

The 26th Day of October

✝ **The Holy and Glorious Greatmartyr Demetrius, the Myrrhusher of Thessalonica; Commemoration of the Great Earthquake at Constantinople in 740 A.D.**

Note: An All-Night Vigil may be served if the Superior so wishes.

Small Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 4 stichera, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “Joy of the ranks of heaven....”*

O God, who as the Creator of all, /
Makest the foundations of the whole earth to shake, /
Who alone makest the seabed tremble, /
We entreat Thee and Thy tender compassion; ///
Deliver us from the earthquake of Thy righteous wrath, O Lover of mankind. *(twice)*

Thessalonica rejoices on this day of celebration, /
O thrice-blessèd martyr Demetrius, /
And she calls upon all the other cities of the world /
To keep thy splendid feast with her, ///
And we, having assembled, also praise thy heroic martyrdom.

Come, O ye faithful, /
And let us together praise the soldier of Christ, /
The valiant luminary Demetrius, /
Who trampled down all the might of the enemy, /
And with faith let us cry ot to him: ///
Entreat Christ on our behalf, O holy martyr!

Glory..., in Tone 6:

Today the whole universe /
Is illumined with the rays of thy passion-bearing martyrdom; /
And the Church of God, adorned with flowers, doth cry out to thee, O Demetrius: /
O, our most fervent intercessor and favorite of Christ ///
Never cease to pray for us, thy servants!

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

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine /
Who didst bud forth for us the Fruit of Life: /
We pray thee, O Lady, intercede together with the holy martyr Demetrius, ///

That He will have mercy on our souls.

At the Aposticha, the stichera, in Tone 2: To the melody, “O house of Ephratha....”

We have thee as a bestower of many gifts, /
O Demetrius, thou favorite of Christ, ///
For thou dost fulfill all our pious petitions.

Verse: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

O blessèd martyr Demetrius, /
Accept our pious offerings, /
These sweet hymns of praise in honor of thy sufferings, ///
And thanksgiving for thy gracious blessings.

Verse: They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

O thou beauty and splendor of the martyrs, /
And thou protector of kings, /
Accept the praises of those who lovingly glorify thee.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O marvelous wonder! /
The Virgin remained virgin after giving birth to God the Word, /
Who hath taken human nature upon Himself ///
And appeared in the flesh for our sake!

The Troparion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius /
Thou wast given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers /
And an invincible soldier of Christ, /
As thou didst inspire Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyæus ///
So intercede with Christ God that He may grant us great mercy.

Glory..., now and ever..., the Troparion of the Earthquake, in Tone 8:

O Thou who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, /
Deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. /
Send down upon us Thine abundant mercies through the intercessions of the
Theotokos ///
For Thou art the only Lover of mankind.

Great Vespers

After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Antiphon.

At “Lord, I call...,” 8 stichera:

These 4 stichera, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “When from the tree....”*

O glorious martyr Demetrius, /
Thou art a radiant star illumining thy native land /
Protecting her from the assaults of her enemies /
Delivering her from every storm and affliction. /
Therefore, she joyously offers thee praise, O blessed one, /
By keeping thy feast on this day every year ///
Praising the Lord with faith and love who hath so glorified thee. *(twice)*

O passion-bearing martyr of Christ /
Like the sun thou dost illumine the world with the rays of thy miracles. /
Therefore, on this day we celebrate thy holy memory /
And delight in all thy wonders, O blessed one, /
Keeping thy sacred festival with faith. /
And as thou hast great boldness before the Lord ///
Entreat Him to save us, thy servants, from every misfortune and calamity.

Thy side was pierced by spears for the sake of the Savior, /
Whose side was pierced for our sake upon the Cross, /
For with love didst thou emulate Him in thy suffering, /
O passion-bearing Demetrius, /
Revealing to all the victorious power of thy witness for Christ: /
Casting down the tormenting oppressor ///
Through thine invincible witness, O martyr of Christ.

And these 4 stichera, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

O most glorious wonder! /
Heaven and earth joyfully shine forth today. /
Praising the memory of the martyr Demetrius
Behold, he is crowned with honor by the angels! /
And he receives the praise of men. /
See how he suffered! See how well he fought the fight! ///
Casting down the evil enemy in victory for Christ. *(twice)*

O most glorious wonder! /
Demetrius enlightens all the ends of the earth /

With the rays of his miracles, /
 And he himself is illumined by the never-setting Light /
 And delights in its eternal radiance. /
 The clouds of barbarity are dispelled by his brightness; ///
 All infirmities are driven away and the demons are vanquished.

O most glorious wonder! /
 The thrice-blessèd Demetrius, /
 Who for the sake of Christ was pierced by the spear, /
 Now slays the enemy with a two-edged sword, /
 Cutting down the arrogance of the adversary /
 And destroying the fierce assaults of the demons. /
 To him let us cry aloud: O holy Demetrius, ///
 Ever protect us who faithfully honor the memory with love

Glory..., in Tone 6: (*By the Emperor, Leo of Byzantium*)

Come, all ye that love the feasts of the Church /
 And let us assemble today /
 At the universal festival of the passion-bearer Demetrius. /
 Let us all celebrate his memory and cry aloud: /
 Rejoice, for rending the robe of impiety with faith /
 And clothing thyself with the courage of the Spirit! /
 Rejoice, for casting down the schemes of the enemy /
 By the power given thee by the One true God! /
 Rejoice, for when thy body was pierced by the spear /
 Thou didst spiritually emulate for us Christ's holy Passion. /
 Implore Him then, O Demetrius, thou adornment of the martyrs, /
 That we be delivered from all visible and invisible enemies ///
 And that our souls may be saved.

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

Who will not bless thee, O Most Holy Virgin? /
 Who will not sing of thy most pure child-bearing? /
 The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father, /
 But from thee He was ineffably incarnate; /
 God by nature, yet man for our sake; /
 Not two persons, but one in two natures. /
 Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessèd Lady ///
 To have mercy on our souls.

