

THE 12th DAY OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER
COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS JOHN, PATRIARCH OF
ALEXANDRIA, THE ALMSGIVER
COMMEMORATION OF OUR VENERABLE FATHER NILUS
AT VESPERS.

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 6 Stichera: 3 of the holy hierarch, in Tone IV:
“Spec. Mel.: “Thou hast given a sign ...”:

Scattering abundantly, thou didst distribute * thy bread to those who were in need thereof, O wondrous John, * emulating in mercy * the exceedingly merciful Master, O venerable one, * wherefore, thy memory * truly abideth forever, O holy one. * By thy supplications do thou save * those who celebrate it with faith ** from temptations and tribulations, O spiritually rich hierarch.

Foreseeing thy purity, * the uprightness of thy mind and thy godly demeanor, * He Who seeth things that are hidden * elevated thee to a most magnificent throne, * anointing and perfecting thee with chrism, O wise one, * and manifestly appointing thee the pilot of His flock * which thou didst guide to the heaven * of divine desire, ** O divinely eloquent John.

All the requests * of thy heart, O right wondrous one, * did the Lord grant; * for thou didst observe all the laws of salvation. * For God and neighbor * didst thou unendingly love, O divinely blessed one, * as if thy very self; * and thou didst satisfy those who were in need. ** Wherefore, we honor thee today, O John.

And 3 Stichera of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “What shall we call you ...”:

What now shall we call thee, O holy one? * A river issuing forth from the noetic Eden, * a torrent of gifts bestowed by God, * a flood of the grace of teachings, * a cup of wisdom and knowledge, * a most mighty intercessor, a most active teacher. ** Pray thou that our souls be saved.

What shall we name thee, O venerable one? * Cultivator of the gardens of immortality, O blessed one, * husbandman of the noetic paradise of the faithful, * most skilled in the laws given by God, * one who knowest the divinely inspired dogmas, * speaker of nature most good, and instructor most content. ** Pray thou that our souls be saved.

What now shall I call thee, O wondrous one? * One who laid down the rules of marriage, * governor of chastity, instructor of monastics, guide of virginity, * one who rightly balanced both, * as having by experience passed through both. * Many were thy goodly deeds and great thy fasting for God. ** Pray thou that our souls be saved.

Glory ..., in Tone II, the composition of Anatolius:

John, the emulator of Christ, the great pastor and beacon of the Alexandrians, the wellspring of mercy, hath increased his right sympathetic compassions for those who are in need. Come ye, let us who are poor in spirit drink our fill, emulating his serenity; for having with a proper compassionate demeanor shown hospitality to the wandering Christ through the poor, like Abraham of old he was deemed worthy of blessedness, and prayeth with boldness that our souls find mercy.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone II:

Spec. Mel.: “When from the Tree ...”:

Stavrotheotokion: **B**eholding Thee nailed to the Tree of the Cross. O Jesus, she who kneweth not wedlock said weeping: “O sweet Child, why hast Thou abandoned me who alone gave birth to Thee, O unapproachable Light of the beginningless Father? Hasten Thou, and glorify Thyself, that those who glorify Thy divine sufferings may receive divine glory!”

On the Aposticha, Glory ..., of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

We honor thee, the instructor of a multitude of monks, O Nilus our father; for by thy steps have we truly known how to walk aright. Blessed art thou who, laboring for Christ, denounced the power of the enemy, O converser with angels, who sharest the lot of the venerable and the righteous. With them entreat the Lord, that our souls find mercy.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “Thy martyrs ...”:

Stavrotheotokion: **B**eholding Thee O Lord Jesus, * nailed upon the cross and voluntarily accepting the passion, * the Virgin Mother cried aloud: * Woe is me, O my sweet Child! * how dost Thou wrongfully endure such wounds? * O compassionate Physician and healer of the infirmities of mankind, * Thou hast redeemed all from corruption ** by Thy tender compassion.

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

In patience thou didst acquire thy reward, O venerable father, * who endured in prayers unceasingly, loved the poor and saw to their needs. ** Entreat Christ God, O blessed almsgiver John, that our souls be saved.

