

The 6th Day of February

Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord; Commemoration of our Father Among the Saint, Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna.

Also, the Commemoration of St. Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople, whose service follows after this. — *incomplete as of 2/1/2017.*

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:

Note: If this day falls outside of Lent, then the service is of the Afterfeast of the Meeting and of the Saint. But if it be Lent, then it is only that of the Saint. In that case the stichera for the Saint are sung twice, for a total of 6 stichera.

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

The Creator of all and our Deliverer /
Is borne into the temple by His Virgin Mother, /
And receiving Him the elder cries aloud in joy /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in pease, O Good One; ///
Let this be done according to Thy will!

Simeon receives the Creator of all from the arms of the Virgin, /
The Savior of all who was begotten before all ages; /
And he cries aloud saying: /
I have beheld Thy brilliant radiance shining forth, /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace, O Good One; ///
For mine eyes have beheld Thee today.

Simeon bears in his arms the Savior /
Who, in the fullness of time was born for the salvation of mankind; /
And he cries aloud rejoicing: /
I have seen the light of the nations and the glory of Israel /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart from among those here in peace ///
According to Thy command, for Thou art God!

And 3 stichera of the saint, in Tone 6: *To the melody, “On the third day....”*

Shining with the light of bountiful virtues, /
O holy father Bucolus, /
Thou wast mystically placed as a light upon the candlestand of the holy Church ///
To illumine her with the light of thy sacred teachings.

The Holy Spirit sanctified thee, /
O God-bearing father Bucolus, /
That thou mightest sanctify /
Through illumination and deliverance ///
All those coming to thee with faith.

Preaching the utter goodness of our God, /
As His sacred minister, /
Thou didst bless the afflicted people with grace ///
Thus leading them to the Savior.

Note: If it be Lent, then we sing: (taken from the 11th Day of February):

**Glory..., Now and ever...: the Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in
Tone 4: 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 beloved Son? ///
I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!”

But if this day falls outside of Lent, then we sing:

Glory..., now and ever..., of the Feast, in Tone 5:

Search ye the Scriptures /
As Christ our King commands in the Gospels, /
For there we will find Him that was born of the Virgin; /
Him that was wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger /
And fed with His Mother’s milk; /
Him that was circumcised and carried by Simeon — /
Him that came to earth not as an apparition nor by conjecture, but in very truth. ///
To Him let us cry: O God before the ages, glory to Thee!

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

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

Behold, the most-pure Mother of God, /
Bears the Master and Creator as an infant in her arms ///
As she enters into the temple!

Verse: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

Recieve, O Simeon, /
The Lord of Glory, /
Behold, He comes, as was foretold to thee ///
By the Holy Spirit!

Verse: A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Mine eyes have now beheld Thy promise, O Good God, ///
Release me now, Thy servant, O Lover of mankind!

Glory..., now and ever..., in Tone 5: *The composition of Germanus*

The Ancient of Days, having become a Babe /
Is borne into the temple by His Virgin Mother /
Fulfilling the promise of His own Law; /
And Simeon, receiving Him said: /
O Holy One, now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace ///
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.

The Troparion of the Hierarch, in Tone 4:

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith,
A model of humility and teacher of abstinence, /
So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by poverty; /
O holy hierarch, father Bucolus, /
Intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Glory..., now and ever..., the Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

Rejoice, Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, /
From thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, /
Who giveth light to those in darkness! /
Rejoice also, O righteous Elder! /
Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls ///
Who grants us the Resurrection.

Matins

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1: *To the melody, "When the*

stone had been sealed....”

Thou, who for my sake was born as a Babe, /
And wast borne into the temple, O Life of all. /
Thou, who once inscribed the Law on the tablets upon Mount Sinai /
Placed Thyself under the Law that Thou might release all from the ancient bondage of the
Law. /
Glory to Thy loving-kindness, O Savior! /
Glory to Thy kingdom! ///
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who alone lovest mankind!

Glory..., now and ever..., Repeat: “Thou, who for my sake...”

**After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 5: To the melody: The co-
unoriginate Word...**

When Thou, the Creator, wast carried into the temple, /
The Master and Maker of the Law /
Thou didst fulfill the requirements of the Law, O Savior; /
Thou, who sustains all creation, of Thine own will was carried on the arms of
Simeon, ///
To reveal Thy Light to all, O compassionate Lord.

Glory..., now and ever..., Repeat: “When Thou, the Creator...”

The Canon

The Canon of the Feast, with 8 Troparia, including its Irmos; and
that of the hierarch, with 4 Troparia, in Tone 1;
— incomplete as of 2/2017.

No Kontakion of the hierarch is given.

After the 6th Ode, the Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb, /
And didst bless Simeon’s hands, O Christ God. /
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. ///
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of mankind!