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 Prophecy of Isaiah (Composite 16. Isa. 63:15-64:5,8-9):

^{63:15}**L**ook down from heaven and behold from Thy holy habitation and Thy glory. Where is Thy zeal and Thy strength; where is the abundance of Thy mercy and compassion that Thou hast withholden Thyself from us? ¹⁶For Thou art our Father, for Abraham knew us not, and Israel acknowledged us not; yet do thou, O Lord, our Father, deliver us; Thy name hath been upon us from of old. ¹⁷O Lord, why hast Thou made us to err from Thy way and hardened our heart that we should not fear Thee? Return for Thy servants' sake, for the sake of the tribes of Thine inheritance, ¹⁸that in but a little while we may inherit Thy holy mountain. ¹⁹We are become as at the beginning, when Thou didst not bear rule over us, neither was Thy name called upon us. ^{64:1} If Thou shouldest open the heaven, trembling shall take hold upon the mountains of Thee, and they shall melt ²as wax melts

before the fire. And fire shall burn up the enemies, and the name of the Lord shall be manifest among the adversaries; the nations shall be troubled at Thy presence. ³Whensoever Thou shalt do glorious things, trembling from Thee shall take hold upon the mountains. ⁴From of old have we not heard, neither have our eyes seen a God beside Thee and Thy works, which Thou shalt perform unto them that wait for Thy mercy. ⁵For He shall meet them that work righteousness, and they shall remember Thy ways. Behold, Thou wast wroth, and we sinned; therefore have we erred.... ⁸But now, O Lord, Thou art our Father, and we are clay; we are all the work of Thine hands. ⁹Be not sore wroth with us, neither remember Thou our sins forever. And now look Thou upon us, for we are all Thy people.

The Reading from the Prophecy of Jeremiah (2:2-12):

[And the Word of the Lord came unto me, saying] ²...Thus saith the Lord: 'I do remember the mercy of thy youth and the love of thy growing, in following the Holy One of Israel,' saith the Lord. ³'Israel was holy unto the Lord, the first-fruits of his increase; all that devour him shall offend; evils shall come upon them,' saith the Lord. ⁴Hear

ye the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus saith the Lord: "What transgression have your fathers found in Me that they are gone far from Me and have walked after vanities and are become vain? ⁶Neither said they, 'Where is the Lord that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that guided us

in the wilderness, in a land boundless and untrodden, in a land that no man passed through, and where no son of man dwelt?’ ⁷And I brought you into Carmel to eat the fruits thereof and the goodness thereof, but ye entered in and defiled My land and made Mine inheritance an abomination. ⁸The priests said not, ‘Where is the Lord?’ And they that handled the law knew Me not; the pastors also were ungodly toward Me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after that which did not profit.

⁹Wherefore I will yet plead with you,” saith the Lord, “and with your children’s children will I plead. ¹⁰For pass over to the isles of Chettim, and see, and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if such things are come to pass. ¹¹Will the nations change their gods? And these are no gods. But My people have changed their glory for one wherefrom they shall not profit. ¹²The heaven was astonished at this and trembled greatly over it,” saith the Lord.

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

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

of wickedness obscures that which is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. ¹³Being so perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; ¹⁴for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore He took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. ¹⁵Yet 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 Litya, the stichera of the Temple, and these of the Saint, in Tone 1: (By Ven. George the Sykeiote):

Rejoice, O city of Thessalonica /
Sing praises and make glad, adorning thyself with faith /
For thou holdest a great treasure in thy bosom — /
The glorious passion-bearing Demetrius, the martyr for the truth. /
Delight in his miracles and in the healings they accomplish! /
Behold how he strikes down the bold assaults of the foreign enemy! /
And with thankfulness, let us cry out to the Savior: ///
O Lord, glory to Thee!

(By Anatolius):

Let us brighten this day with beautiful hymns /

And let us proclaim abroad the great accomplishments /
Of the all-praised and great martyr Demetrius, /
For courageously he turned back the assaults of the demons: /
He steadfastly endured in the arena /
And he was taken away to heaven in victory, ///
Praying to the Savior that He may save our souls.

Another, in Tone 2: (By Germanus):

O wise Demetrius, /
Christ God hath set thy blameless soul in the dwellings on high /
For thou wast a champion of the Holy Trinity /
And, with unbreakable courage, thou didst suffer in the arena; /
Being pierced in thy body, O all-honorable one, /
Emulating Him who was pierced on the Tree for the salvation of all, /
Thou didst receive the gift of working miracles, /
By which thou dost richly bestowing healings to all. /
Therefore, we celebrate thy martyrdom on this day ///
Rightly glorifying the Lord who hath so glorified thee.

Glory..., in Tone 5: To the melody "Let us proclaim abroad...."

Let us assemble with faith and love, /
Let us celebrate this festival and clap our hands for joy, /
In honor of our great champion, Demetrius. /
Behold, the legions of heaven also rejoice today, /
For he was pierced by a spear for the sake of our King and Lord /
Who was pierced for our sake upon the Cross, /
And destroyed Lyæus together with his lecherous pride. /
The earth and sea both wonder at the appearance of this great luminary; /
The young rightly rejoice for he is an example to the youth, /
To the old he is a pillar of support, to the poor, a source of riches, /
To the pilgrims, a shelter, to soldiers, a fellow warrior, /
A fellow traveler with those who sail across the depths of the sea, /
To all, he is a firm and steadfast intercessor! /
Together with Thessalonica, let us all cry aloud with faith: /
O most glorious Demetrius, deliver us from every sorrow and need, ///
And through thy prayers save us, thy servants.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (by the Patriarch, Germanus)

Come, let us raise our horn, /

For the Virgin Mother and Queen of all /
 Hath bowed down from heaven to bless all those who sing her praises. /
 Come, all ye faithful assembled together, and let us extol her in song, /
 For she gave birth to the King of all /
 Who in His love for mankind destroyed the power of death, /
 Come, all ye pastors and teachers, and honor the most pure Mother of the
 Good Pastor: /
 For she is the golden lamp and the Light-bearing cloud, /
 The second heaven and the tablet of stone, /
 The golden jar of manna and the fiery throne of God, /
 The unopened gate of the Word, the refuge of all Christians. /
Come, let us praise her and let us cry aloud to the palace of the Word: /
 Make us worthy to humbly attain the heavenly kingdom ///
 For nothing is impossible through thy holy intercessions.

At the Aposticha, these stichera, of the Earthquake, in Tone 2: (By Symeon of the Wonderful Mountain)

When the earth is troubled in fear of Thy rage /
 The hills and mountains are shaken /
 But look down upon us with an eye of compassion, /
 And be not wroth with us in thine anger; /
 But me merciful toward the work of Thy hands, /
 And deliver us from the terror of the quaking of the earth ///
 As thou art good and lovest mankind.

Verse: He looks on the earth and it trembles.

Fearful art Thou, O Lord, and who can resist Thy wrath? /
 Or who can entreat or supplicate Thee, O Good One, /
 On behalf of the people who have sinned against Thee and are in despair? /
 The hosts of heaven, the angels, principalities, powers, and the thrones, /
 The dominions, the cherubīm, and the seraphīm cry out to Thee on our behalf: /
 Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord: /
 Do not despise the work of Thy hands, ///
 And in Thy compassion save Thy beleaguered people.

Verse: Thou hast made the earth to tremble, Thou hast broken it.

