

The 10th Day of January

Afterfeast of Theophany; Commemoration of St. Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa; of our Father among the Saints Dometian, Bishop of Melitene in Armenia; and St. Marcian, a priest and steward of the Great Church in Constantinople.

Also commemorated on this day is our father among the saints, Theophan the Recluse, and the venerable Paul, Abbot at Obnóra in Vologdá, whose services are provided after this. — *incomplete as of December 2015*

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera.

Note: If this day falls on the **Sunday After Theophany**, then at “Lord, I call...” we sing 10 stichera: 3 of the Resurrection, followed by 3 of the Feast, and 4 of St Gregory. The stichera of St. Dometian are sung at Compline.

3 stichera, of St. Gregory, in Tone 5: To the melody, “O venerable father....”

O venerable and holy father Gregory, /
Thy voice is like an instrument played by the breath of the Comforter /
Filled with the clear melody of godliness; /
Thou art a candle enlightening many with divine light; /
A herald of the truth, the foundation of theology; /
A sream of teachings sweet as honey; /
An instrument playing the songs written by God gladdening the hearts of the faithful. /
Pray without ceasing, O divinely wise one /
To Christ, who was baptized in the streams of the Jordan for the renewal of the world, ///
That He may save our souls!

O ven’rable and all-praised father Gregory, /
Thou weapon destroying the assaults of the enemy; /
Two-edged sword of the Holy Spirit; /
Scythe, cutting through the thorns of deceit; /
Fire, consuming the dross of heresy; /
Winnowing-fan, separating the kernel of truth from the chaff of error; /
Rule, measuring for all the true path to salvation. /
Pray without ceasing, O divinely wise one, /
To Christ, who was baptized in the streams of the Jordan for the renewal of the world, ///

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That He may save our souls!

O ven'rable, most-blessèd father Gregory, /
From the lips of thy mouth flow words of divine grace /
Drawn from the fountain of salvation and freely given to all, /
Words of prayer which thou dost teach to all; /
O guide, leading us in the straight path of righteousness, /
Thou art enlightened with the grace of divine vision, /
Shining with the radiance of the uncreated Trinity. /
Pray without ceasing, O divinely wise one, /
To Christ, who was baptized in the streams of the Jordan for the renewal of the
world, ///
That He may save our souls!

And 3 stichera, of St. Dometian, in Tone 1: To the melody, "O all-praised martyrs...."

Today the ancient deceiver /
Who once threatened to take the whole world into his hands and dry up the seas, /
Is shown to be a trapped bird, an insignificant gnat, a laughingstock of the faithful; /
For his frightening semblance has been stripped away ///
As he is trampled underfoot by Dometian, the favorite of Christ.

Today, O ye faithful, /
Dometian summons us to the table for the divine feast. /
Let us gather around him in purity of heart /
And with him, let us celebrate his virtues on this festive day ///
Asking the Savior to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

O all hon'rable Dometian, /
Thou didst increase the talent given thee by Christ. /
And for this, thou didst hear His blessed words: /
Well done, O good and faithful servant, ///
Enter thou into the joy of the Lord and receive the reward of thy labors!

Glory..., of St. Gregory, in Tone 4:

Having adorned thy words with wisdom and virtue, /
Thou didst excel in both, O bishop of Nyssa, Gregory. /
Being filled with knowledge, thou didst delight thy people /
With the divine clarity of thy words /
Explaining to all the equal divinity of the Trinity. /
Therefore, O all-wise one, thou didst overcome the foreign heresies /

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With the orthodoxy of thy teachings /
And didst raise the banner of the True Faith in all the ends of the earth. /
And standing now before Christ and His immaterial angels ///
Pray that He may grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Now and ever..., of the Feast, in the same Tone:

The hand of the Baptist trembled /
When it touched Thy sinless head, O Savior. /
The River Jordan turned back its streams not daring to minister to Thee, /
For like Joshua, the son of Nun, it stood in awe before its Creator. /
Thou hast fulfilled all Thy dispensation, O Savior, ///
That by Thine Epiphany Thou mayest save the world, O only Lover of mankind.

Note: If it be the *Sunday After*, then:

Glory..., of St. Gregory, in Tone 4: “Having adorned thy words....” (*see above*)

Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week; Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.

The Litya, in Tone 2: “Let all création” (*the stichera from the Aposticha of Vespers—see below*)

Glory..., now and ever..., of the Feast, in Tone 8: (*from the “Now and ever” of the Aposticha of Matins—the composition of the monk, John of Damascus*)

Desiring to fulfill Thy dispensation, O Lord. /
Which Thou didst establish of old, /
Thou didst accept from all creation those to be Thy ministers: /
Gabriel from among the angels, /
The Virgin from among mortal man, /
The star from among the heavens, /
And the Jordan from among the waters /
In which Thou didst drown the sins of the world. ///
O our Savior, glory to Thee!

