

The 29th Day of March

**Holy Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa, Cyril the
Deacon, and the others who suffered under Julian the Apostate.**

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

O ven’rable martyr Bishop Mark, /
Being fully illumined with the sacred light of priesthood, /
Thou didst shine with unwavering brightness through thy torture. /
Now, having passed over to eternal radiance, /
In which the choirs of martyrs make glad /
And the ranks of angels rejoice, ///
Together with them, remember us always, O blessed one, received by God.

O passion-bearing martyr Cyril /
Truly a divine minister, thou didst minister to Christ, /
Presenting thyself, a pure offering,
And sacrificed at the divine altar, O divinely blessed one.
Thus becoming a saint both by calling and by deed /
Thou didst receive a precious inheritance, ///
Ever abiding in the brightness of holiness.

O all-praised martyrs of Christ, /
You passed through the furnace of torments /
And were left unharmed through the dew of divine grace, /
And having received the rewards of your victories /
You were vouchsafed to dwell at the waters of rest. /
Therefore on this day as we glorify Christ /
We celebrate your sacred memory.

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

We beseech thee, our benefactress and most-pure Lady: /
Spurn not thy servants until the end, /
That we not perish shaken by sorrows. /
But come and quickly rescue us from the present danger and affliction /
O Most Holy one, rejoicing in God, ///
For thou art our haven and invincible protection.

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

Beholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed to the Cross /

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And accepting suffering of Thine own will, /
The Virgin, Thy Mother, O Master, cried aloud: /
“Woe is me, O my sweet Child! /
How is it that Thou dost endure unjust wounding, /
O Physician who healeth the infirmities of mankind ///
And by Thy loving-kindness dost deliver all from corruption?”

Note: No Troparion or Kontakion for the Saints given in the Slav Menaion.

The Troparion of the Saints, in Tone 3:

As thou didst prepare for thy witnessing in the arena, /
Thou didst anoint the company of martyrs assembled with thee, /
And thou didst finish thy course together with them O glorious Bishop Mark, /
And were found worthy of attaining the joys of heaven with them. ///
O righteous father, entreat Christ God to grant us all His great mercy.

Matins

The Canon of the Saints, in Tone 8,

having the acrostic: “I honor the godly Mark and Cyril,” the composition of Joseph.

— incomplete as of 1/18/2014

After the Third Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn of the Saints, in Tone 4: To the melody, “Thou hast appeared today...”

O holy hieromartyrs, /
Being illumined with true grace /
You piously enlighten all the ends of the earth ///
Therefore with faith we call you blessèd.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O Virgin Mother /
Stretch for thine all-pure hands
And protect all those who place their hope in thee, ///
Who cry out to thy Son: ‘Grant unto all thy mercy, O Christ!’

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

Beholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed to the Cross, /
With maternal sorrow /
The Most-pure Lady piteously cried aloud: /
“Woe is me, my eternal Light, ///
How is it that Thou art setting into darkness?”

HIEROMARTYR MARK OF ARETHUSA

(No Kontakion of the Saints given in the Menaion)

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