Glory ..., Troparion of the venerable one, in the same tone:

With the streams of thy tears thou didst irrigate the barren desert, * and with sighs from the depths of thy soul thou didst render thy labors fruitful an hundredfold, * becoming a beacon for the whole world, resplendent with miracles. ** O Nilos our father, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or Stavrotheotokion.

AT MATINS

One canon from the Oktoechos, and two canons of the saints

ODE I

Canon of the holy hierarch, the composition of Joseph, in Tone VIII:

Irmos: That which had been hewn down divided the undivided, * and land unseen was seen by the sun; * water engulfed the cruel enemy, * and Israel traversed the impassable, chanting a hymn: * Let us sing unto the Lord, * for gloriously hath He been glorified!

Enlightened with sympathy of mind and illumined with the love of Christ, shining with rays of almsgiving O father, thou didst become a most pure habitation of the one merciful God. Wherefore, we call thee blessed.

Looking ever to those things which ever abide throughout the ages, O most sacred father, with wise intent thou didst most splendidly exchange corruptible things for those that are incorruptible; and now dwelling in the heavens, thou dost cry aloud with the incorporeal choirs: Let us chant unto the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified!

With thy godly intervention thou didst take pity on many, O venerable one, having been endowed with merciful thought, thou didst become a bestower of alms, for the consolation of many souls and the consideration of the poor, O all-wise, divinely blessed and most sacred John.

Theotokion: O blessed, pure and all-hymned one, who alone hast given birth to the incarnate God, the ever-flowing Wellspring, pouring forth healings upon us, the faithful, who hope in thee: Beseech Him Whom thou didst bear, that He grant the world great mercy.

Canon of the venerable one, the acrostic whereof is:

“Nilus watereth me with noetic abundance,”;

The composition of Theophanes, in Tone VIII:

Irmos: Having passed through the water as upon dry land, * and having escaped the malice of the Egyptians, * the Israelites cried aloud: * Unto our God and Redeemer let us sing.

Richly irrigating my budding thought with thy mystic waters, O blessed one, grant that by thy supplications it may bring forth hymns to thee like grain.

The streams of thy words, manifestly issuing forth as from Eden, O Nilus most noetically rich, irrigate all the ever-flowing face of the Church.

The river of thy dogmas and words, O divinely eloquent one, flooding, doth water the hearts of the pious, drowning the assemblies of the wicked.

Theotokion: **T**he destroyer and enemy vomited forth soul-destroying venom into the ears of Eve; but thou, O Mother of God, having given birth unto Christ, hast healed the harm he wrought.

ODE III

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: **O** Lord, Creator of the vault of Heaven * and Builder of the Church, * do Thou strengthen me in Thy love, O Summit of desire, * O Support of the faithful, * O only Lover of mankind.

The right sympathetic grace of the Merciful One appeared to thee, O right wondrous one, like a maiden of divine comeliness, wearing a wreath of olive sprigs and leading thee to divine mercy.

Thou hast been seated on a sacred throne as a godly judge, O glorious father John, in that thou didst live like an angel, offering up sacred sacrifices of peace to the All-Compassionate One.

Emulating the great tender compassion of our merciful Lord Who beggared Himself in the flesh in His loving-kindness, O father, thou didst tend to the poor, gathering together those who wandered and the homeless, thus fulfilling the commands of God.

Theotokion: **H**aving made thine abode within the Virgin bodily, O Lord, Thou didst reveal Thyself to mankind as it was fitting for Thee to be seen; and Thou didst show her to be the true Theotokos, the help of the faithful, O only Lover of mankind.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **O** Lord, thou art the confirmation of those who flee to Thee, * Thou art the Light of those in darkness, * and my spirit doth hymn Thee.

Thy thought bore the gifts of the Spirit, O father, driving away thoughts of wickedness,

O oil most fragrant, sacred minister, thou hast breathed upon us thy prayers, in that thou didst live by active vision.

Heavenly teachings hast thou poured forth as from a wellspring, O all-wise one, enriching the pupils of the Church.

Theotokion: **M**ortify the wisdom of our flesh, O most pure one, pouring forth a wellspring of immortality upon mankind.

Kontakion of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “To thee, the champion leader ...”:

Cutting down the underbrush of the uprising of the passions of the body * by thy vigilant prayer as though with a scythe, * thou dost thereby have boldness before the Lord, * do thou free me from every misfortune, that I may cry out to thee: ** Rejoice, O universal father!

