

19th Sunday after Pentecost
Octoechos Tone 2
Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus

Great Vespers

Kathisma Reading

"Blessed is the man..." is sung.

At Psalm 140

In Tone 2

10. Come, let us adore God the Word,
Who was born of the Father before all ages,
and was incarnate of the Virgin Mary;
for of His own free will He suffered the Cross
and submitted Himself to burial,
and arose from the dead to save me, a sinful one.

9. Christ our Saviour cancelled the decree that was written against us,
by nailing it to the Cross;
and He abolished the dominion of Death.
Let us glorify His Resurrection on the third day.

8. Let us, together with the archangels, sing of Christ's resurrection;
for He is the Redeemer and Saviour of our souls.
He will come again in awesome glory and mighty power
to judge the world which He has fashioned.

7. Although You died and were buried,
the angel yet declared You as Master.
He said to the women: Come and see where the Lord was placed;
for He is risen as He foretold,
because He is almighty.
Therefore, we worship You, the only Immortal One,
and we beseech You to have mercy on us, O Giver of Life.

6. O Christ, You have abolished the curse of the tree by Your Cross;
You have destroyed the power of Death by Your burial,
and You enlightened the human race by Your Resurrection.
Therefore, we cry out to You:
O God and Benefactor, glory to You!

5. O Lord, the gates of death opened before You in fear,
and the gatekeepers of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of You.
You smashed the gates of brass and crushed the posts of iron.
Then You burst our chains asunder,
and led us out from the darkness, away from the shadow of death.

4. Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord,
singing this hymn of salvation:
O Christ, You were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead;
and You now abide in the bosom of the Father.
Please cleanse us of our sins.

In Tone 1

3. Bacchus and Sergius,
the Lord of glory adorned you with gifts of healing!
He showed you forth in glory as wonder-workers in the world:
Through you He continues to heal the sick.
Therefore intercede with Him that peace and great mercy
may be granted to our souls.

2. Bacchus and Sergius,
after your struggle on this earth,
you rejoice together in the heavens,
for with the angels you ever stand before the holy Trinity.
You delight in great glory.
Therefore intercede with Him that peace and great mercy
may be granted to our souls.

1. Bacchus and Sergius,
both of you destroyed the insolence of the enemy.
With power, you drove away the deadly deceit of idols,
preaching Christ the King.
Therefore intercede with Him that peace and great mercy
may be granted to our souls.

In Tone 4, Glory...

The bright radiance of the martyrs Sergius and Bacchus
struck down the insolence of tyrants,
and made powerless the deceit of idols.
They spoke sublimely, proclaiming the perfect mystery of the knowledge of God.
Christ, their Lawgiver, You oversaw their contest
and granted them their crowns:
Grant that by their prayers we may be crowned with strength

against visible and invisible powers!

In Tone 2, Now...

O Virgin, the shadow of the Law passed away
with the realization of grace.
For as the bush had burned without being consumed,
so you gave birth while a virgin
and you remained a virgin.
Instead of the pillar of fire there rose the Sun of Justice.
Instead of Moses, Christ God came forth,
the Saviour of our souls.

Aposticha

In Tone 2

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,
has enlightened the whole universe;
and, through it, You call back to Yourself all Creation.
Almighty God, glory to You!

The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty. Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.

By the wood of Your Cross, O Saviour,
You have abolished the curse of the tree;
by Your burial You have destroyed the power of death;
and by Your Resurrection You enlightened the human race.
We, therefore, cry out to You:
O Christ our God, Giver of Life, glory to You!

For He has made the world firm, which shall not be moved.

O Christ, when You were nailed to the Cross,
the distorted nature of creation was made manifest.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity by piercing Your side with a lance,
and the people showed their ignorance of Your power
by asking that Your tomb be sealed.
But, in Your mercy, You accepted burial
and then arose on the third day.
O Lord, glory to You!

Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.

O Christ, Giver of Life,

You freely endured the Passion for the sake of mortals.
In Your power You descended into Hades;
and snatching, as from a mighty monster, the souls of those who awaited Your coming,
You placed them in Paradise.
Therefore, show Your great mercy to us who glorify Your Resurrection,
and cleanse our souls.

In Tone 8, Glory...

The army of the martyrs of Christ
has been strengthened against the enemy.
Among them Sergius and Bacchus shine like stars:
The all glorious and excellent athletes!
The evil host of demons was forced into flight by them;
by them tyrants were amazed and angels astonished,
beholding the bodiless enemy trampled underfoot by bodily men!
Celebrating their feast with universal joy,
the Church of the faithful cries out:
As You bound the mighty one by the weakness of the flesh;
through the prayers of Your saints, save our souls!

Now...

O Virgin, You have never known wedlock,
Yet You conceived God in the flesh
in a manner which words can never describe.
You thus became the Mother of God on high.
O Immaculate Lady, receive the supplication of your servants
and grant us the cleansing of our sins.
Accept now our prayers and beseech God to save all of us.

Troparia

In Tone 2

When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of
Your divinity.* When You raised the dead from the nether world,* all the powers of heaven cried
out:** "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

In Tone 4, Glory...

Your holy martyrs Sergius and Bacchus, Lord,* through their sufferings have received their
incorruptible crowns from You, our God,* for having Your strength, they laid low their
adversaries* and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.* Through their intercessions, save
our souls!

Now...

O Mother of God, the mystery hidden from all eternity* and unknown even to the angels,* was revealed through you to those on earth:* God took on our human nature* and united it to His divine nature in a perfect but unconfused union.* Then, He willingly accepted the cross for our sake* and thereby raised again the first created man,** and saved our souls from death.