

## The 28<sup>th</sup> Day of September

✠ Commemoration of our Venerable Father Chariton (Kharitón) the Confessor.

### Vespers

We sing “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Antiphon.

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

With abstinence and diligent prayer, O blessed one /  
Thou didst cause the passions of the flesh to wither away /  
And with streams of tears thou didst drown the dragon of deceit, /  
Thus pleasing God exceedingly. /  
Therefore Jesus, the Lover of mankind /  
And the Savior of our souls ///  
Adorned thee with the gifts of heaven, O venerable Chariton. *(twice)*

**E**xtinguishing the coals of the passions with the sweat of thy ascetic labors /  
Thou didst submit to pain and torture by fire, /  
O truly wonder-worthy one. /  
And to the lawless tormentors thou didst confess /  
The condescension of the Incarnate Word, /  
Thus becoming a witness of His suffering by thine own wounds, /  
Terrible burns and suffering, ///  
O splendid and God-bearing Chariton. *(twice)*

**O**n the mountain and in the wilderness /  
Thou didst keep thy soul in purity and sanctity, /  
Revealing thyself as a worthy abode of the Trinity, /  
O blessed Chariton, /  
And by the power of God thou didst establish a habitation for Him, /  
An enclosure for the salvific labor of monastics ///  
Who honor thy holiness, O ever-memorable one. *(twice)*

**Glory..., in Tone 4: by John the Monk**

**O** God-bearing father Chariton, /  
In death thou didst come to abide in Christ in heaven, /  
For thou didst crucify thyself to the world for His sake, /  
And being thyself beyond the visible things of this world /  
Thou didst truly live transcending all material things: /  
For thou didst not live for thyself, but Christ our God Who lived in thee. ///  
Beseech Him now that our souls may be saved.

**Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

The prophet David was a father of the Lord /  
 Through thee, O Virgin; /  
 He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonders in thee: /  
 “At Thy right hand stood the Queen, Thy Mother,” /  
 The Mediatrix of Life, /  
 Since God was freely born of her without a father, /  
 He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion, /  
 So He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder /  
 And brought it to His Father, /  
 Joining it to the heavenly powers /  
 Christ Who hath great and rich mercy ///  
 Hath saved the world, O Theotokos.

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

**The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the Day.**

**Three Readings:**

**The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon: (5:15-6:3)**

<sup>5:15</sup> **T**he righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. <sup>16</sup>Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom and a beautiful crown from the Lord’s hand; for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. <sup>17</sup>He shall take to him His zeal for complete armor and make the creation His weapon for revenge upon his enemies. <sup>18</sup>He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate and indifferent judgment instead of a helmet. <sup>19</sup>He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. <sup>20</sup>His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the creation shall fight with him against the unwise. <sup>21</sup>Then shall the right aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the

clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. <sup>22</sup>And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast out as a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them. <sup>23</sup>Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. <sup>6:1</sup>Hear therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. <sup>2</sup>Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. <sup>3</sup>For power is given to you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Highest, who shall try your works, and search out your counsels.

**The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon: (3:1-9)**

<sup>3:1</sup>The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. <sup>2</sup>In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, <sup>3</sup>and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. <sup>4</sup>For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. <sup>5</sup>And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for Himself. <sup>6</sup>As gold in the furnace hath

He tried them and received them as a burnt offering. <sup>7</sup>And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. <sup>8</sup>They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever. <sup>9</sup>They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: for grace and mercy is to His saints, and He hath care for His elect.

**The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon: (4:7-15)**

<sup>4:7</sup> The righteous man, though he die early yet shall he be at rest. <sup>8</sup>For old age is not honored for length of time, nor is it measured by number of years; <sup>9</sup>but wisdom is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. <sup>10</sup>There was one who pleased God and was so beloved of Him, that while living among sinners he was taken up. <sup>11</sup>He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. <sup>12</sup>For the fascination of wickedness

obscures that which is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. <sup>13</sup>Being so perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; <sup>14</sup>for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore He took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. <sup>15</sup>Yet this the peoples saw and did not understand, neither did they take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are upon His holy ones, and He hath care for His elect.

**At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 1: *To the melody, "O all-praised martyrs...."***

**O** all-praised father Chariton /  
Thou didst a live a life attending the virtues, /  
And in learning from thy teachings /  
The Orthodox faithful praise Christ with hymns and spiritual songs. /  
And standing now before Him ///  
Entreat that they be strengthened in the peace of the Holy Spirit.

**Verse:** Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

**O** divinely-inspired Chariton, /  
 Thy life was revealed to those on earth /  
 To be like unto that of the angels, /  
 And thy confession, ascended to heaven /  
 As an offering of sweet-smelling incense. ///  
 Pray now that peace and great mercy may be granted to our souls.

**Verse:** Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

**O** most-splendid father Chariton /  
 Who didst conquer the passions and defeat the robbers of souls, /  
 Rejoicing now with thy fellow crown-bearing martyrs /  
 Remember us all as we celebrate thy memory ///  
 And beseech Christ to grant our souls peace and great mercy.

**Glory..., in Tone 8:**

**We** honor thee as the instructor of a multitude of monastics, /  
 O our father Chariton; /  
 For truly we have learned to walk aright by following in thy steps. /  
 Blessèd art thou, for having labored for Christ, /  
 Thou hast destroyed the power of the enemy, /  
 O converser with the angels and companion of the righteous, ///  
 Pray with them to the Lord that He grant our souls great mercy.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone:**

**O** Virgin unwedded, Mother of God on high, /  
 Thou hast ineffably conceived God in the flesh. /  
 Accept the entreaties of thy servants, O most immaculate one, /  
 And grant unto us all the purification of our transgressions /  
 And do thou, who hears our entreaties, ///  
 Pray for us all to be saved.

**The Troparion of the Saint, 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 Cháriton, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

**Matins**

— incomplete as of 8/2014

**At “God is the Lord...,” the Troparion of the Saint (*twice*), Glory..., now and ever... Theotokion in the Tone of the Week.**

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “The Theotokos, who is ever vigilant...”***

**H**aving delighted in abstinence, O divinely-wise one, /  
And having bridled the desires of the flesh, /  
Thou didst reveal thyself as having been reared with faith, /  
And didst blossom as a living tree in the middle of Paradise, ///  
O most holy, and all-blessed father Chariton.

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