Ikos: Who among mortals can recount the suffering of thy manner of life, the countless labors, the many efforts which thou didst undertake on earth like one of the incorporeal ones? Yet I cry aloud: Rejoice, river of divine graces; Rejoice, pipe of the teachings of Christ! Rejoice, cup of wisdom and knowledge; Rejoice, cultivation of the plantations of immortality! Rejoice, most active dogma of divinely inspired words; Rejoice, most skilled interpreter of the God-given law! Rejoice, husbandman of the noetic garden of paradise; Rejoice, great treasury of virginity! Rejoice, beautiful harp of the Spirit; Rejoice, sword which cuttest at the root of the passions! Rejoice, summit of righteous ones; Rejoice, intercessor for the faithful born of earth! Rejoice, O universal father!

Sessional Hymn of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “Of the Wisdom ...”:

Possessed of a merciful character, thou wast revealed to be good of heart and generous to the poor and needy, O divinely inspired John. Wherefore, with a title befitting thine activity, O blessed one, more than all other saints Christ the Bestower of good gifts enriched thee exceedingly. To Him, O divinely wise and noetically rich hierarch, do thou pray, that He grant remission of sins unto those who celebrate thy holy memory with love.

Glory ..., Sessional Hymn of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “That which was mystically commanded ...”:

Having adorned thy mind with heavenly visions, thou didst pour forth rivers of theology, O God-bearing Nilus, watering the hearts of those who with faith draw forth the clear and pure drink of thy teachings and honor thy radiant and precious memory, O adornment of the venerable and boast of the fathers.

Theotokion: O thou who hast given birth to the immutable God, * by thy maternal supplications * make steadfast my heart which is ever-changing due to sin, * slothfulness and the attacks of the deceiver; * that in thanksgiving I also may glorify thee O good one. * O all-immaculate Mary, Birthgiver of God, * have mercy on the flock ** which thou hast acquired.

Stavrotheotokion: Christ took flesh from thy pure blood * and was born from thee, O pure one, * in a manner beyond understanding; * upon seeing Him hung on the Cross between two malefactors, * thy soul was filled with anguish, * and with a mother's lamentation thou didst cry aloud: * 'Woe is me, my Child! What is this divine and ineffable condescension, * whereby Thou hast restored to life Thy creature?' ** I sing the praises of Thy compassionate goodness.'

ODE IV

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: O Lord, I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation; * I have considered Thy works, * and I have glorified Thy Divinity.

Thou wast shown to be a pure habitation of the Holy Trinity, O venerable one, a treasury of the temple of God and the first-fruits of hierarchs.

The tenderly compassionate Lord, noting thy great mercy, sanctified thy soul, O most sacred father John.

Thou wast a most steadfast performer of the commandments of the Most Compassionate One, and hast been filled with His good gifts, dwelling in the habitations of the holy.

Theotokion: As Thou art sinless, O God, grant us cleansing from our ignorant deeds, and grant peace to Thy world, through the prayers of her who gave Thee birth to Thee.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: O Lord, I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation; * I have considered Thy works, * and I have glorified Thy Divinity.

Raise me up from the captivity of the passions, O most wise one, offering thy supplications to God as the price of my deliverance.

Having tested thyself with fasting, O all-blessed one; thou didst cleanse thyself to fathom the dogmas of the wisdom of Christ in a sacred manner.

Every puffed up thought didst thou humble, O father, destroying the memory thereof by the abundance of thy wisdom.

Theotokion: The Word Who is equally everlasting with the Father, and Who as God was first incorporeal, became incarnate from thy pure blood in the latter times, O most honored one.

ODE V

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: Guide me out of the night of ignorance * with the light of Thine understanding, O Lord, * for I am lost on the path that ensnares the soul, * and direct me to the way of Thy commandments.

Emulating Him Who in His mercy died a voluntary death, O wise father, thou didst crucify thyself to the world and the passions, and hast thereby been deemed worthy of celestial life, O right glorious one.

Being meek, compassionate and peaceable, thou wast deemed worthy of blessedness, as the inexhaustible bread of the hungry, the bestower of benefactions upon the poor, and the raiment of the naked.

