

The 28th Day of May

Commemoration of our Father among the Saints, Nikítas, Bishop of Chalcedon; also, the Commemoration of our Father among the Saints Ignatius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Rostov, whose service follows after this. — *incomplete as of 2/2017.*

Vespers

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

Thou didst emulate the hospitality of Abraham /
The simplicity of Jacob and Isaac’s love of God; /
The patience of the Patriarch Job, /
And the innocence of Moses, the meekness of David; /
And thou wast anointed with holy chrism as was Aaron of old, ///
O God-bearing hierarch and wonderworker, Nikítas.

By the grace of the Holy Spirit /
And thine innocence most pure /
Thou didst dispel the malice of demons; /
And thy spirit was illumined by thy desire for God through earnest prayer; /
And thy sufferings for His sake were well pleasing to Him. /
Therefore thou didst receive the grace of working miracles ///
To heal the infirmities of those who piously hasten to thee, O Nikítas.

The most-glorious Nikítas /
Together with hierarch Ignatius, wise in God /
Are bound by an unbreakable bond of kinship, /
For as bishops they both kept the laws of the Holy Spirit /
And following in the footsteps of Christ /
They became divinely-wise shepherds of their flocks /
And are now brilliantly adorned with like manner of healings.

Note: But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then these 3 stichera to the Theotokos are sung at Vespers, at “Lord I call,” before the above stichera of the saint, in the same Tone and melody.

Keepest 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.

Shower my thoughts with the dew of the Most Holy Spirit, /
O most pure Mother of Christ, /
Who in His boundless compassion, /
Cleansed the multitude of our transgressions with a drop of dew. /
Dry up the source of my passions, /
And through thy prayers, O Lady, ///
Vouchsafe that I may ever drink at the stream of life.

Grant that the torrent of my tears of repentance /
And the thought of the dread and awesome hour of judgment /
May serve as an excellent and saving remedy, /
That through thy prayers, O Virgin who gave birth to God my Savior, /
I may be delivered from condemnation ///
And receive divine grace and escape the fearsome punishments.

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

Thousands of times have I promised /
To repent of my sins, O pure one, /
But the despised yet cherished habits of mine evil offenses will not depart from me /
So I fall down before thee, crying out: /
Rescue me from their tyranny, O Lady, ///
And instruct me along the higher path which leads to salvation.

Or the Stavrotheotokion:

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross, O Lord, /
The ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, cried out in amazement: /
“Whát 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.

Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 4:

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith,
A model of humility and teacher of abstinence, /

ST. NIKITAS, BISHOP OF CHALCEDON.

So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by poverty; /
O holy hierarch, father Nikitas, /
Intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Matins

The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 4:

— *incomplete as of 2/2017*

Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

Shining forth with the splendor of thy deeds thou didst become an heir of the
apostles /
And being filled with the divine teachings, O father, thou didst shine like the
sun upon thy flock. ///
Therefore, we cry to thee, O ven'erable Nikitas: Rejoice, thou adornment of
Chalcedon!

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