The Ninevites, because of their offenses, /
 Heard the threat of their destruction by an earthquake; /
 Yet through the mediating sign of Jonah emerging from the belly of the whale /

They cried out in repentance to Thee. /
And Thou didst accept their cry /
And took pity on Thy people, their babes and cattle /
So, take pity on us, relieve our punishment and save us ///
For the sake of Thine own third-day Resurrection

Glory..., in Tone 8: (By Anatolius)

O ever-mem'rable Demetrius, /
Thy most pure and blessed soul /
Resides now in the heavenly Jerusalem, /
Whose walls are adorned by the hand of the unseen God. /
While thine all-honorable and valiant body lies at rest in its temple on earth, /
An inviolate treasury of miracles and a remedy for diseases, /
From which we draw all manner of healings. /
Therefore, we implore thee, O greatly-praised one, /
Keep this city which magnifies thee /
From the assaults of the adversaries, ///
For thou hast boldness before Christ, who hath so glorified thee.

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

O Virgin unwedded, O Mother of God on high /
Thou hast ineffable conceived God in the flesh /
And being beyond reproach, thou hast granted us all purification of our
transgressions. /
Accept the supplications of thy servants; /
And do thou, who now receivest our entreaties, ///
Pray for us all to be saved.

After the blessing of the loaves, the Troparion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius /
Thou wast given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers /
And an invincible soldier of Christ, /
As thou didst inspire Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyæus ///
So intercede with Christ God that He may grant us great mercy. (twice)

Now and ever..., Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos....

Matins

At “God is the Lord...,” the Troparia:

The Troparion of the Earthquake, in Tone 8:

O Thou who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, /
Deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. /
Send down upon us Thine abundant mercies through the intercessions of the
Theotokos ///
For Thou art the only Lover of mankind. *(twice)*

Glory..., that of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius *[see above]*

Now and ever..., that of the Earthquake:

O Thou who lookest upon the earth.... *[see above]*

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Thou hast appeared today...."*

Piously and devoutly we celebrate today /
The feast of the passion-bearer Demetrius ///
For he ceaselessly prays Christ to grant peace unto all and great mercy. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

Let us bless the Theotokos, O ye faithful, /
Our speedy deliverance in time of trouble and misfortune, /
And our helper and fervent intercessor before God, ///
For through her we have been delivered from corruption.

After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Quickly go before...."*

Today the Church of Christ celebrates thy memory /
O glorious martyr Demetrius, /
And she gathers the faithful to praise thee worthily /
As a true warrior and vanquisher of the enemy. /
Therefore, through thy prayers, deliver us from every trial and temptation, ///
O divinely-wise one. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O Mother of God, we praise thee, /
And we glorify thine ineffable birthgiving, O Bride of God, /
Through which we are delivered from the deceit of the enemy /
And from every misfortune. /

Therefore, we faithfully cry to thee, O all-praised one ///
Have mercy upon thy flock, O Sovereign Lady Theotokos!

Polyeley and Magnification:

We magnify thee, O holy Greatmartyr and victory-bearer Demetrius, and we honor thy precious sufferings which thou didst endure for Christ.

Selected Psalm verses:

God is our refuge and our strength.

Our help in the afflictions that come heavily upon us.

Therefore we shall not fear, though the earth be troubled and shaken.

After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “of Wisdom....”*

Thou dost illumine and enlighten all the ends of the earth /
With the rays of thy miracles, /
And like a bright and luminous star; /
Thou dost gladden all souls by causing infirmities to cease /
With the fragrance of paradise; /
Therefore, we rightfully praise thee, O blessed one, /
And with love, we honor thy precious memory. /
O passion-bearer Demetrius, /
Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins ///
To those who lovingly honor thy holy memory. (*twice*)

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

All generations bless thee, O Virgin, /
As she who alone amongst women /
Gavest birth to God in the flesh without seed; /
For the fire of the Godhead came to dwell in thee /
And with thy milk thou didst feed thy Creator and Lord. /
So, together with the angels we worthily glorify thee, /
And we praise thine all-holy birthgiving, and cry to thee: /
Entreat Christ God that He grants the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully honor His All-holy Nativity.

1st Antiphon of the 4th Tone (The Song of Ascents), “From my youth....”

Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:

God is wondrous in His saints, / the God of Israel. *Verse:* **T**he Lord has shown

the wonders of His will to the saints who are in His land.

Let every breath praise the Lord!...

Gospel: (36) Matt. 10:16-22.

After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron, of the Saint, Tone 6:

Come, all ye that love the feasts of the Church /
And let us assemble today /
At the universal festival of the passion-bearer Demetrius. /
Let us all celebrate his memory and cry aloud: /
Rejoice, for rending the robe of impiety with faith /
And clothing thyself with the courage of the Spirit! /
Rejoice, for casting down the schemes of the enemy /
By the power given thee by the One true God! /
Rejoice, for when thy body was pierced by the spear /
Thou didst spiritually emulate for us Christ's holy Passion. /
Implore Him then, O Demetrius, thou adornment of the martyrs, /
That we be delivered from all visible and invisible enemies ///
And that our souls may be saved.

Three Canons:

One of the Earthquake, with six Troparia including the Irmos, and two of the Greatmartyr Demetrius, with four Troparia each.

Ode 1

The Canon of the Earthquake, in Tone 6

having the acrostic, "O Christ, quickly put an end to the quaking of the earth," the composition of Joseph.

Irmos: *When Israel passed on foot over the deep as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud: Let us sing to God a song of victory!*

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Thou hast delivered us from Thy dreadful wrath, O Lord, and hast not toppled all our handiwork to the ground. Therefore, with thanksgiving we glorify Thee.

Thou hast shaken the whole earth like a dry leaf, O Master, confirming the faithful in the fear of Thee. Therefore, we rejoice at receiving thine emending lessons, O Lord.

Deliver us all from the quaking of the earth that weighs down so heavily upon us, O Lord, and grant not that we, Thine inheritance, which hath so angered Thee by our many evils, may not utterly be destroyed.

Refrain: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Theotokion: **W**e, thy servants, cry out to thee, O Mother of God: Rescue us from the most terrible quaking of the earth and from corruption, and mercifully show forth thy mercies upon this city and its people.

First Canon of St. Demetrius, in Tone 6

having the acrostic, "I cry out to the right-victorious Demetrius," the composition of Theophanes.

Irmos: In days of old Israel crossed the depths of the Red Sea with dry-shod feet, and vanquished the power of Amalek in the wilderness by Moses' arms upraised in the form of the Cross.

Refrain: Holy greatmartyr Demetrius, pray to God for us!

Adorned with the divine crown of martyrdom, thou dost rejoice in the presence of God, shining with the radiance of His splendor, O right wondrous greatmartyr Demetrius.