Made beautiful by divine communing, like an angel thou didst serve God blamelessly as a hierarch, illumining the faithful with thy sacred teachings.

Theotokion: **W**e hymn the most pure Theotokos who without seed bore the God of all in her womb and gave birth to Him in the flesh for our sake, as the salvation of our souls.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **Rising early we cry to Thee, O Lord; * save us, for Thou art our God, * and we know none other besides Thee.**

Chastely desiring divine purity, O most wise, one, thou didst forsake all the passionate attachments of life.

Taught by the divine Unity, O thou who wast revealed by God, thou didst noetically attain unto contemplations higher than mere knowledge.

We know thee, O God-bearer, to be the cloud which doth inundate all ignorance with the showers of true knowledge.

Theotokion: **D**iscovering thee like a lily shining amid the thorns, the Bridegroom loved thee, O Virgin Mother.

ODE VI

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: **I will pour out my prayer unto the Lord, * and to Him will I proclaim my grief; * for my soul is filled with evils, * and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh, * and like Jonah I pray unto Thee: * Raise me up from corruption, O God.**

Exercising thyself in supplication and fasting and entreating God in vigils, thou wast deemed worthy of divine revelations and visions, O divinely wise and spiritually rich hierarch, taught by a purity which passeth understanding and comprehension, O wise one.

Thou didst live on earth as an angel with flesh, O father, joyously offering to the Creator the un-bloody sacrifices of peace with faith and contrite heart and spirit, O blessed John.

Thy life, which shone forth more brightly than the sun, hath emitted beams of tender compassion upon those in need, dispelling the dark cloud of poverty, warming those held fast in the cold of evils, O spiritually rich and divinely inspired one.

Theotokion: Cease not to pray for us, O most holy Virgin Theotokos, for thou art the confirmation of the faithful; we are strengthened by hope in thee and love for thee, and we unceasingly glorify Him Who was incarnate of thee.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: I will pour out my prayer unto the Lord, * and to Him will I proclaim my grief; * for my soul is filled with evils, * and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh, * and like Jonah I pray unto Thee: * Raise me up from corruption, O God.

Adorned with the gift of wisdom and rendered comely by the splendor of thy life, thou didst become a divinely sacred minister, mediating between the Creator and creation, as a most radiant and eminent teacher, O father.

Having drawn nigh to the mount of the virtues and been covered with the divine darkness, O father, thou didst receive from God the divinely inscribed tablets of the dogmas, and been shown to be a second Moses, a law-giver of grace, O spiritually rich father.

Having mystically of thine own will consecrated thyself as a voluntary sacrificial victim, O Nilus, adorned with visions and spiritual activities, thou standest before the Creator do thou remember us who with faith keep thy memory.

Theotokion: Beholding the depth of thy dread mysteries in the manifestations of figures, the prophets proclaimed beforehand that God would make His abode within thy womb, O all-immaculate one; and we, beholding the fulfillment of their prophecies, glorify thee.

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone II:

Spec. Mel.: "Seeking the highest ...":

Thou didst distribute thy wealth to the destitute, * and hast now received heavenly riches, * O John most wise. * Wherefore, celebrating thy memory, ** we all honor thee, O namesake of almsgiving.

Ikos: Trusting in the mercy of God, O John, enriched by Him with compassions and gifts, thou wast revealed to be merciful like Him, having compassion upon all. Wherefore, taking pity on my poverty, grant me the riches of thy supplication, and fill thou my starving heart with godly words, O divinely wise one, as of old thou didst feed the hungry, O namesake of almsgiving.

ODE VII

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: The Hebrew children in the furnace * boldly trampled upon the flames, * changing the fire into dew, they cried aloud: * 'Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, throughout the ages'.

With deeds didst thou proclaim the words of the Savior, and as one merciful and pure of Spirit, O God-bearing father John, thou hast been joined to the choir of the blessed.

The taste of most sweet honey was transformed into tried gold for thee; for the Creator, noting thy rich willingness, gave thee rich rewards.

Illumined by the unwaning light of the Trinity, O favorite of the Trinity, thou dost now enlighten those who honor thee and chant: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God, throughout the ages!

