

## The 31<sup>st</sup> Day of May

### The Commemoration of the Holy Martyr Hermias of Comana; and the Holy Apostle Hermes of the 70.

#### Vespers

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

Having extinguished the fire of godlessness /  
With the drops of thy blood, O great martyr Hermias, /  
Thou didst richly water the Church of Christ /  
And illumined the hearts of the faithful ///  
Who are piously honoring thy precious memory.

Thou didst stand as an invincible tower, O Hermias, /  
And were not shaken by the assaults of the enemy, /  
Instead, thou didst pierce their hearts with the arrows /  
Of thy valiant struggles, ///  
And cast them down writhing to the ground

Through divine words, O Hermias, /  
Thou didst raise those drowning in the depths of unbelief, /  
While withstanding a great tempest of torments ///  
Until thou didst joyfully enter into the haven of heaven.

*Note: But if this day should fall during the Apostles’ Fast, and we will sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then the following 3 stichera to the Theotokos<sup>1</sup> are sung at Vespers, at “Lord I call,” before the above stichera of the Saint, in the same Tone and melody:*

**W**e 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.

**A**rmed 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.

---

<sup>1</sup> cf. May 30.

31 MAY

**T**ossed about by the storm of my sins, /  
I flee to the calm haven of thy prayers, O Mother of God, /  
And I cry ot 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:**

**W**hen she beheld the Lamb lifted up upon the Cross, /  
The most pure Virgin cried out lamenting: /  
O my Sweet Child /  
What is this new and all-glorious wonder? /  
How is it that Thou Who holdest all things in the hollow of Thy hand, ///  
Art nailed to the Tree in the flesh?

*Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.*

**The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 4: (General Troparion of the Martyrs)**

**T**hy holy martyr Hermias, O Lord, /  
Through his sufferings received his incorruptible crown from Thee, our God /  
For having Thy strength he laid low his enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///  
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

**Matins**

**The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 8,**  
the composition of Joseph — *incomplete as of 2/2015*

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 6: To the melody, “Having fulfilled Thy dispensation ...”**

**B**inding thyself earnestly to Christ /  
Thou didst courageously suffer for Him as an elderly man; /  
Thou didst trample the lawless and their scheming by the power of Christ /

MARTYR HERMIAS OF COMANA

And given a poison to drink, thou didst remain unharmed; /  
Thou didst cry aloud, O martyr Hermias, ///  
“As God is with me, who then, can be against me!”

RLE 2/11/2015 SDA  
UPDATED 5/14/2023 SDA