The Master hath received thee as a witness to the truth, who struggled patiently to the shedding of thy blood, and who steadfastly opposed the assaults of the tyrants, O blessed one.

Being strengthened with divine grace and the power which passeth all understanding, thou didst cast the author of evil down to the ground, O Demetrius, slaying him with the spear of thy martyrdom, O blessed one.

Theotokion: **H**e, who as God was begotten without a mother, hast come down to dwell among us receiving flesh from thee without a father, surpassing all human understanding, O all-praised Theotokos.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius, in Tone 8

having the acrostic, "I honor the myrrhbearing grace of Demetrius," the composition of George of Skilitsa.

Irmos: The staff of Moses performed miracles, striking the sea like the Cross, submerging Pharaoh with his chariots, saving the Israelites in their flight as they sang a song of victory.

O Demetrius, thou flowing wellspring of fragrant and precious myrrh, that washes away the filth of the passions from my heart, and fills me with the fragrance of

Christ; fill thou my mind with the blessings, that through the exercise of the virtues, I may praise thy divine grace.

As rivers of living water flow from the midst of the faithful, as sayeth the word of God, so do the springs of thy myrrh ceaselessly pour forth, gladdening the city of God with their streams, and glorifying thy courage, O greatmartyr Demetrius.

As once of old the staff of Moses, striking the rock in the desert land, caused the streams of water to gush forth, so thy body, O Demetrius, pierced by a spear, hath gushed forth as a wellspring of myrrh, thus refreshing the new Israel.

O Demetrius, thou hast received a reward for the wounds of thy martyrdom, the likes of which no one has ever seen nor heard, for now, thou dost pour forth a river of myrrh, the reward of purity, upon the ends of the earth, washing away the passions of our souls.

Theotokion: **T**he Word of God, having found thee to be an undefiled dwelling place, O all-pure Lady, made His abode in thy womb; and having anointed, with His divinity, the flesh which He took from thee, came forth with both natures as one, anointing Himself with the chrism of Myrrh, for Christ is both God and man.

Katavasia: I shall open my mouth....

Ode 3

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: **T**here is none as holy as Thou, O Lord my God, who hast exalted the power of Thy faithful, O Blessèd One, and hast established us upon the rock of thy confession.

The earth suffers pain and is sore wounded because our evil ways have provoked Thine anger against us, O compassionate King of all. But take pity on us, Thy servants, O Master.

Having shaken the earth, Thou hast made it firm again, O Lord; chastened and cleansed our infirmities, confirming us in the divine fear of Thee, O Most blessèd Lord.

Come, O ye faithful, and let us flee from sin which hath given birth to destructive earthquakes, unbearable suffering, and the bitterness of death; and let us run instead to God bringing Him the pleasing offering of our repentance.

Theotokion: **O** only pure and gracious Theotokos, we earnestly beseech thee: entreat the supremely good Word that we may all be delivered from the wrathful quaking of the earth.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *The Church rejoices in Thee, O Christ, and it cries aloud: Thou art my strength, O Lord, my refuge, and confirmation!*

Thou didst disregard the tyrant's command for thou didst honor the word of God above all, O passion-bearer Demetrius.

Thou didst appear like a splendid candlestick shining with divine light from within the sanctuary of martyrdom, O spiritual champion and greatmartyr Demetrius.

Thy city, Thessalonica, rejoices greatly, for it hath acquired thee as a sacred treasure and a wondrous and holy fountain of healings.

Theotokion: **O** most pure Lady, heal the corrupted image of us who were born on earth, for the Lover of mankind clothed Himself with flesh that was taken from thee, yet remained God as He was before.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *O Lord, Creator of the vault of heaven and founder of the Church, strengthen me in Thy love, for Thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful, O Thou who lovest mankind.*

Begotten from on high by God, thou art an heir of divine blessings, O Demetrius, for thou wast anointed by Him as a co-heir with Christ, with whom thou dost now reign forever, as the testimony of thy myrrh bears witness.

Planted by the flowing waters like the tree spoken of by David, O glorious one, thou didst put forth the great fruit of martyrdom, and hast become a wellspring of myrrh which now flows to the very ends of the earth.

Receiving the grace of Christ, from whose side flowed forth blood and water, O Demetrius, thou didst shed thy blood being pierced for His sake, and now thou dost pour forth fragrant myrrh like water upon our hearts.

Theotokion: **O** most pure Lady, thou art a sacred and spiritual vessel full of the fragrant myrrh of the Divine Spirit who descended upon thee. For, having given birth to God, thou hast rescued the faithful from the foul stench of the passions.

Katavasia.

The Kontakion of the Earthquake, in Tone 4:

Deliver us from the fearsome trembling of the earth, O Lord, /
And from the unbearable grief we suffer on account of our sins. /

Take pity on the Orthodox people /
Whom Thou hast purchased with Thine own Blood, O Master and Lord. /
Deliver us not unto destruction by the terrible quaking of the earth; /
For we know none other God but Thee, ///
And Thou hast promised us: "I am with you, and no one shall be against you."

The Sessional Hymn of St. Demetrius, in Tone 4: *To the melody, "Joseph was amazed"*

We praise thee as our valiant spiritual champion /
And mighty warrior of Christ, who reigneth over all: /
Rejoice, adornment and beauty of martyrs! /
Rejoice, O radiant star of the Church! /
Rejoice, O haven and refuge of those who turn to thee!
Rejoice, O glorious greatmartyr Demetrius, ///
And save all who praise thee from every affliction of the enemy. (twice)

Glory..., now and ever..., that of the Earthquake, in the same Tone: *To the melody, "As Thou wast voluntarily crucified"*

Thou didst not despise those who greatly sinned against Thee, /
But, chastising them, Thou didst mercifully give them correction. /
Thou didst cause the earth to quake by Thy divine will O longsuffering Master, /
But in Thy tender compassion Thou didst not harm all Thy servants. ///
Therefore, we sing Thy glory with thankful voices and glorify Thee in fear.

Ode 4

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: *Christ is my strength, my God and my Lord, the sacred Church sings in a manner befitting God, with a pure mind, keeping festival unto the Lord.*

Thou didst shake the earth, O Lord, desiring to strengthen with true fear all who are shaken by the assaults of the deceitful enemy, O Master.

Thou didst cause all things to quake by Thy divine command, striking terror into the hearts of those who live on earth, O Master. Therefore, still thou the waves of Thy righteous wrath, O Lord!

Thou didst terrify by the shaking of the whole earth, those who have no fear of Thee in their minds, O Thou who alone art merciful; yet, thou didst will to show forth the wonders of Thy mercies upon us all.

