

THE 28th DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS, DEMETRIUS,
METROPOLITAN OF ROSTOV, THE WONDERWORKER
AT LITTLE VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 4 Stichera of the holy hierarch, in Tone I:

Spec. Mel.: “Joy of the ranks of heaven ...”:

As thou wast faithful in a little, * O Demetrius, * the Lord set thee over many; * and thou hast entered into the joy of thy Lord, * where, standing before Him, ** thou dost pray on behalf of our souls. (Twice)

Thou didst dedicate thy childhood * to learning, * thy youth to the struggles of monasticism, * and thy manhood to the benefit of all; * wherefore we all now honor thee ** among the saints. (Twice)

Glory ..., in Tone I

As thou didst forsake the world and all the beautiful things in it, so didst thou forsake thy rule over the brethren, and didst make thine abode again in Kiev, nigh unto the cave, from whence by thy labors thou didst produce for us the pearl of the lives of the saints.

Both now ..., in Tone I:

O my brethren! * let us celebrate today a pure festival, * Let creation leap for joy, * let mankind dance, for the holy Theotokos hath called us together, * the unsullied treasury of virginity, * the rational Paradise of the second Adam, * the temple of the union of the two natures, * the solemn festival of the salvific reconciliation, * the bridal chamber in which the Word hath wedded the flesh, * the illumined cloud which truly carried incarnate Him who rideth upon the Cherubim. * By her intercessions, O Christ God, ** do Thou save our souls.

On the Aposticha, these Stichera, in Tone VIII:

Come, ye children of the Church of Russia, let us bless our teacher, who instructed us during his lifetime and edifieth us after his death, for he is honored as the good shepherd of our souls.

Verse: My mouth shall speak wisdom, * and the meditation of heart shall be of understanding.

The great hierarch Demetrius, the divinely inspired instrument of the all-holy Spirit, the denouncer of vain-minded schisms, who poureth forth a stream of the grace of God from his much-healing relics, and doth unceasingly mediate and pray to God for our souls.

Verse: The righteous man shall flourish like a palm-tree, * and like a cedar in Lebanon shall he be multiplied.

Hearkening to the voice of the Lord calling thee to Himself, O Demetrius, thou wast prepared for thy departure from this life. Thou didst not slumber in the evening or at midnight, at daybreak or in the morning, waiting for the Lord to come to thee, until, meeting Him, thou didst enter unto Him in everlasting joy; and there, standing before Him, thou prayest that He grant unto us a life of holiness and a Christian end.

Glory ..., in Tone II:

Rejoice, O Demetrius, thou boast of hierarchs, glory of priests, rule of monks and confirmation of the Church.

Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone II:

Who can worthily praise thee, and call thee blessed as is meet, * O Maiden Bride of God, * for through thee redemption hath come into the world? * Wherefore with thanksgiving we cry unto thee and say, * 'Rejoice, thou who hast made Adam divine and brought together that which was separated. * Rejoice!, thou who hast enlightened mankind * by the radiant Resurrection of thy Son and our God; ** Wherefore we, the race of Christians, unceasingly magnify thee.

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

O lover of Orthodoxy and uprooter of schisms, * healer of Russia and new advocate before God: * by thy writings thou didst heal the minds of the foolish. * O blessed Demetrius, thou harp of the Spirit, ** entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

O Good One, Who for our sake wast born of the Virgin * and, having endured crucifixion, cast down death by death, * and as God revealed the resurrection: * disdain not that which Thou hast fashioned with Thine own hand. * Show forth Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; * Accept the supplications of the Theotokos who bore Thee, ** and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior!

AT GREAT VESPERS

After the Introductory Psalm, we chant “Blessed is the man ...,” the first antiphon.