At the Aposticha, these stichera of the Feast, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “O House of Ephratha....”*

Note: If it be the *Sunday After*, then, the **Aposticha** is of the Resurrection, and:

Glory..., of St. Gregory, in Tone 4: “Living a holy life, O Gregory (*see below*)

Now and ever..., of the Feast, in the same Tone: “When the Baptist beheld Thee approaching....” (*see below*). *Otherwise:*

In Tone 2:

Let all creation /
Sing a new song to Christ who was born of the Virgin ///
And is baptized today in the streams of the Jordan.

Verse: The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.

Let the prophetic voice of the Forerunner cry out: /
Bring forth the fruits of your good deeds to the Lord ///
Who is baptized in the streams of the Jordan.

Verse: What ails thee, O sea, that thou hast fled; and thee, O Jordan, that thou hast turned back?

The Holy Spirit is ineffably seen in the form of a dove ///
Shining down from above ///
Upon Christ who is baptized in the streams of the Jordan.

Glory..., of St. Gregory, in Tone 4:

Living a holy life, O Gregory, /
Thine actions were illumined with divine vision, /
For, loving wisdom with a divine longing /
Thy lips drank deeply of the grace of the Holy Spirit, /
Causing the sweetness of thy words to drip like a honeycomb /
Forever nourishing the Church of God with thy wisdom. /
Dwelling now in the kingdom of heaven, O holy hierarch, ///
Ceaselessly pray for us who keep thy holy memory.

Now and ever..., of the Feast, in the same Tone: (*and melody*)

When the Baptist beheld Thee approaching, /
Who cleanses the sin of the world with fire /
He cried aloud in fear and trembling: /
I dare not touch Thy most-pure head, /
But do Thou sanctify me, O Master, by Thy Theophany, ///
O Thou who alone lovest mankind.

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The Troparion of the Saints, in Tone 4:

O God of our fathers /
Deal with us according to Thy compassion /
Take not away Thy mercy from us /
But through the prayers of our fathers ///
Guide our lives along the way of peace.

Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 1:

When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan /
The worship of the Trinity was made manifest; /
For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee /
And called Thee His beloved Son. /
And the Spirit in the form of a dove /
Confirmed the truthfulness of His word. /
O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself ///
And hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Note: The service to St. Marcian is sung at Compline.

Matins

— incomplete as of 12/2015

At “God is the Lord...” the Troparion of the Feast (twice); Glory..., **Saints;** Now and ever..., **Feast (once).**

Note: If it be the **Sunday After**, then the Troparia: Resurrection (*twice*); Glory..., now and ever..., **Feast (once).**

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 3: *To the melody, “Today the Virgin...”*

Today Christ hath come to the Jordan, /
To be baptized by the holy Forerunner in its waters. /
And from on high the Father bore witness to Him saying: /
“This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased!” ///
And the Spirit descended upon Him in the wondrous form of a dove.

Glory..., now and ever..., in the same Tone: Repeat: “Today Christ hath come....”

After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional hymn, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Joseph was amazed....”*

Now is the time of Theophany! /
Christ hath appeared to us in the River Jordan! /
Let us come, all ye faithful, and draw the water which washes away our sins; /
For Christ hath come in the flesh in search for the lamb that the wolf had carried
away, /
And having found it, He brings it back to Paradise /
Out of the tenderness of His heart. ///
Christ hath appeared in the Jordan and hath enlighted the whole world.

Glory..., now and ever..., in the same Tone: Repeat: “Now is the time of Theophany....”

The Canon

Three Canons, that of the Feast, with 8 Troparia, including the Irmos,
having the acrostic: “*Baptism is the cleansing of mortal sins,*” the composition of Cosmas;
that of St. Gregory, with 4 Troparia, in Tone 5,
and that of St. Dometian, with 4 Troparia, in Tone 1.

— incomplete as of 12/2015

After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 4:

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe /
And Thy Light, O Lord, has shone on us /
Who with understanding praise Thee; /
Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, ///
O Light Unapproachable.

And the 1st Kontakion of St. Gregory, in Tone 2:

O holy hierarch of the Church and wise herald of the secret mysteries of God, /
O bishop of Nyssa, Gregory, enlighted by God. /
Thou dost stand rejoicing with the angels /
And delighting in the light of divine glory ///
Ceaselessly praying on behalf of us all.

After the Sixth Ode, the 2nd Kontakion of St. Gregory, in Tone 1: (To the melody: “When the stone had been sealed....”

Thou wast revealed to the world as a vigilant shepherd /
Guarding thy flock with the watchful eye of thy soul, /
And wielding the rod and the staff of thy wisdom /
Thou didst drive away the ravenous wolves and their false doctrines. /
And through thy fervent intercessions ///

AFTERFEAST THEOPHANY; ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA;
ST. DOMETIAN, BISHOP OF MELITENE

Thou dost preserve us, thy sheep unharmed.

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