

## The 21<sup>st</sup> Day of April

**Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Beneventum and his Companions; and the Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Theodore, Bishop of Perge.**

### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:**

**3 stichera to St. Januarius, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

**A**s a holy hierarch, O Januarius, /  
And a holy martyr condemned under the law. /  
By thine own blood and not by that of another /  
Didst thou enter into heaven /  
To stand before Jesus, the Creator of all; /  
And gazing upon Him now, O holy father, ///  
Thou dost behold Him together with the angels.

**C**ut by the sword, cast into the fire, and thrown to wild beasts, /  
Thrown into prison for many long days at a time, /  
Thou didst remain unwavering in mind by the strength of divine power /  
O rightly wondrous one, /  
And being condemned by the law, thou didst complete thy course ///  
O holy hierarch and converser with the angels.

**T**ogether let us honor /  
The deacon Proclus and the reader Desiderius, /  
Socius the deacon with Faustus and Eutychius, /  
With the glorious Januarius and wise Acutius, /  
For they are holy ministers and the crowned witnesses of Christ, /  
All, citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, ///  
And the intercessors for those who truly bless their holy memory.

**And 3 stichera to Saint Theodore, in the same Tone:** *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

**Note:** If at Presanctified, these stichera are sung at the Praises of Matins.

**S**tanding before the unrighteous tribunal, /  
O holy greatmartyr Theodore, /  
Thou didst denounce the pagan idols, /  
And for this thou wast unjustly beaten /  
And wast stretched out upon a searing grill; /

Then thou wast covered with the dew of the Spirit /  
 Who imparted steadfast strength to thee ///  
 That thou mayest destroy the savagery of the cruel enemy.

**T**ruly thou didst become a chariot of our God /  
 Bearing to Him thy most pure heart, /  
 Being bound by chains, thou didst loose the chains of those who bound thee /  
 And bound them to the love of Christ. /  
 With them thou wast cast into the furnace /  
 And were not consumed, O rightly wondrous Theodore, ///  
 But magnified the Lord together with them,

**T**hen thou wast crucified, O blessèd Theodore /  
 Emulating Him who stretched out His arms upon the Cross, /  
 And remained hanging on the tree for three days /  
 Until thou didst commit thy soul into the hands of God /  
 And finished the course of suffering set before thee, /  
 O thou pinnacle of martyrdom, /  
 Thou great pillar of the Church, ///  
 Thou adornment of the faithful and converser with the angels.

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

**R**ain down upon me, O Lady, /  
 The flowing waters of thy mercy, /  
 And as thou art merciful, /  
 Give drink to my heart being consumed by the heat of my passions; /  
 And cause drops of compunction to fall upon me, O Maiden, /  
 That I may find consolation, I pray thee, ///  
 Together with those who sincerely shed their tears.

**Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**B**eholding 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 belovèd Son? ///  
 I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!”

HIEROMARTYR JANUARIUS AND HIS COMPANIONS,  
& HIEROMARTYR TIMOTHY

*Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.*

**The General Troparion of the Hieromartyrs, in Tone 4:** *[None being given in the Menaion]*

**L**ike the apostles in character, /  
And successors on their throne, O divinely-inspired ones /  
Through visions you both found your work /  
Rightly dividing the word of truth. /  
You didst suffer for the sake of the faith /  
Even to the shedding of your blood. ///  
O hieromartyrs Januarius and Theodore, pray to Christ God that our souls may be  
saved.

**Matinss**

**The Canon**

*Two Canons of the Saints, with 8 Troparia.*

Ode 1

The Canon of St. Januarius, in Tone 4

The Canon of St. Theodore, also in Tone 4

— incomplete as of 3/29/2016

**After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Hieromartyrs, in Tone 3:**

**B**eing adorned with the chrism of priesthood /  
And the blood of martyrdom, /  
You shine down on earth as you rejoice in heaven, /  
O glorious Januarius and Theodore,  
Watching over all who come to your temple and who cry aloud: ///  
Protect us all through your prayers to the Lover of mankind.