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 8 Stichera: 4 in Tone VI:

Spec. Mel.: “Having set all aside ...”:

On earth, O holy Demetrius, * thou didst strive to make that which is base * subject to that which is higher, * and to make the flesh subject to the spirit; * wherefore, thou didst receive * the arch-pastoral staff, * wherewith thou didst shepherd well * those who were right submissive, * and didst drive far away the disobedient. * And now standing in the heavens * as a priest, ** thou dost join chorus with the angels. (Twice)

During thy lifetime, * O holy hierarch Demetrius, * thou didst gird thy loins with love, * and, putting trust in Christ * on thy feet as though shoes, * thou didst adorn the lamp of faith with the oil of good works; * wherefore, thou hast entered * into the bridal-chamber of heaven with the wise, * where, standing before Christ the Master, * do thou pray that, * when the cry cometh at midnight, ** we may be ready to go forth to meet Him. (Twice)

4 Stichera, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “O most glorious wonder ...”:

Having adorned thy soul * with the virtues, * and finished the race of this transitory life * in the fear of God, * thou hast found grace before God, * O holy Demetrius; * and, standing now before the throne * of the Lord, ** pray thou that our souls be saved. (Twice)

O good shepherd, * fervent emulator of the Good Shepherd, * the Son of God: * hearken unto us sinners, * who call thine unceasing mediation to our aid, * and entreat the all-merciful God on our behalf, * that we may escape all evils and perils, * and receive eternal blessedness, O holy hierarch Demetrius, ** that with thee we may glorify and hymn the Holy Trinity. (Twice)

Glory ..., in Tone VIII:

With praises let us bless the holy hierarch Demetrius, the great bishop, the Chrysostom of Russia, who, having been made a chosen vessel of the all-holy Spirit, hath been revealed to be a member of the choir of the friends of God! And he prayeth that peace and length of days be granted to all Orthodox Christians, victory and triumph over their enemies, might to their native lands, and great mercy to the world.

Both now ..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

In His love for mankind, the King of heaven appeared on earth * and dwelt among men; * for He Who received flesh from the pure Virgin * and cameth forth from her having received human nature, * is the only Son of God, * twofold in nature but not Hypostasis. * Therefore, proclaiming Him to be truly perfect God and perfect man, * we confess Christ our God. * Him do thou beseech, O unwedded Mother, ** that our souls find mercy!

Entrance. Prokeimenon of the day. Three Lessons:

A READING FROM PROVERBS

The memory of the just is praised, and the blessing of the Lord is upon his head. Blessed is the man who hath found wisdom, and the mortal who knoweth prudence. For it is better to traffic for her, than for treasures of gold and silver. And she is more valuable than precious stones: no precious thing is equal to her in value. For length of existence and years of life are in her right hand; and in her left hand are wealth and glory: out of her mouth righteousness proceedeth, and she carrieth law and mercy upon her tongue. Hearken to me, O children, for I will speak solemn truths. Blessed is the man who shall keep my ways; for my outgoings are the outgoings of life, and in them is prepared favor from the Lord. Ye, O men, do I exhort; and utter my voice to the sons of men. I, wisdom, have built up; upon counsel, knowledge and understanding have I called. Counsel and safety are mine; prudence is mine, and strength is mine. I love those that love me; they that seek me shall find grace. O ye simple, understand subtlety, and ye that are untaught, imbibe knowledge. Hearken unto me again; for I will speak solemn truths. For my throat shall meditate truth; and false lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing in them wrong or perverse. They are all evident to those that understand, and right to those that find knowledge. For I will instruct you in truth, that your hope may be in the Lord, and ye may be filled with the Spirit.

A READING FROM PROVERBS

The mouth of the righteous droppeth wisdom: but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. The lips of just men drop grace: but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. False balances are an abomination before the Lord: but a just weight is acceptable unto Him. Wherever pride entereth, there will also disgrace, but the mouth of the humble doth meditate wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the overthrow of the rebellious shall spoil them. Possessions shall not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness will deliver from death. When a just man dieth, he leaveth regret: but the destruction of the ungodly is speedy and causeth joy. Righteousness traceth out blameless paths: but ungodliness encountereth unjust dealing. The righteousness of upright men delivereth them: but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. At the death of a just man his hope doth not perish: but the boast of the ungodly perisheth. A righteous man escapeth from a snare, and the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. In the mouth of ungodly men is a snare for citizens: but the understanding of righteous men is prosperous. In the prosperity of righteous men a city prospereth, but at the destruction of the wicked there is exultation. At the blessing of the upright a city shall be exalted, but by the mouths of ungodly men it is overthrown. A man void of understanding sneereth at his fellow citizens: but a sensible man is quiet.