Theotokion: **T**hee, O Theotokos, the joy of the apostles and glory of athletes, do we faithfully entreat: Of everlasting joy deem us worthy who unceasingly hymn thee.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **T**he Children of Judaea, * who of old came to dwell in Babylon, * trampled underfoot the flame of the furnace * through their faith in the Trinity, * as they sang: 'O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.'

Watered by heavenly showers, O father, thou wast revealed to be fertile, bringing forth for the Master most comely fruits, who cry out with faith: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Opening the flood-gates of dogmas, O all-blessed one, thy tongue doth mightily deluge the delusion of heresy, teaching the faithful to chant: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Thou didst lead an angelic way of life on earth in thy body, O father; and delighting now in the divine visions of heavenly sights, thou dost chant: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Theotokion: **T**hou didst reveal Thyself to be incarnate from the Virgin's womb for our salvation. Wherefore, knowing Thy Mother to be the Theotokos, we cry out with thanksgiving: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

ODE VIII

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: **B**y Thy grace the children became vanquishers * of both the tyrant and the flames, * carefully observing Thy commandments, * wherefore they cried aloud: * Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Revealing thee as a radiant star in the firmament of the Church, O father, through thee Christ enlighteneth those who sing with faith: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Thou didst show thyself to be merciful, meek, right compassionate, guileless, the wealth of the poor, and the adornment and vesture of the naked, O father; and because of thine almsgiving and tender compassion thou hast been called merciful more than all the saints who have shone forth in loving-kindness.

In a sacred manner didst thou adorn the throne of Mark, especially with godly deeds, O father; and because of thine almsgiving and tender compassion thou hast been called merciful more than all the saints who have shone forth in loving-kindness.

Theotokion: **T**he daughter of fallen Adam wast thou revealed to be, O Virgin, and the Mother of God Who hath restored my nature. Let us hymn Him, all ye works of the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout all ages!

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: **T**he instruments of music sounded out in harmony, * and countless multitudes worshipped the image in Dura; * but the three Children, refusing to bow in obeisance, * hymn and glorify the Lord throughout all ages.

Having received perfected virtues and loved Him Who is first among the good, enlightened with the brilliance thereof thou dost now cry aloud: Hymn the Lord and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Enriched by the art of knowledge, thou didst attain unto active glory, sending rays of grace upon those who cry out: Hymn the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Fleeing the tumults of the world, thou didst reach the haven of quietude and didst slay the assaults of the passions, crying out: Hymn the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Theotokion: **K**nowing well the Word of God Who was born of thee, O Virgin, we hymn thee most piously, chanting with faith: Hymn the Lord and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

ODE IX

Canon of the holy hierarch

Irmos: **S**aved by thee, O pure Virgin, * we confess thee to be truly the Theotokos, * and together with the choirs of the bodiless hosts * thee do we magnify.

Lo, after thy repose, O father, two of the holy fathers set thee in their midst, rendering thee most sacred honor in the tomb.

Like the dawn, like the day hath thy splendid repose shone forth, O father John, enlightening those who bless thee with faith.

Thou didst join the choirs of hierarchs, prophets, apostles and martyrs, O father; with them remember those who praise thee.

The shrine where thy sacred and holy relics lie, O father John, is a wellspring of miracles for those who have recourse unto thee.

Theotokion: O right beautiful Virgin, who gavest birth to the good God and Lord, do good to my soul which is afflicted with sin.

Canon of the venerable one

Irmos: Heaven was stricken with awe, * and the ends of the earth were filled with amazement, * for God hath appeared in the flesh, * and thy womb was rendered more spacious than the heavens. * Wherefore, the ranks of men and of angels * magnify thee as the Theotokos.

The destroyer, seeing thee breaking the bonds of earthly attachment and drawing nigh to God, O father, raised threefold waves of barbarians against thee, thinking to weaken thy might; but by divine providence thou didst set at naught his machinations, O all-blessed one.

Shining with the divers rich rays of teachings, thou didst illumine the souls of those who reverently have recourse to thee with faith; for, touching to thy lips the cup of pure wisdom, O all-wise Nilus, thou didst drink deeply and present it to those who love thee.

Ardently didst thou mystically sanctify thyself as an unblemished sacrifice to the Creator, O father, loving Him with sincerity, and standing now before His throne, O all-blessed Nilus, do thou earnestly pray that those who celebrate thy memory with faith receive thy splendor.

