

## September 1

### Beginning of the Indiction, that is, the New year Commemoration of our holy Father Symeon the Stylite and his mother, Martha Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God of Miasenes

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#### Vespers

##### At Psalm 140

###### *In Tone 1*

10. We pray to the Creator today,  
with the words given us by Christ,  
who taught us to pray each day:  
Our Father who art in heaven,  
give us this day our daily bread,  
and overlook all our sins.

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8. On Mount Sinai You gave stone tablets.  
Today in Nazareth You read the prophecy,  
O Christ our God in the flesh.  
You took and opened the scroll  
to teach the people that the Scriptures  
were fulfilled in Yourself.

###### *In Tone 5*

7. O venerable Father,  
you found a beautiful ladder to heaven  
while Elias found a chariot of fire.  
He did not leave his ascent for others;  
but after death, however, you have left your pillar.  
O heavenly man and earthly angel,  
ever-watchful beacon to the whole world,  
O venerable Simeon, pray for our salvation.

6. O venerable Father,  
even if the pillar could talk,  
it would never stop proclaiming your toils, your labours, and you weeping.  
Even though it held you,  
it was sustained by your tears, watered as a tree.  
At your endurance the angels crowd about,  
people stand in awe and demons tremble.  
O venerable Simeon, pray for our salvation.

5. O venerable Father,  
by the might of the Holy Spirit,  
you imitated your Master,  
as on a cross you ascended the pillar.  
The Lord erased the condemnation written against us;  
you destroyed the rise of passions.  
The Lord was a lamb, and you a victim;  
the Lord was on a cross, and you on a pillar.  
O venerable Simeon, pray for our salvation.

*In Tone 2*

4. From the good root has come forth the most excellent Simeon;  
from his infancy he was nourished more on grace than on milk.  
In his body he dwelt upon the high place,  
but in his spirit he was raised even higher to God.  
Through his virtues he edified his lofty dwelling.  
He journeyed in high places with the powers of heaven,  
and he became a dwelling place of Christ our God, the Saviour of our souls.

3. You shall be remembered forever,  
O venerable Father Simeon;  
you were pleasing to God  
in the kindness of your heart, O blessed one.  
Even if you have passed from us, O good shepherd,  
you did not leave us in spirit,  
but stand before God in love,  
and have joined the angels in heaven.  
Together with them, plead for our salvation.

2. The tomb of your relics, O blessed Father,  
is a fountain of healing,  
and your holy soul rightly rejoices with the angels.  
O venerable Father, as you have confidence before the Lord  
and have joined the angels,  
plead with Him for our salvation.

1. O God-bearing Father,  
you loved the highest knowledge  
and lived outside the world above visible things.  
You became an untarnished mirror of God,  
and ever united to the Light, you kept on receiving light,  
with clearer insight attaining blessed perfection.  
O wise Simeon, pray for our souls.

*In Tone 6, Glory...*

Divine Grace hovered over your relics, O holy Simeon.  
We will hasten towards the sweet fragrance of your miracles,  
drawing from them the healing of illnesses.  
O venerable Father, plead with Christ our God for our souls.

Now...

O eternal Word and Son,  
together with the Holy Spirit,  
Creator and Maker of all things visible and invisible,  
bless the beginning of the year,  
keep in peace all the faithful,  
through the prayers of the Theotokos and all the saints.

### **Readings**

Isaiah 61:1-9

Leviticus 26:3-24

Wisdom 4:7-15

### **Aposticha**

*In Tone 1*

We have come to the beginning of the year,  
gathering to honour these saints:  
Callista and her brothers, Evod and Hermógenes;  
Simeon, equal to the angels, and Joshua, the son of Nun;  
the seven children of Ephesus, and the forty holy women.  
O lovers of feasts, sharing in their remembrance,  
with insistence we shout:  
O Lord, bless the works of Your hands,  
and make us worthy to pass this year in spiritual progress.

*To You our praise is due in Sion, O God.*

O Christ our God, You created all things in Your wisdom,  
and brought them from nothingness into being.  
Now bless the beginning of the year  
and keep our city free from harm;  
and in Your mercy grant peace and happiness to all the faithful,  
granting to the world great mercy  
through the prayers of the Theotokos.

*In Tone 2*

*We are filled with the blessings of your house.*

You are wonderful, O God, and wondrous are Your deeds.  
Your ways are unsearchable;  
You are the Wisdom of God, perfect person and power.  
For though without beginning,  
and equal in eternity and operation,  
by Your infinite power You made Your home in our world.  
Beyond understanding and without changing Your divinity,  
You were born of a virgin mother;  
You came to seek Your creation  
which You had adorned with beauty;  
and You set the times and circumstances for our salvation.  
Therefore, we shout to You:  
O Good Master, glory to You!

*You crown the year with goodness.*

In wisdom you created all things,  
O Word of the Father before all ages;  
by Your almighty word You arranged all creation.  
Bless the beginning of the year by Your goodness,  
and through the prayers of the Theotokos, overthrow all heresy;  
for You are good and the Lover of Mankind.

*In Tone 5, Glory...*

O venerable Father,  
you found a beautiful ladder to heaven  
while Elias found a chariot of fire.  
He did not leave his ascent for others;  
but after death, however, you have left your pillar.  
O heavenly man and earthly angel,  
ever-watchful beacon to the whole world,  
O venerable Simeon, pray for our salvation.

*Now...*

O King, You are eternal and remain forever.  
Receive the petitions of us sinners as we pray for salvation.  
O Lover of Mankind,  
grant Your abundance to the earth with temperate and mild weather.  
Fight with the faithful against all enemy attacks as You helped David;  
for they have entered the tabernacle and defiled Your most holy place, O Saviour.  
But grant victory over them, O Christ our God,  
through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
for You are ever the victory and boast of orthodox Christians.

### **Troparia**

#### *In Tone 2*

O Lord, Maker of the universe, \* who alone has power over seasons and times, \* bless this year with Your bounty, preserve our country in safety, and keep Your people in peace. \*\* Save us through the prayers of the Theotokos.

#### *In Tone 1, Glory...*

You became a column of endurance and rivaled the forefathers, O holy one, \* becoming like Job in your sufferings and like Joseph in your trials, \* like the bodiless angels, though you lived in the flesh. \* O Simeon, our holy Father, \*\* intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.

#### *In Tone 7, Now...*

Rejoice, O woman full of grace, ever-virgin Mother of God, \* harbour and protectress of the human race. \* The Saviour of the universe received flesh from you, \* for you are the only one to be both mother and virgin, \* forever blessed, forever glorified. \*\* Intercede with Christ our God that He may grant peace to the whole world.