READING FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON.

When the righteous is praised, the people will rejoice; for his memory is immortality, because it is known with God, and with men; for his soul pleased the Lord. Love wisdom, therefore, O men, and live; desire her, and ye shall be instructed. For the beginning of her is love and the observation of the law. Honor wisdom, that ye may reign for evermore. I will tell you, and will not hide from you the mysteries of God, for he it is who is the instructor of wisdom, the director of the wise, the master of all understanding and activity. And wisdom teacheth all understanding; for in her is a spirit understanding and holy, the brightness of the everlasting light, and the image of the goodness of God. She maketh friends of God, and prophets; she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the constellations of the stars; compared with the light, she is found pre-eminent. She hath delivered from pain them that please her, and guided them in right paths, given them knowledge of holy things, defended them from their enemies, and given them a mighty struggle, that they might all know that godliness is stronger than all; vice shall never prevail against wisdom, neither shall judgment pass away without convicting the evil. For they said to themselves, reasoning unrighteously: Let us oppress the righteous man, let us not spare his holiness, neither need we be ashamed of the ancient gray hairs of the aged, for our strength shall be a law unto us; let us lie in wait for the righteous, for he is displeasing to us, opposeth our doings, upbraideth us with our offending the law, and denounceth to our infamy the transgressions of our training. He professeth to have the knowledge of God, and calleth himself the child of the Lord. He is become a reproof to our thoughts, and is grievous even for us to behold; for his life is not like other men's, his ways are of another fashion. We are accounted by him as a mockery and he avoideth our ways as filth, and pronounceth the end of the just to be blessed. Let us see if his words be true; let us test what things happen to him. Let us examine him with mockery and torture, that we may know his meekness and prove his forbearance. Let us condemn him with a shameful death, for by his own words shall he be visited. Such things did they imagine, and were deceived; for their own wickedness blinded them. As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not; neither bethought they that Thou alone art God, who hast the power of life and death, savest in time of tribulation and deliverest from all evil; who art compassionate and merciful, givest grace to Thy saints and opposest the prideful with Thine own arm.

On the Aposticha, these Stichera, in Tone V:

Spec. Mel.: "Rejoice ...":

Come, ye councils of the Orthodox, let us hymn the holy hierarch who hath guided us to the knowledge of God by his teaching, the all wondrous well-spring of wonders, the most radiant beacon of the Church, the most wise teacher of Rostov,

the most comely adornment of all Russia; for he delivereth us from all evil temptations and misfortunes, and prayeth for our souls.

Verse: My mouth shall speak wisdom, * and the meditation of heart shall be of understanding.

Thou didst well tend the flock of the reason endowed sheep of Christ on the pasture of piety, O hierarch; wherefore, forsake not the children of thy Church after thy repose, but visit them; and, standing with the hierarchs before the Holy Trinity, pray that all those who with love honor the uncovering of thy precious relics, may be saved, O all-famed Demetrius.

Verse: The righteous man shall flourish like a palm-tree, * and like a cedar in Lebanon shall he be multiplied.

The Lord hath glorified thee with signs and wonders, O holy hierarch Demetrius' for thou dost drive away evil spirits, heal the passions, and enlighten the souls of the faithful who have recourse to thy holy reliquary, O thou who art a converser with the angels, a peer of the apostles, a champion of Orthodoxy, and co-enthroned with the hierarchs.

Glory ..., of the holy hierarch, in Tone IV:

Let us rejoice, ye councils of Russia, rendering praise and blessing to Demetrius, the wonderworker of Rostov; for he labored greatly for us in the writing of spiritually profitable books, whereby those who have wandered from the true path of piety have been directed to the Truth, and the hearts of the Orthodox have been made steadfast in the right Faith. To him let us cry aloud: O most wise teacher, entreat Christ, that instructed by thy doctrines, we may receive everlasting life.

