, thy feet cruelly pierced with nails, /
Stretched out upon a tree and flayed, /
Then placed upon a fiery grill, /
Thou revealed thyself untouched, O truly wondrous one, /
Glorifying Him who gave thee strength to endure all things, ///
O hieromartyr Theodotus.

Having crushed the enemy with the force of thy struggles /
Thou didst destroy his power through thy courage, O radiant one; /
Coming to dwell in the kingdom with the victorious martyrs, on high, /
Thou didst attain enlightenment rejoicing with them, /
Ever praying for the salvation of those who honor thee, ///
O Theodotus, glory of martyrs.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: *(and melody)*

Keep me from evil transgressions /
That I be not condemned, O most holy bride of God, /
And through thy prayers deliver my humble soul from death; /
That I may receive justification on the Day of Judgment /
Which the assembly of the saints have already gained, /
And show me cleansed through my tears and repentance ///
Before the coming of the end.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: *(and melody)*

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross, O Lord, /

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The ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, cried out in amazement: /
“What is this sight, O Most-desired Son? /
What has the ungrateful assembly done to Thee /
Having once delighted themselves in Thy many miracles? ///
But I glorify Thy ineffable condescension, O Master!”

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

General Troparion of a Martyr, in Tone 4: *(None given in the Menaion)*

Thy holy martyr Theodotus, O Lord, /
Through his sufferings received his incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God /
For having Thy strength he laid low his enemies /
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Matins
The Canon of the Martyr
— *incomplete as of 12/2013*

The Kontakion of Saint Theodotus, in Tone 3:

By exposing the seas of false belief /
Thou didst capsize the godless pride of idolatry /
Through the strength of the Orthodox faith, /
Becoming thyself a burnt offering to the Lord /
Showering thy miracles now upon the earth, /
O holy hierarch, father Theodotus, ///
Pray Christ God that He grant us great mercy.

12/19/2013 SDA
Last updated 12/20/2013 SDA
12/12/17 SDA
2/28/2023 SDA