The 2nd Day of June
Our Venerable Father among the Saints, Nicephorus *(pronounced Nikíphorus)* the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople.

Vespers

At "Lord, I call...," 6 stichera,

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

We know thee, O father Ni*ki*phorus , /
As a zealous defender of the truth and confir<u>ma</u>tion of the faith, /
A <u>tea</u>cher of divine doctrine, an advocate of piety, an abode of <u>pur</u>ity, /
A chosen vessel of the sweetness of the <u>Spir</u>it, /
And a priceless treasury of <u>teach</u>ings, ///
A divinely inspired hierarch and a pillar of the <u>Church</u> of Christ

We praise thee, O wise and holy <u>hie</u>rarch, /
As the successor of the apostles and co-equal of the <u>mar</u>tyrs, /
An <u>e</u>mulator of the ascetics, the affirmation of <u>teach</u>ers,   /
A model of divine virtue and a master of the <u>my</u>steries of Christ, /
A river flowing with divine <u>wis</u>dom ///
Submerging in its flood the thoughts of blasphemers and the <u>law</u>less.

Having increased the talent of wisdom <u>gi</u>ven thee, /
O richly-bless't <u>hie</u>rarch, /
Thou wast vouch<u>safed</u> to enter into the <u>joy</u> of thy Lord; /
And now, being adorned with the grace of divine <u>ra</u>diance /
And shining with rays of <u>spir</u>itual light /
Thou standest at the right hand of the <u>Gi</u>ver of Life ///
Basking in the rays of His <u>bril</u>liance.

And 3 stichera, in Tone 8: *Special melody: "O most glorious wonder..."*

O ven'rable father Ni*ki*phorus, /
Thou didst enter as a <u>priest</u> of the Law,   /
Into the true, divine, and impassable <u>ta</u>bernacle <u>of</u> the Lord, /
And in emu<u>la</u>tion of Christ, /
Thou didst offer thine own blood and not that of a<u>no</u>ther /
Thereby <u>great</u>ly <u>plea</u>sing God ///
By not submitting to the vengeance of the <u>coun</u>cil.

O most <u>wise</u> father Ni*ki*phorus, /

Thou partaker of divine <u>wi</u>sdom, /
Thy words and thy <u>deeds</u> have a<u>dorn</u>ed thee /
As have thy priestly vestments and the truth of thy <u>tea</u>chings.   /
For the confession of which thou didst suffer im<u>pri</u>sonment /
Together with all the other <u>e</u>vils which be<u>fell</u> thee /
Which thou didst <u>ear</u>nestly endure ///
Through the strength of thy will, O <u>bl</u>essed one.

Thou wast <u>tru</u>ly an instrument of the <u>Spi</u>rit /
Sounding forth from above with the music of di<u>vi</u>nity /
Proclaiming the ineffable <u>my</u>stery of the <u>Sa</u>vior; /
Thou didst clearly proclaim to us the incar<u>na</u>tion of the Word /
Which is truly past all reasoning and under<u>sta</u>nding   /
As a divinely-inspired trumpet, O most honored Ni*ki*phorus. /

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

<u>S</u>ave me, O most pure sovereign <u>La</u>dy, /
Who ineffably bore Christ our <u>Sa</u>vior! /
For I have thee as my invincible <u>wall</u> and pro<u>tec</u>tion; /
O mediatrix, joy and divine conso<u>la</u>tion of my soul, /
Thou alone can deliver me from the gnawing of the <u>worm</u> that never sleeps ///
And from the eternal fire, O Mother of <u>Chri</u>st God.

Or the Stavrotheotokion:
Be<u>ho</u>lding Thee, O Jesus, <u>nailed</u> to the Cross /
And accepting suffering of Thine <u>own</u> will, /
The Virgin, Thy Mother, O <u>Ma</u>ster, <u>cried</u> aloud: /
"Woe is me, O my <u>sweet</u> Child! /
How is it that Thou dost endure unjust <u>woun</u>ding, /
O Physician who healeth the in<u>fir</u>mities of <u>man</u>kind ///
And by Thy loving-kindness dost deliver all from cor<u>ru</u>ption?''

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

Troparion of St. Nicephorus, in Tone 4:

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a <u>rule</u> of faith,
A model of humility and teacher of <u>ab</u>stinence, /
So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by <u>po</u>verty; /
O holy hierarch, father Ni*ki*phorus, /
Intercede with Christ our God to <u>save</u> our souls.

Matins

The Canon of the Saint, in Tone 4.
having the acrostic: "I praise thee, the namesake of Victory, O Nicephorus,"
by Theophanes — incomplete as of 5/2013

Kontakion of St. Nicephorus, in Tone 4: *To the melody: "Thou hast appeared today…."*

O most glorious Ni*ki*phorus, /
Thou didst receive from the heavens a crown of <u>vi</u>ctory from God; ///
Save those who faithfully honor thee as a leading hierarch and <u>teac</u>her of Christ.