

The 18th Day of April

Venerable John, Disciple of Saint Gregory of Decapolis.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

O ven'rable father John, /
Thy mind flew towards God on wings of faith /
Leaving behind the cares and confusion of this world; /
And taking up thy cross, /
Thou didst follow after Him who knoweth all things /
Taming thy unruly body to the wisdom of thy mind /
Through thine ascetic deeds ///
And through the power of the Divine Spirit.

Thou didst come to Gregory, O most glorious John, /
As toward the sun shining with the light of virtues /
And the rays of miracles, /
Through him thou didst enlighten thy spiritual eyes /
Dispelling the darkness of passions /
Thyself becoming a radiant star; ///
Coming to stand before the never-waning Light, O all-blessèd father John.

Thy whole life, O venerable father John, /
Was spent in prayers of silent weeping and tears, /
Through faith becoming a true monastic. /
Thou wast adorned with poverty and made beautiful through abstinence /
Appearing a stranger and a wanderer on earth ///
Thereby obtaining for thyself the delights of blessèdness, O wondrous father John.

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

The pre-eternal God became incarnate of thee, /
O most pure Lady, /
Revealing thee as the intercessor for mankind. /
Therefore, deliver us, thy servants /
From every tribulation and sorrow /
Brought on by the wiles of the enemy; /
So that ever glorifying and honoring thee ///
We may come to partake of the splendors of the chosen ones.

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

“What is this sight that I see, /
What do mine eyes behold, O Master? /
Thou, Who sustainest all creation, lifted ùp òn the Tree, /
Dost die granting life to all,” /
Cried the Theotokos, weeping, when she beheld upon the Cross ///
The God-man Who had ineffably shone forth from her.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

The General Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8: *(None given in the Menaion)*

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Father, /
For thou didst take up thy cross and follow Christ /
By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away /
But to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal ///
Therefore thy spirit, O ven’rable John, rejoices with the angels.

Matins

The Canon for the Martyr, in Tone 8

— incomplete as of 1/2013

The Kontakion to the Saint, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Having been lifted up....”*

Adorning thy life with abstinence /
And mortifying thy flesh, O father, /
Thou didst turn aside the attacks of the enemy; /
Becoming thus a worthy heir, O all-blessèd father, /
Thou didst attain the everlasting joy /
And the eternal life that is with God. /
Entreat thou Him, that we may be saved.

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