Theotokion: **K**nowing thee to be the living temple of God, O Virgin, we stretch

forth our hands in supplication to thee inside thy holy church. Behold our affliction, and grant us thine aid, O Lady!

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *Beholding Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, lifted up upon the Cross, the Church stood rooted in place, and rightly it cried aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!*

Beholding thee, the exalted Word of God crowned thee, the vanquisher of the deception of impiety, with glory, O Demetrius, as thou didst cry aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Having won thy victory over deception, thou didst receive a victor's crown of righteousness, O Demetrius, as thou didst cry aloud to Thy Creator: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Guided by God's life-bearing hand, thou didst attain the most tranquil haven, where, rejoicing, O Demetrius, thou dost now cry aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Theotokion: **B**eing the most sacred of all created beings, thou alone wast deemed worthy to become the Mother of God; for, having given birth to Him, thou hast illumined the world with the grace of divine knowledge.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *Thou art my strength, O Lord, my God, my power, my joy; without leaving Thy Father's bosom Thou hast visited our wretchedness. So with the Prophet Habakkuk I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy Power, O Lover of mankind!*

Having cleansed the defilement of thy flesh through the laver of regeneration, thou didst reveal thyself to be as one who preserved his purity unto the very end. Therefore, Christ transformed thy natural goodness into myrrh, as He changed the water into wine.

As the nature of fire is felt by all as it reveals its power, so thy myrrh is freely drawn by all, while remaining undiminished, O long-suffering martyr. Therefore, we bow down in worship and we piously praise God, who hath given thee such grace.

Who can render Thee worthy praise, O Christ, Thou Word of God, as we behold the grace which Thou dost bestowed upon Thy martyrs? For, Lo! The myrrh of Thy martyr Demetrius floweth forth like a fountain, and its fragrance filleth all, dispelling the gloom of wickedness.

A fountain springing up from the ground once gave thee to drink before it watered the earth; and thou, having been hidden beneath the earth, O martyr Demetrius,

hast been revealed to be a wellspring of fragrant myrrh; for, as a multitude of spears opened the veins of thy body, so now thou dost anoint with myrrh all the ends of the earth.

Theotokion: **O** Theotokos, we know thee to be the Bride and Mother of God, for the Word of God, finding thee as a fragrant rose blossoming amidst the lowly valleys of mankind, desired thy beauty and, having come forth from thee, He hath perfumed the faithful.

Ode 5

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: *With Thy divine light, O Good One, illumine, I ask Thee, the souls of those who in love keep vigil that they may know Thee, O Word of God as the true God who recalls them from the darkness of sin.*

Tremble now, O my heart, and behold the threat that hangeth over thee, and cry aloud to God: Take pity on Thy people, O Lord and Master, and in Thy compassion, cause Thy righteous wrath to cease.

The choir of the apostles entreats Thee, O Jesus: Give not this people and this habitation, which Thou hast purchased with Thine own blood, over to destruction by troubling the earth to tremble and quake!

Having turned away from Thee and departed in spirit from Thy straight ways, we have moved Thee, who art merciful and rememberest not our offenses, to displeasure, O Master. Yet be Thou merciful and compassionate unto Thy servants.

Theotokion: **N**ow hath the time for aid arrived, O pure one; now is our deliverance needed! Pray thou to thy Son and God, that He spare us sinners and deliver us from the wrath which lies so heavily upon us.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *Thou hast come, O Lord, as a light into the world, a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance those who sing to Thee with faith.*

Thou didst receive the fire of divine love in thy heart, and thus didst quench the mad and impious fire of idolatry, O Demetrius the glorious.

Thou hast revealed thyself to be one who delivereth us from every misfortune, O Demetrius, protecting by thy prayers those who praise thee with faith and love.

Those who earnestly come to thy temple in faith, O Demetrius, are quickly delivered from their infirmities and soul-destroying passions.

Theotokion: **T**he Word of God, who is one in essence with the Father, O Mother of God, hath, in a manner beyond all understanding and all telling, become thy Son, of one essence with thee.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: **Why hast Thou cast me away from Thy face, O never setting Light? Why has this dismal darkness covered me, the wretched one? Guide me in return to the light of Thy commandments, I pray Thee.**

Thou wast a vessel collecting the mercy of Him who descended like dew from the heavens; and thou didst come forth bearing mystical gifts as a wellspring of myrrh from thy tomb, O greatmartyr Demetrius.

Following the example of spiritual champions, thou didst strip thyself naked of all earthly cares, O martyr; and didst anoint thyself with the oil of grace, and, having vanquished the prince of darkness, thou didst receive the reward of bearing sweet-smelling myrrh, O Demetrius.

Thou wast shown to be a rose blooming in the midst of the Master's meadow, O Demetrius, made purple with the blood of thy torments, the wounds of lances, and all thy painful suffering.

Behold! The martyr's temple is again revealed as a divine and radiant ark bearing his tomb, filled with oil and myrrh! Around it we rejoice in spirit and sing songs of praise.

Like a new Elijah, thou wast wounded with zeal for the love of Christ, and thou didst denounce the emperor and give thyself over unto death. Yet thou dost yet live revealing thy tomb to be a wellspring and an inexhaustible vessel of oil and myrrh.

Theotokion: **O**f old thy forefather David sang and described thy mystery and thy glory as the daughter of the King, glorifying thee as the one who is most blessed among all mortals. Rejoice, thou restoration of the whole world.

Ode 6

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: **Beholding the sea of life surging high with the storm of temptations, I have fled to Thy tranquil haven and cry out unto Thee: Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One!**

As we lack the boldness to entreat Thee, O Master, we, sinners, beseech Thy chosen angels to fervent intercede for us. For their sake, take away Thy wrath from us.

Now we realize how Thou hast desired to redeem us sinners in spite of our grievous transgressions. Therefore, we gratefully glorify Thee.

Thou didst command that the foundations of the earth be shaken, so that we, the unworthy, may not cease to strive to attain the virtues of a better life and be made steadfast through the fear of Thee, O Word.

Theotokion: **O** holy bride of God, by thy maternal prayers take pity now upon thy troubled people, and quickly alter the displeasure of God toward us, we beseech thee.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *"I will sacrifice to Thee with a voice of praise, O Lord," the Church cries out to Thee, having been cleansed of the blood of demons by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.*

Having assembled together, O all-blessed one, we praise thy glorious and luminous memory which is full of wondrous gifts of the honored and All-holy Spirit.

By thy prayers loose thou the bonds of mine offenses, for, as an invincible martyr, thou hast boldness before the Master. Be thou my refuge and protection, O greatmartyr Demetrius.