Theotokion: Thou didst set aright the fall of a woman, O Virgin, having given birth to the Word Who hath set aright those who are cast down, in that He is good and mighty in power, for He became incarnate through thee in His surpassing loving-kindness, and hath saved the world by His passion-slaying sufferings.

Exapostilarion of the holy hierarch:

Spec. Mel.: "Hearken, ye women ...":

Emulating the mercy of the God of loving compassion, O John, thou didst distribute riches to the poor; wherefore, thou hast received inexhaustible riches in the heavens. Hence, we now entreat thee: Pray thou unceasingly on behalf of those who praise thee!

Glory ..., Exapostilarion of the venerable one:

Spec. Mel.: "Heaven with stars ...":

Aspiring to the life of the angels, thou didst withdraw thyself into the desert; and having subdued the passions of the flesh, thou wast revealed to be an equal of the angels, O our God-bearing father.

Both now ..., Theotokion:

Thou wast the cause of the good things given by God to the world, O Theotokos. Do thou now render the compassionate God merciful, for the salvation of all.

On the Aposticha: Glory ..., in Tone VI:

O venerable father, report of thy corrections hath gone forth into all the earth; wherefore, thou hast found the reward of thy labors in the heavens, having destroyed legions of demons, and attained unto the ranks of the angels, whose life thou didst blamelessly emulate. As thou hast boldness before Christ God, ask peace for our souls.

Both now ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in Tone VI:

Spec. Mel.: “On the third day ...”:

Stavrotheotokion: Upon seeing Thee crucified, O Christ, * she who gaveth birth to Thee cried aloud: * “What is this strange mystery that I see, * O my Son How is it that Thou diest?, * suspended upon the Tree, ** O Bestower of life?”

AT LITURGY

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

The right sympathetic grace of the Merciful One appeared to thee, O right wondrous one, like a maiden of divine comeliness, wearing a wreath of olive sprigs and leading thee to divine mercy.

Thou hast been seated on a sacred throne as a godly judge, O glorious father John, in that thou didst live like an angel, offering up sacred sacrifices of peace to the All-Compassionate One.

Emulating the great tender compassion of our merciful Lord Who beggared Himself in the flesh in His loving-kindness, O father, thou didst tend to the poor, gathering together those who wandered and the homeless, thus fulfilling the commands of God.

Theotokion: Having made thine abode within the Virgin bodily, O Lord, Thou didst reveal Thyself to mankind as it was fitting for Thee to be seen; and Thou didst show her to be the true Theotokos, the help of the faithful, O only Lover of mankind.

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone VIII:

In patience thou didst acquire thy reward, O venerable father, * who endured in prayers unceasingly, loved the poor and saw to their needs. ** Entreat Christ God, O blessed almsgiver John, that our souls be saved.

Troparion of the venerable father, in Tone VIII:

With the streams of thy tears thou didst irrigate the barren desert, * and with sighs from the depths of thy soul thou didst render thy labors fruitful an hundredfold, * becoming a beacon for the whole world, resplendent with miracles. ** O Nilos our father, entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

Kontakion of the venerable father, in Tone VIII:

Cutting down the underbrush of the uprising of the passions of the body * by thy vigilant prayer as though with a scythe, * thou dost thereby have boldness before the Lord, * do thou free me from every misfortune, that I may cry out to thee: ** Rejoice, O universal father!

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone II:

Thou didst distribute thy wealth to the destitute, * and hast now received heavenly riches, * O John most wise. * Wherefore, celebrating thy memory, ** we all honor thee, O namesake of almsgiving.

Prokeimenon, in Tone VII: Precious in the sight of the Lord * is the death of His saints.

Verse: What shall I render unto the Lord for all that He hath rendered unto me?

EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS, §311(HEB 5: 4-10)

Brethren: No man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not Himself to be made a high priest; but He that said unto Him, Thou art My Son, today have I begotten Thee. As He saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared; though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things He suffered; and being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him; called of God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

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

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

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE, §24(LK 6:17-23)

At that time: Jesus stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; and they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: forth ere went virtue out of him, and healed them all. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven:

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