

The 3rd Day of September

Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia; and the Commemoration of our Venerable Father Theoctistus, fellow Ascetic with Euthemius the Great.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:

3 stichera of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “O all-praised martyrs....”*

O divinely wise and blessed one, /

Thou didst brighten thy sacred and godly vesture with the crimson of thy blood, /

Piously didst thou grow from strength to strength /

And from glory to glory. ///

Pray now that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.

As a true priest thou didst offer the bloodless sacrifice to God /

And as a true martyr thou didst offer thine own blood to Christ /

As a fruitful and well pleasing sacrifice. /

O most hon’rable and eloquent one, ///

Entreat thou Him for us who sing thy praises.

Thou didst lead an army of martyrs to Christ, /

Through thine instructions and thy teachings /

Presenting thyself as a model for them to emulate, /

O blessed father Anthimus. ///

Together with them now, pray that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.

And 3 stichera of the Venerable Father, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “Thy martyrs....”*

O holy father Theoctistus, /

The radiance of thy memory /

And the beauty of thy life; /

The riches of thy wonders and the splendor of thy gifts /

Gladden all the assemblies of monastics. ///

Entreat Christ that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.

O holy father Theoctistus, /

The demon are overcome by thine ascetic patience /

And they cower at thine unceasing prayer. /

For hast thou acquired Christ as thy companion, O all-laudable one. ///

Entreat Him now that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.

O holy father Theoctistus, /
Thou didst become a dwelling place of God; /
For, by preserving that which He made in His image /
And by proclaiming the Truth by the example of thy life, /
Thou didst fulfill the meaning of thy name, O “being made by God.” /
Therefore, entreat Christ, O most-wondrous one, ///
That He may grant our souls peace and great mercy.

Glory..., of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 6:

O blessèd father Anthimus /
Thou didst remain true as a priest to the end, /
For while celebrating the ineffable and divine Mysteries /
Thou didst shed thy blood for Christ God. /
Thus, thou didst offer thyself an acceptable sacrifice to Him. /
Therefore having boldness before Him /
Earnestly pray for those who with faith keep thine all-honored memory ///
That they may be delivered from every temptation, misfortune and danger.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 6, or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody “On the third day....”

Standing with Thy pure disciple before the Tree /
At Thy crucifixion, /
The all-pure Virgin cried aloud: /
‘Woe is me, Why dost Thou suffer, O Christ, ///
Who art the dispassion of all?’

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

The Aposticha is from the Octoechos, then:

Glory..., to the Venerable Father, in Tone 6:

O ven’rable Anthimus /
Thine instructions have gone out into all the earth; /
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..., Theotokion, in Tone 6, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, “On the third day....”

Beholding Thee crucified, O Christ /
She who gave Thee birth cried out to Thee: /
“What is this strange mystery I see, my Son? /
How, being hung in the flesh, the Giver of Life, ///
Dost Thou die on the Tree?”

The Troparion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:

Like the apostles in character, /
A successor on their throne, O divinely-inspired one /
Through visions thou didst find thy work /
Rightly dividing the word of truth. /
Thou didst suffer for the sake of the faith /
Even to the shedding of thy blood ///
O hieromartyr Anthimus, pray Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Glory..., the Troparion of the Venerable Father Theoctistus, in Tone 8:

Thine abundant tears made the wilderness sprout and bloom /
And thy suffering made thy labors fruitful a hundredfold /
Thou hast become a shining torch over all the world /
O our holy father Theoctistus, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

Matins

One Canon from the Octoechos, and two Canons of the Saints.

— incomplete as of 7/18/2017

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Hieromartyr, in Tone 4:

Living an hon’rable life as a priest /
Thou didst complete thy course of martyrdom; /
Thou didst extinguish the worship of idols /
Thus becoming a champion of thy flock. /
Therefore, we honor thee, /
And we mystic’ly cry out to thee: ///
Deliver us from every danger, O divinely-wise father Anthimus.