Theotokion: **F**inding thee, O pure Lady, as a most pure lily of the valley among the thorns, the Bridegroom, the Word of God, made His abode within thy womb, O Theotokos.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are my transgressions, and lead me from the depths of evil, I pray Thee, and I cry: Hear me, O God of my salvation.*

Thou didst blossom spiritually like the fruitful olive tree, and wast slain by the spear-wielding soldiers; and streams of myrrh now flow from thy tomb for the comfort of the faithful, O Demetrius.

Thou didst reveal thyself like unto a bee busily pollinating all the divine virtues; and thy spotless soul is now like unto a honeycomb flowing with myrrh, delighting our souls, O blessed one.

Thou didst love Christ with all thy soul and didst follow Him to the source of myrrh's spiritual fragrance where thou didst join in a better communion; now, thou pourest forth myrrh in unceasing streams. O Demetrius.

The droplets of the blood of thy sufferings falling upon the ground have made into a wellspring of fragrant myrrh which now continually pours out for those who draw near, O Demetrius.

Drenched by the flowing river of thy blood, O wise one, thou dost richly pour forth thy myrrh for the healing of those who ask it as they earnestly approach thee, O blessed one.

Theotokion: **B**eholding the Mother of God as a golden and never-failing source of the Light, we, who have darkened our souls with a multitude of sins draw near, for she grants us illumination and drives away the darkness of evil.

Katavasia.

The Kontakion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 2:

Truly God who didst grant thee invincible power /
Hath clothed the Church in purple dyed by the streams of thy blood, /
And He protects thy city with love ///
For thou art its foundation, O Demetrius.

Ikos: Having assembled in faith let us all sing songs of praise in honor of the great Demetrius as a warrior and martyr of Christ, crying out together unto the Master and Creator of the universe: Deliver us from the quaking of the earth and from every want, O Lover of mankind, through the prayers of the Theotokos and of all Thy holy martyrs, for in Thee do we all place our trust, that we be delivered from tribulations and misfortunes, for Thou art our hope and confirmation.

Ode 7

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: *An angel made the furnace moist with dew for the godly children and the command of God consuming the Chaldeans made the tyrant cry out: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!*

Truly Thou art praised above all, O long-suffering Lord, for Thou hast not slain Thy servants by the dreadful quaking and shaking of the earth, but hast frightened them, seeking to turn us all away from evil back onto the path of life.

Let us all groan from the depths of our hearts, and let us pour forth our tears, as we beseech Christ, the merciful Master, not to destroy us by the quaking of the earth because of the multitude of our sins.

Let us all cry: Alas! And let us stretch forth our hands unto God Most High, and let us cease doing evil, for, Lo! the Savior, in His displeasure, doth shake the whole earth, wishing for us to be made steadfast in the faith.

Theotokion: **O** pure Lady, look down and save us all who sing praises unto thee, for we shall be destroyed by the wrath of God, and by His great and dreadful

anger, which hath now come down upon us because of our many sins.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *In the Persian furnace the youths, descendants of Abraham, burned with a love of piety rather than by the flames of fire, and they cried aloud saying: Blessèd art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!*

Splendidly adorned with divine grace and glory, O passion-bearing martyr, thou didst brilliantly shine forth, illumining those who cry aloud: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

Clothed in the crimson of thy blood as if in purple vesture, and holding the Cross instead of a scepter, thou dost now reign together with Christ, O glorious martyr Demetrius, as thou dost cry aloud: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

Theotokion: **O** exceedingly glorious and radiant Mother of God: protect all who honor thee as the Theotokos, for blessed art thou among women, O all-immaculate Lady.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *The Hebrew children in the furnace boldly trampled upon the flame, and they changed the fire into dew as they cried aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers.*

Isaiah the prophet commanded the thirsting to draw forth water, O Demetrius, and mystically beholding thy tomb, he now cries aloud: “Come ye to the wellspring of myrrh and draw forth from it salvation!”

Thou wast born of earth and hast made thine abode in the land of the meek, where the waters of sweetness are found; and having drunk thy fill, thou dost now pour forth an ever-flowing wellspring of myrrh, O Demetrius.

Thou didst grow like the branch of a vine, remaining joined to God, without ever being cut off, O Demetrius, and being filled with its ineffable vitality, thou dost now pour forth myrrh in streams upon us all.

O, thy new and courageous struggles! O, the dreadful sufferings of thy martyrdom! For, accepting the beads of sweat which thou didst pour for Him, Christ hath rewarded thee by making thee to be a wellspring of myrrh, O blessed one.

The streams of thy myrrh, O Demetrius, have spread out like a great sea of miracles healing all the infirmities of our souls and bodies, and calming every tempest of temptation.

Theotokion: **T**hou didst nourish with thy milk thy God, who was born of thee in the flesh, that He might loosen the affliction of Adam in Hades, who ate of the tree of knowledge and transgressed the commandment of God.

Ode 8

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: **O**ut of the flames Thou didst drop dew on the godly ones, and with water didst kindle the sacrifice of the righteous one, for Thou doest all things as Thou willest, O Christ; we exalt thee throughout all ages!

When this, Thy righteous wrath, descended upon us, O Lover of mankind, we were confounded and seized by boundless despair, for we beheld Thy great displeasure with us.

Come, O ye faithful, and let us stretch forth our hands and direct our gaze toward our Master, for only He can save us, and let us cry out: O Christ, avert Thine anger quickly from us, as Thou art the Lover of mankind.

The legions of angels, and the companies of martyrs, prophets and apostles, and the holy choir of the venerable saints and hierarchs entreat Thee, O Master: Spare Thy lowly people!

O Compassionate Lord, who knowest our weaknesses, how easily we fall, and all that is uncorrected within us: Let Thine anger abate; calm this turmoil, and in Thy great mercy, spare the world.

Theotokion: **O** merciful Theotokos, who hast given birth to the merciful Savior, behold the affliction and the groaning of thy people, and hasten thou to offer thy supplication, that He have pity on us all.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: **S**tretching forth his hands, Daniel the prophet closed the mouths of the lions in the pit; and the young lovers of piety, girded with strength, quenched the power of the fire crying out: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Thou didst eclipse the wrath of the enemy, O glorious one, having arrayed thyself for battle with the indelible power of Christ, and as a victor thou didst cry aloud, O martyr Demetrius: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Having shown the steadfastness of the martyrs, thou didst inherit the renown of the martyrs, O martyr, and being cleansed in the holy laver of suffering and not defiled by any further attacks of sin; and, then being pierced by a spear, thou didst cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

The multitude of thy miracles and the gifts given to thee by Christ, surpass all understanding, and are evident to all, O glorious one; and the multitude of thy healings, which transcend all telling, clearly proclaim thy grace unto us all who cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Theotokion: **L**et us hymn the all-pure Theotokos, who, alone among all generations, is a Virgin Mother; for she is the mediatrix of our salvation, in that she hath given birth to the Word, the Redeemer of the world, to whom we cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: **The Chaldean torturer became enraged; he ordered the furnace to be heated seven-fold; but seeing the godly youths saved by a great might, he sang to the Creator and Redeemer: Bless Him, O you children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him, O ye people, throughout all ages.**

May God reveal thee to those who are in this world, O Demetrius, as one who hath kept the lamp of thy soul alight, ever filled with the oil of good works. Doors, as of a chamber, have been opened unto thee, and He showeth thee to be an ever-flowing wellspring of divine myrrh, imparting grace to all as the reward of thy purity.