Both now ..., the Theotokion in Tone IV:

Mercifully regard the supplications of thy servants, * O most immaculate one, * quelling the cruel uprisings of the demons against us, * delivering us from every sorrow; * for thee alone do we have as a steadfast and sure confirmation, * and having acquired thine intercession; * let not us who call upon thee be put to shame, * O Sovereign Lady. * Hasten thou to answer the entreaties of those who cry out to thee with faith: * Rejoice, thou help, joy and protection of all, ** and the salvation of our souls!

At the blessing of the loaves, the Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

O lover of Orthodoxy and uprooter of schism, * healer of Russia and new advocate before God, * by thy writings thou didst heal the minds of the foolish. * O blessed Demetrius, thou harp of the Spirit, ** entreat Christ God, that our souls may be saved. (Twice)

O Theotokos and Virgin (Once)

But if a vigil is not served, then after the Troparion:

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

○ Good One, Who for our sake wast born of the Virgin * and, having endured crucifixion, cast down death by death, * and as God revealed the resurrection: * disdain not that which Thou hast fashioned with Thine own hand. * Show forth Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; * Accept the supplications of the Theotokos who bore Thee, ** and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior!

AT MATINS

On “God is the Lord ...,” the Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

O lover of Orthodoxy and uprooter of schism, * healer of Russia and new advocate before God, * by thy writings thou didst heal the minds of the foolish. * O blessed Demetrius, thou harp of the Spirit, ** entreat Christ God, that our souls may be saved. (Twice)

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII;

O Good One, Who for our sake wast born of the Virgin * and, having endured crucifixion, cast down death by death, * and as God revealed the resurrection: * disdain not that which Thou hast fashioned with Thine own hand. * Show forth Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; * Accept the supplications of the Theotokos who bore Thee, ** and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior!

After the 1st chanting of the Psalter, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone VI:

Like a palm-tree hast thou blossomed forth from the earth in incorruption, and like the cedar in Lebanon hast thou been multiplied in miracles; thou hast been exalted in revelation, standing like a city upon a mountaintop, and like a lamp thou hast shone forth in thy memory as from under a bushel. And all of us, beholding the things fulfilled in thee, glorify Him Who hath magnified thee among His saints. As thou hast boldness before Christ the Lord, pray thou, O Demetrius manifest in holiness, that He save and enlighten our souls.

Glory ..., Both now ..., the foregoing is repeated.

After the 2nd chanting of the Psalter, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone VI:

Thou wast likened to the venerable ones of old, sanctifying thy life with eighty years of service to God, for which cause thou wast a great monk, priest, teacher and hierarch, and now a wonderworker, and intercessor for our souls.

Glory ..., Both now ..., the foregoing is repeated.

Polyeleos, and this Magnification: We magnify thee, O holy hierarch father Demetrius, and we honor thy holy memory; for thou entrest Christ God for us.

Selected Psalm verse:

A: Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Alleluia ..., Glory to Thee, O God. (Thrice)

After the Polyeleos, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone VII:

Thou didst shine forth in thy virtuous life, O holy hierarch Demetrius, adorning thy ways with beauty, abstinence and tender compassion, and adorning the Church of Christ with thy golden-worded teachings. Wherefore, standing before the throne of the Almighty, O ever-memorable one, entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who with love celebrate thy most honored memory.

Glory ..., Both now ..., the foregoing is repeated.

Song of Ascents, the first antiphon of Tone IV.

Prokeimenon, in Tone IV: My mouth shall speak wisdom, * and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Verse: Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

Let every breath praise the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN, § 35 (JN. 10: 1-8)

The Lord said to the Jews that came to Him: “Verily, verily, I say unto you: He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.” This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which He spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again: “Verily, verily, I say unto you: I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

After Psalm 50, this Sticheron, in Tone VI:

O holy hierarch Demetrius, thou good and faithful servant, who increased the talant entrusted to thee by thy Master: grace hath poured forth in thy lips, for with thy teachings thou hast adorned the Church, and made plain the truth of Orthodoxy putting the surmising of schismatics to shame. Wherefore, after thy departure, as during thy lifetime, strive thou that, convinced by thy miracles, the vain-minded may come to their senses and with us glorify God in three Hypostases.

ODE I

Canon of the holy hierarch, with 8 Troparia, in Tone VI:

Irmos: When Israel walked on foot in the sea as on dry land, * on seeing their pursuer Pharaoh drowned, * they cried: * Let us sing to God * a song of victory.

