

The 7th Day of June

The Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Theodotus of Ancyra.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, Tone 1: *To the melody, “Joy of the ranks of heaven....”*

With firm intentions and a joyful heart, /
Thou didst truly accomplish wondrous feats, O martyr,
Not fearing pain nor impending death.
Therefore, having suffered under the law, ///
Thou wast crowned with glory, O Theodotus.

The pains thy body suffered, /
Stung thine enemies, O blessèd one, /
And pierced, like arrows, their accusing hearts;
And the flowing sstreams of thy blood, ///
Forever dried the flood of godlessness, O Theodotus.

Patiently suffering the torment of being burned by fire, /
Being smitten, thy back broken, /
Thou didst endure all things, and cried aloud: /
“Neither death nor life, nor any torture ///
Shall separate me from the love of Christ!”

Note: But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then the following 3 stichera to the Theotokos are sung at Vespers, at “Lord I call,” before the above stichera of the saints, in the Same tone and melody:

We who are hopelessly possessed by sins, O pure one, /
Have thee alone as our intercessor, O Virgin. /
And we gratefully cry out to thee: /
Cleanse us, O most holy bride of God. /
For thou, art the refuge of the world ///
And the defender of the race of mankind.

Armed with the staff of thy protection, O most pure Mother of God, /
Drive away the beastly passions of mine accursèd soul; /
And direct my life in peace ///
And number me among thy chosen flock of sheep.

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Tossed about by the storm of my sins, /
I flee to the calm haven of thy prayers, O Mother of God, /
And I cry out to thee: /
Stretch out thy mighty right hand to me, thy servant ///
And save me, O most pure one!

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

I am laid low and lie in the filth of my vices, /
Yet I crawl to thy peaceful refuge, O Virgin! /
Deliver me from the storms of passion and from every temptation /
That I may ever extol thy grace ///
O Ever-virgin Mother of God.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in Tone 1:

Standing before the Cross of thy Son and God, /
And beholding His long-suffering,
O pure Mother, thou didst cry out weeping: /
Woe is me, O my Child most sweet! /
What are these things which Thou dost suffer unjustly, ///
O Word of God, that Thou mightest save mankind?’

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

The Troparion of the Saint, 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 Theodotus, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Matins

The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 6,

*having the acrostic: “Thou art truly a gift from God, O blessed one,”
the composition of Joseph. — incomplete as of 2/2015*

No Kontakion is given in the Menaion for the Hieromartyr.

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