Not of blood, nor of the passions of the flesh, O Demetrius, wast thou born, as the Gospel saith, but of God; for thou dost honor the incarnate God, and zealously exhausting thyself for His sake, thou didst receive wondrous grace from on high, and dost now pour forth holy myrrh that perfumes all souls.

Thou art revealed to be a living ladder firmly anchored to the ground by pillar of flesh, but reaching up unto the heavens, for thou wast enriched by God, who was established within thee, O greatmartyr; and having been shown to be a pillar anointed with the oil of martyrdom, thou dost now pour forth a wellspring of divine myrrh upon those who approach thee with faith.

David once sang prophetically, O Demetrius, describing thee as the river of God filled with ever-flowing waters; for, behold! the flow of thy myrrh too, is inexhaustible. Therefore, the waters of all the rivers of the earth lift up their voices and clap their hands to the glory of God, who hath so glorified thee by all of these things.

Thou alone art the thrice-holy Lord, O Almighty God, of whom the suffering martyr Demetrius spoke when locked in prison; and after having slain the noetic serpent with a tangible lash, and casting down the tyranny of Lyæus by the hand of divine Nestor; and being pierced by a spear, he now pours forth myrrh unto all from his tomb.

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Theotokion: Rejoice, O Lady, for in place of Adam, we now have the Lord; in place of Eve, we now have thee, O most pure Lady; instead of the lying serpent, we now have Gabriel; instead of the tree; we have the Cross; instead of Eden, we have the garden of the tomb! Rejoice, O Lady, for instead of grief, we now have joy; the spear instead of the fiery sword, and the purple robe instead of the fig leaves of Eden. Therefore, we sing this song of praise to thee, O Maiden, for thou art the cause of all these things.

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Katavasia.

The Magnificat is sung.

Ode 9

The Canon of the Earthquake

Irmos: *It is not possible for men to see God upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze, but through thee, O all-pure one, was the Word incarnate revealed unto men, whom magnifying together with the heavenly hosts, we call thee blessed!*

Behold, while it is we who have sinned, but not the earth, it is the earth that suffers dreadfully; for the Lover of mankind, makes it to quake, thus chastising us! Let us come to our senses and look for our salvation.

As Thou art the Lord of every time and season, O Master, could lay low Thy servants in the twinkling of an eye, yet Thou didst restrain Thyself in Thy great compassion. And we, who have no excuse for our behavior, give Thee thanks, O Thou who alone lovest mankind.

O Christ, deliver this, thy habitation, and every city and land, from earthquake, the sword, the bitterness of bondage, invasion, defeat, famine, pestilence, and every other affliction for the sake of us who hymn Thee in faith.

The earth cries out groaning: Why do you pollute me with your many evils? For, in sparing you, the Master wounds me alone. Come, then, to your senses, and beseech God to have mercy by your repentance!

Theotokion: **O** Virgin, who in thy birthgiving suffered no corruption, rescue us now from corruption and from grievous earthquakes and tribulations, by assuaging the Master's displeasure by thy maternal intercession, O divinely joyous one.

First Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *Christ, the Chief cornerstone not cut by human hands, who united two different natures was cut from thee, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin. Therefore, with joy we magnify thee, O Theotokos!*

Loose the bonds of the transgressions of those who hymn thee, O passion-bearer; put an end to the assaults of the passions; cause the tumult of heresies to cease, and calm the tempest of temptations by thy prayers.

O divinely-crowned martyr Demetrius, guide thou thy faithful and believing flock onto the straight path toward the haven of salvation, the pasture of eternity, and to the kingdom of heaven.

O martyr Demetrius, entreat the Lord, the Bestower of life and the King of hosts, that those who sing thy praises may obtain crowns of glory and the kingdom of heaven.

Theotokion: **T**rusting in thee, O Virgin, all we, the faithful, honor thee as the foundation, the wellspring and the cause of incorruption; for thou hast given birth to the Triune Fountain of immortality.

Second Canon of St. Demetrius

Irmos: *The heavens were filled with fear, the ends of the earth were filled with awe, for God revealed Himself in the flesh to men; and thy womb became more spacious than the heavens, so the leaders of men and angels magnify thee, O Theotokos!*

Thy soul is like an alabaster vessel filled with the divine myrrh of virtue, and Christ bowed His head toward thee, O martyr; for thy calm and peaceful life shone with the brilliance of purity. Therefore, thou wast blessed and filled with the grace to pour forth myrrh upon all the ends of the earth.

Behold now the radiant and indescribable rewards that await thee! Behold the wellspring of ever-flowing myrrh, O thou glorious witness for Christ! And, standing now before God with the boldness of a martyr, entreat thou victory for all Orthodox Christians over their adversaries.

With the victorious sign of the Cross thou didst vanquish the savagery of Lyæus, setting over him thy fellow martyr Nestor. And now, O greatmartyr Demetrius, bring thou all the enemies of holy Orthodoxy to submission.

We, who have come with fervent love in our hearts to the shrine of thy myrrh-bearing relics, O martyr of Christ, entreat thee to deliver us from the soul-destroying action of our deeds and from the stench of our passions by thy prayerful intercessions; and to present our repentance as a sweet fragrance to the Lord.

We celebrate a day of spiritual joy, O Demetrius, beholding the ceaseless flowing of thy myrrh. Drive away the gloom of the passions as one filled with divine light, and grant that we may walk upright, as in the daylight, and behold the unapproachable light of God.

Theotokion: **Thou**, O all-pure Lady, art the golden dove which bore the Word of God like an olive branch, anointing thy flesh with the oil of divinity; and the greatmartyr, who had accepted Him into the reliquary of his heart, pours forth myrrh from his tomb, thus anointing the faces of all the faithful.

Exapostilarion of the Saint:

Thou didst arm Nestor with the Cross, O Demetrius, through which he overthrew the pride of Lyæus in the arena; and like Christ, thy side was pierced with a spear: with it protect thy faithful flock from harm. *(twice)*

Glory..., Now and ever:

O Lord, who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake through the prayers of the Theotokos, whom Thou didst give us to be the protectress of all Christians.