Standing before the Holy Trinity with the angelic ranks, O great hierarch Demetrius, pray for us sinners, that we may receive the remission of our sins.

Having enslaved thy body to thy spirit by all manner of asceticism and abstinence, and achieved incorruption in the body, imparting a healing power to its essential clay, O holy father, teach us also not to serve mammon.

Tending the flock entrusted to thee by Christ, the Chief Shepherd, and driving the soul-destroying wolves away from the fold by thy divinely inspired teachings, O holy hierarch Demetrius, look down now and see that vain minded schisms in nowise disturb the tranquility of the Church. And entreat God, the Lover of mankind, that we may all, with one mouth and one heart, praise His loving-kindness.

Theotokion: Understanding thee to be chosen and all-pure, O all-immaculate one, the Son of God became thy Son, and hath made children through the grace of adoption, those who honor thee as the Theotokos.

Katavasia: I shall open my mouth ...,

ODE III

Irmos: There is none as holy as Thou, * O Lord my God, * who hast exalted the horn of Thy faithful O good One, * and strengthened us upon the rock * of Thy confession.

Established firmly upon the rock of the Faith of Christ, thou wast firm in the confession of Orthodoxy, and didst unceasingly denounce the ungodly.

Thou didst not cease to call out for the lost sheep of the flock of Christ, reproving, entreating and counseling them, even though not all heeded thy voice.

The children of the Church who had remained unshaken within its bosom, didst thou encourage; and we, attending to thy teachings with sweetness, cry aloud: There is none as holy as our God!

Theotokion: O pure and all-immaculate one, thou hast given birth unto Him Who hath delivered mankind from disobedience and by His blood hath washed away the ancestral sin of Adam.

Sessional Hymn of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

Emulating the holiness of the fathers of old, when thou wast eight years of age thou didst dedicate thy life to the service of God; wherefore, thou didst become a great monk, priest, teacher, and hierarch, and now a wonderworker and advocate for our souls.

Glory ..., Both now ..., the foregoing is repeated.

ODE IV

Irmos: Christ is my power, * my God and my Lord, * the holy Church divinely singeth, * crying with a pure mind, * keeping festival in the Lord.

Nurtured from childhood in proper learning, thou didst not turn the acuity of thy mind to vain-minded ideas, O holy hierarch Demetrius, but to the edification and confirmation of the Orthodox, and to the reproof and chastisement of the incorrigible. Wherefore, thou wast revealed to be a worthy successor of the throne of the apostles.

The healing shrine of thy relics poureth forth inexhaustible healing, and those who have recourse unto them with faith find deliverance from evils.

For the love which thou didst cherish for Christ and the saints thou hast been glorified with the gift of miracles and healings; wherefore, we bow down before thee and beseech thee as a favorite and friend of God, that thou remember us in thy holy prayers before Him.

Theotokion: Entreat God, the Lover of mankind, for us, O most holy Lady, that He remember not our iniquities, but rather that He deal with us according to His mercy.

ODE V

Irmos: Illumine with Thy divine light, I pray, O Good One, * the souls of those who with love rise early to pray to Thee, * that they may know Thee, O Word of God, * as the true God, * Who recalleth us from the darkness of sin.

O holy hierarch of Christ, preserve thy homeland un-assailed by the enemy, and grant victory and triumph over its adversaries to our civil authorities.

O Demetrius, favorite of God, protect us from all the machinations of the wicked devil, that we may traverse the path of this life without stumbling, in fulfillment of the commandments of God.

O father Demetrius, burn away the darkness of sin from the eyes of our souls, and enlighten us with the knowledge of the will of God, that we may finish our race well in the light of His commandments.

Theotokion: O immaculate Virgin who gayest birth to the true Light, shine upon us the light of divine knowledge, for our salvation.

ODE VI

Irmos: Beholding the sea of life surging with the tempest of temptations, * I run to Thy calm haven, and cry to Thee: * Raise up my life from corruption, * O greatly Merciful One.

With the eye of thy compassion look upon the billowing of sin which doth assail us, O holy hierarch of Christ, and guide our voyage to the calm haven of God's loving-kindness.

