

24th Sunday after Pentecost, Octoechos Tone 7

Holy Martyrs Menas of Egypt, Victor of Damascus, and Vincent of Spain

Our Venerable Father Theodore the Studite

GREAT VESPERS

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

At Psalm 140

In Tone 7

10. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,
Who destroyed the power of death
and enlightened the human race;
and let us cry out with the angels:
Glory to You, our Creator and Saviour!

9. O Saviour, for our sake You suffered crucifixion and burial;
and, as God, You destroyed death by Your death.
Therefore, we adore Your resurrection on the third day
and we sing: Glory to You, O Lord!

8. On seeing the resurrection of the Creator,
the Apostles were amazed,
and they sang an angelic hymn of praise:
This is the glory of the Church,
this is the richness of the Kingdom!
O Lord, Who suffered for our sake, glory to You!

7. O Christ, although You were taken captive by Your enemies,
I still acknowledge You as my God,
and am not ashamed of You;
I will not hide the fact that You were nailed to the Cross.
Your death is my life, almighty Lord,
and I extol Your resurrection.
O Lover of mankind, glory to You!

6. In fulfilment of the prophecy of David,
Christ revealed His majesty to His disciples in Sion.
He showed Himself to be worthy of equal praise
with His Father and the Holy Spirit;
for He existed from all eternity as God the Word, without a body;
then, out of love for mankind, He became incarnate,
and for our sake He was put to death as a man;
finally, by His own power He arose from the dead.

5. O Christ, of Your own free will, You descended into Hades;
and, as God the Lord, You destroyed death.
On the third day You arose from the dead and raised up Adam
from the bonds of Hades and corruption.
In joy he cried out and said:
Glory to Your resurrection, O Lover of mankind!

4. O Lord, You were placed in the tomb as one sleeping,
and on the third day You arose in might and power.
You raised up Adam from the corruption of death,
for You alone are almighty.

In Tone 8

3. Father Theodore,
true to your name: "the gift of God,"
you have given the gifts you received beyond understanding
to those who love you in faith!
You increased your talent, blessed one,
and heard the voice of God calling you to His bridal chamber.
Wondrous one, you live there now by the throne of the King of all!

2. Theodore, Father of fathers,
you brought a multitude of monastics to Christ!
You were the godly cause of their salvation.
You were enlightened with true teaching!
You were revealed prophetically to be the mouth of the Lord!
As you stand now before Him wise one, ever remember us!

1. Wise initiate of sacred mysteries,
the abundant grace of the Spirit was poured forth in your mouth!
A well-spring of teaching gushed forth from there,
revealing you, Theodore, to be a champion of true worship,
a zealous bearer of the truth,
a pillar and fortress of the orthodox faith,
and a most excellent example of the monastic life, wise one!

In Tone 6, Glory...

Again the yearly memorial of the beacons of the world has dawned:
Mennas, Victor and Vincent!
They enlighten the hearts of the faithful
by their struggles for Christ and His Cross!
Therefore let us honour Christ our God in hymns,
Who has crowned them with glory and honour!

In Tone 7, Now...

Immaculate Mother of God,
you became a mother outside the laws of nature,
remaining a virgin in a way that exceeds all description
and human understanding.
The wonder of your birth-giving could not be told in human language,
for your conception of Christ blinded intelligence,
and your birth-giving exceeded understanding:
for whenever God so desires, the laws of nature are broken.
Wherefore, we all firmly believe that you are the Mother of God,
and we eagerly beseech you to intercede for the salvation of our souls.

Aposticha

In Tone 7

O Saviour of the world, You arose from the grave,
and together with Your own flesh You raised up mankind.
O Lord, glory to You!

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

Come, let us worship Christ Who arose from the dead
and enlightened all creation.
For by His resurrection on the third day,
He set us free from the oppression of Hades,
granting us life and His great mercy.

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

O Christ, Lover of mankind,
You descended into Hades and destroyed death.
Then You arose on the third day;
and, together with Yourself You lifted up all of us
who glorify Your mighty resurrection.

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

O Lord, what a fearful sight it was to see You lying in the tomb as if asleep.
Yet on the third day You arose in great power,
and at the same time You raised up Adam who joyfully cried out:
Glory to Your resurrection, O Lover of mankind!

In Tone 6, Glory...

Venerable Father,
the proclamation of your words has gone forth into all the earth!
Therefore you have found the reward of your labours in the heavens!

You destroyed the ranks of demons
and reached the rank of angels whose life you blamelessly imitate!
Since you have boldness before the Lord,
pray for peace for our souls!

Now...

Christ the Lord, our Creator and Redeemer,
came forth from your womb, O most pure Virgin.
He clothed Himself in our human flesh
to set us free from the original curse of Adam.
Therefore, O Mary, we praise you, without ceasing,
as the true Virgin Mother of God,
and we sing with the angels:
Rejoice, O Lady, advocate, protector, and salvation of our souls.

Troparia

In Tone 7

By Your cross You destroyed death;* You opened Paradise to the thief;* You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,* and charged the apostles to proclaim* that You are risen, O Christ our God,** offering great mercy to the world.

In Tone 4

O Lord, Your holy martyrs 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!

In Tone 8, Glory...

Champion of orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship, * the enlightener of the universe and the adornment of the hierarchs:* All-wise Father Theodore, your teachings have gleamed with light upon all things.* Intercede before Christ our God to save our souls!

Now...

O gracious Lord, for the sake of mankind You were born of a virgin;* through Your death on the cross You conquered death;* and through Your resurrection You revealed yourself as God.* O merciful Lord, do not disdain those whom You have created with Your own hands,* but show forth Your love for mankind.* Accept the intercession which the Mother, who bore You, makes in our behalf.** O Saviour, save Your despairing people!