At the Praises, 6 stichera of the Saint,

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

When thy side wast pierced by the spear /
Thy wound proved fatal instead to the enemy /
For thy spear killed him and made him of no effect. /
Deliver us from such malice as his, O Demetrius, /
And give us strength to withstand the torments of passions through thy holy prayers, ///
That, through the fear of God, our hearts and souls may find mercy.

Thou art a river overflowing with spiritual grace, O Demetrius, /
And we pray thee, in thy great mercy, /
That our souls may be cleansed in the streams of its waters, /
For they have been soiled by the offense of our passions, /
And that by the mystical sprinkling of grace /
We may be purified from all defilement, and delivered from every calamity ///
And from eternal torment, O holy one.

Thou didst appear as a radiant star over the earth, /
And the shining splendor of thy miracles /
Enlightens everything under the sun, O glorious Demetrius, /

Driving from our souls the gloom of darkness through thy holy prayers. /
Therefore, heal the infirmities of all who lovingly celebrate thy memory, ///
O glory and boast of the martyrs.

And these 3 stikhera, in Tone 5: To the melody, "Rejoice..."

Come to us, O martyr of Christ, /
As we implore thee to grant us thy compassionate protection, /
And deliver us from the threat of torment by the enemy, /
And from the raging madness of heresy. /
For we are naked like the prisoners, /
And being oppressed, we wander in the mountains and live in caves. /
Take pity on us, O all-praised one, and relieve our pain; /
And intercede with God, to end the storms that beset us, ///
For He grants the world great mercy.

Thou art an invincible bastion that does not fear the assault of the enemy, /
An unbreakable rampart, a fortified foundation, /
And the foe is powerless against thee and all calamities are turned away.
Thou art the defender, builder and champion of thy city, O Demetrius, /
And we beseech thee, O all-blessed one: /
Intercede with God, for we are in danger and wretchedly oppressed, ///
That He grant the world great mercy.

The assembly of the passion-bearers is gathered today, /
Each displaying the virtues /
Through which they valiantly inherited the delight of the pure and blessed life. /
Standing now among them, O Demetrius, /
Pre-eminent and glorified in thine imitation of Christ; /
For like Him, thou wast honored to be pierced with a spear. /
Beseech Him earnestly on our behalf /
That He may deliver us who honor thee /
From every sorrow and grievous affliction ///
For He grants the world great mercy.

Glory..., in Tone 4: (The composition of Andrew of Jerusalem)

Let us honor Demetrius on this, his annual celebration, /
The martyr most wise in teachings and victorious through his suffering, /
For he completed his course through the shedding of his blood, /
And shone forth upon the world with the light of his miracles; /
For he loved the Master and showed compassion on the poor, /
And he saved the people of Thessalonica from dreadful misfortunes; /
For through his spears he inherited the grace of the Savior's side /

From which Christ poured out upon us the streams of life and incorruption /
When Himself He was pierced with a spear. ///
So we glorify Christ God who through His martyr works healing for all.

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

Deliver us from every necessity, O Theotokos, /
Who gavest birth to the Creator of all, /
That we may all cry out to thee: ///
Rejoice, thou only defender of our souls.

The Great Doxology and the Dismissal.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: four from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Earthquake, and four from the Sixth Ode of the second Canon of the Greatmartyr.

1-2. The earth suffers pain and is sore wounded because our evil ways have provoked Thine anger against us, O compassionate King of all. But take pity on us, Thy servants, O Master.

3. Having shaken the earth, Thou hast made it firm again, O Lord; chastened and cleansed our infirmities, confirming us in the divine fear of Thee, O Most-blessed One.

4. Come, O ye faithful, and let us flee from sin which hath given birth to destructive earthquakes, unbearable suffering, and the bitterness of death; and let us run instead to God bringing Him the pleasing offering of our repentance.

5. Thou didst blossom spiritually like the fruitful olive tree, and wast slain by the spear-wielding soldiers; and streams of myrrh now flow from thy tomb for the comfort of the faithful, O Demetrius.

6. Thou didst reveal thyself like unto a bee busily pollinating all the divine virtues; and thy spotless soul is now like unto a honeycomb flowing with myrrh, delighting our souls, O blessed one.

7. Thou didst love Christ with all thy soul and didst follow Him to the source of myrrh's spiritual fragrance where thou didst join in a better communion; now, thou pourest forth myrrh in unceasing streams. O Demetrius.

8. Theotokion: Beholding the Mother of God as a golden and never-failing source of the Light, we, who have darkened our souls with a multitude of sins draw near, for she grants us illumination and drives away the darkness of evil.

The Troparion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 3:

O victorious Demetrius /

Thou wast given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers /

And an invincible soldier of Christ, /

As thou didst inspire Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyæus ///

So intercede with Christ God that He may grant us great mercy.

The Troparion of the Earthquake, in Tone 8:

O Thou who lookest upon the earth and makest it tremble, /

Deliver us from the fearful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. /

Send down upon us Thine abundant mercies through the intercessions of the
Theotokos ///

For Thou art the only Lover of mankind.

The Kontakion of the Earthquake, in Tone 4:

Deliver us from the fearsome trembling of the earth, O Lord, /

And from the unbearable grief we suffer on account of our sins. /

Take pity on the Orthodox people /

Whom Thou hast purchased with Thine own Blood, O Master and Lord. /

Deliver us not unto destruction by the terrible quaking of the earth; /

For we know none other God but Thee, ///

And Thou hast promised us: “I am with you, and no one shall be against you.”

The Kontakion of St. Demetrius, in Tone 2:

Truly God who didst grant thee invincible power /

Hath clothed the Church in purple dyed by the streams of thy blood, /

And He protects thy city with love ///

For thou art its foundation, O Demetrius

The Prokeimenon (Earthquake), Tone 6: O Lord, save Thy people and bless
Thine inheritance! *Verse:* To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to
me!

Another Prokeimenon (Saint), Tone 7: The righteous one shall rejoice in the
Lord and shall set his hope on Him.

The Epistles: (331-ctr) Hebrews 12:6-13, 25-27 (Earthquake), and (292) 2 Timothy
2:1-10 (Saint)

HOLY GREATMARTYR DEMETRIUS; THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE

The Alleluia (Earthquake), Tone 4: O God, Thou hast cast us off, Thou hast scattered us! *Verse:* Thou hast made the earth to tremble, Thou hast broken it: Heal its breaches, for it has been shaken.

Another Alleluia (Saint), Tone 4: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Gospels: (27) Matt. 8:23-27 (Earthquake), and (52) John 15:17-16:2 (Saint)

Communion Hymns: Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.

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