O father Demetrius, be thou for us a good helmsman, and leave us not to perish in our sins, but as thou thyself wast tempted therein as a man, help us who are tempted, O holy Demetrius, and be thou a helper and mediator for us before the greatly merciful God, that He lead our life up from corruption.

Theotokion: With mouth and heart we magnify thee, the Mother of God. Do thou, who hast reconciled the whole of the human race with God, and deprive us not of thine aid.

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

Let us bless Demetrius, the golden-worded teacher, the radiant star of Russia, * who shone forth from Kiev, and through Novgorod and Seversky reached Rostov, * illumining the whole land with his teachings and miracles; * for he wrote down for posterity, those things which are for our edification, * that, like Paul, he might win all for Christ, ** and save our souls through the right Faith.

Ikos: Right it is for the righteous in heaven who rejoice over the repentant, and for us sinners on earth, to rejoice over thee, O righteous Demetrius; for we have acquired thee as a new advocate before God on our behalf. And blessing Him with fitting praises, in joy we cry aloud thus: Rejoice, O boast of Rostov and praise of all Russia!

ODE VII

Irmos: An Angel made the furnace bedew the holy Children. * But the command of God consumed the Chaldeans * and prevailed upon the tyrant to cry: * O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

For the sake of the humility of Christ, thou wast revealed to be a model of humility, O holy Demetrius. Grant that I may cry out, not in pride, but in humility: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Through abstinence thou didst make thy body subject to thy spirit, O holy hierarch Demetrius. Grant that I may live in abstinence, that I may cry aloud with undefiled lips: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

By thy teachings, O father Demetrius, thou dost direct our thoughts; and, emulating thee, we chant unto God: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Theotokion: O most pure Virgin, Thou didst conceive the beginningless God in thy womb, Whom we hymn, saying: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

ODE VIII

Irmos: Thou didst make flame bedew the holy children, * and didst burn the sacrifice of a righteous man with water. * For Thou alone, O Christ, dost do all as Thou willest, * Thee do we supremely exalt throughout all ages.

Thou art our good teacher, O father Demetrius, crying out to all who heed thy teaching: Exalt Christ supremely throughout all ages!

O divinely wise hierarch, all-blessed Demetrius, by thy supplication and thy philanthropic love for us entreat God, the Lover of mankind, on our behalf, for we supremely exalt Him throughout the ages.

Thou didst overturn the wickedly harmful reasoning of the vain-minded, O holy Demetrius, and didst instruct the faithful to remain steadfast in the true Faith, crying out: Supremely exalt Christ throughout the ages.

Theotokion: O Virgin, we piously hymn thy supra-natural and wondrous birthgiving, supremely exalting Christ throughout the ages.

ODE IX

Irmos: It is impossible for mankind to see God * upon Whom the orders of Angels dare not gaze; * but through thee, O all-pure one, * did the Word Incarnate become a man * and with the Heavenly Hosts * Him we magnify and thee we call blessed.

Enjoying the everlasting life for which thou didst diligently struggle, O father, pray thou that we also may attain unto it.

Even though thou hast passed from us to the heavens, O holy hierarch Demetrius, yet abiding in spirit with those who call upon thee, thou dost ever teach and strengthen them, that they may tread the path of the saving commandments of God.

Thou hast been revealed to be a most radiant beacon of piety, a most excellent rhetorician, and an adornment of Orthodox hierarchs. Wherefore, as is meet, we magnify thee with heartfelt love.

Theotokion: O Virgin Theotokos, with the holy hierarch Demetrius beseech God, the Lover of mankind, Whom thou didst bear, that He save our souls.

Exapostilarion: of the holy hierarch:

O our God, Who hath set the bounds of the nations according to the number of Thine angels, and Who hath assembled Thy Church from the scattered children of Adam, multiply therein Thy saints like the stars in heaven, among which the memory of Thy holy hierarch Demetrius hath shone forth. For his sake enlighten souls darkened by schismatic vain-mindedness, that together we may cry out to Thee the threefold hymn: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory ..., Both now ..., the foregoing is repeated.

On the Praises, 4 Stichera in Tone VI:

Spec. Mel.: "Having set all aside ...":

From thy youth thou didst wholly take upon thyself the search for wisdom and the fear of God, which having found thou didst not hide in the earth, like the slothful servant; but teaching and laboring for Him Who gave thee the talant, thou didst increase it an hundredfold, and didst become a great merchant, making clear the understanding of the Old and New Testaments, and disclosing the depths of the meaning of the divinely written books: and thou hast taught us also to conduct such goodly trade. Wherefore, O Demetrius, thou good and faithful servant of God, for such treasures which thou hast revealed unto us thou hast entered into the joy of thy Lord. (Twice)

Thou didst bind thy holy mind to the obedience of faith, that thou mightest adorn it with good works; hence thou hast been shown to be a skillful husbandman of the vineyard of Christ. For every branch which did not produce fruit thou didst cut off by the fear of the Lord, and therein preserved piety alone, which thou didst hedge round about with the dogmas of the Church, and which thou didst strengthen within by the tower of Orthodoxy, wholly filling the wine-vats thereof with thy teachings. Wherefore, O holy Demetrius who loved the works of faith, visit now the vineyard which the right hand of the Most High hath planted, that it may produce the grapes of salvation. (Twice)

Glory ..., of the holy hierarch, in Tone VI:

Sing unto the Lord a new song, O Russia! Praise thy God, O city of Rostov! For the Most High hath been well-pleased to give us the new wonderworker Demetrius, to whom witness hath been borne by all, as also by truth itself. And honoring his memory among the saints, let us, elders and the young, praise and magnify our God, Who hath granted His favored one to shine forth upon us in holy incorruption and the working of miracles.

Both now ..., Theotokion, in the Tone VI:

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine * that hast budded forth for us the Fruit of life. * Thee do we entreat: ** Pray thou, O Lady, with the holy apostles, that He have mercy upon our souls.

Great Doxology, Troparia, Litanies. Dismissal. First Hour.

AT LITURGY

On the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from ODE III, and 4 from ODE VI of the canon of the holy hierarch.

Established firmly upon the rock of the Faith of Christ, thou wast firm in the confession of Orthodoxy, and didst unceasingly denounce the ungodly. (Twice)

Thou didst not cease to call out for the lost sheep of the flock of Christ, reproving, entreating and counseling them, even though not all heeded thy voice.

The children of the Church who had remained unshaken within its bosom, didst thou encourage; and we, attending to thy teachings with sweetness, cry aloud: There is none as holy as our God!

With the eye of thy compassion look upon the billowing of sin which doth assail us, O holy hierarch of Christ, and guide our voyage to the calm haven of God's loving-kindness. (Twice)

O father Demetrius, be thou for us a good helmsman, and leave us not to perish in our sins, but as thou thyself wast tempted therein as a man, help us who are tempted, O holy Demetrius, and be thou a helper and mediator for us before the greatly merciful God, that He lead our life up from corruption.

Theotokion: **W**ith mouth and heart we magnify thee, the Mother of God. Do thou, who hast reconciled the whole of the human race with God, and deprive us not of thine aid.

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

O lover of Orthodoxy and uprooter of schism, * healer of Russia and new advocate before God, * by thy writings thou didst heal the minds of the foolish. * O blessed Demetrius, thou harp of the Spirit, ** entreat Christ God, that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

Let us bless Demetrius, the golden-worded teacher, the radiant star of Russia, * who shone forth from Kiev, and through Novgorod and Seversky reached Rostov, * illumining the whole land with his teachings and miracles; * for he wrote down for posterity, those things which are for our edification, * that, like Paul, he might win all for Christ, ** and save our souls through the right Faith.

Prokeimenon of the saint, in Tone I: My mouth shall speak wisdom, * and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Verse: Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS, § 318 (HEB. 7: 27-8: 2)

Brethren: Such a High Priest became us, Who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this He did once, when He offered up Himself. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, Who is consecrated for evermore. Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: we have such a High Priest, Who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a Minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

Alleluia of the saint, in Tone II: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

Verse: The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be tripped.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN, § 36 (JN. 10: 9-16)

The Lord said unto the Jews who came to Him: I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine. As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one Shepherd.

Communion verse of the saint: In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings.