

THE 4th DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE
COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS METROPHANES,
PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE
AT VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried unto Thee ...,” 3 Stichera of the holy hierarch, in Tone VI:
Spec. Mel.: “Having set aside all ...”:

Thou wast shown to be a God-bearer * wholly consecrated, * the holy anointed of God, clad in the Holy Spirit, * ever entering with splendor * into the holy of holies, * illumined with godly radiance, * partaking of the grace of the holy mysteries * as a true and most glorious hierarch, * praying with boldness ** on behalf of our souls.

Thy life was illumined * with the radiance of the virtues, * and thou hast enlightened the faithful * and driven away the darkness of delusion; * for thou wast shown to be the bright sun of the truth, * O most blessed and holy hierarch Metrophanes. * And now thou hast made thine abode * where shineth never-waning light, * and become a child of the day through the grace of the Holy Spirit. * Wherefore, honorably celebrating * thy divine and luminous memory, ** we honor thee with love, O ever-memorable one.

Thy mind made beautiful by faith * and through yearning for God, * O divinely wise one, * thou wast shown to be radiant; * and having learned incorruption * in thy mortal and corruptible body, * O most wise one, * thou didst acquire the splendors of the incorporeal ones, * becoming a stranger to pleasures, * adorned with dispassion, * O most wise father and hierarch Metrophanes, * thou radiant lamp ** and intercessor for those who honor thy memory with love.

Glory ..., Both now ..., from the Pentecostarion.

Or this Theotokion in Tone VI:

Rejoice, thou fulfillment of the law! * Rejoice, O temple of the Holy Trinity, * thou incorrupt Bride! * Rejoice, divine chariot of the King of all! * Rejoice, thou who like tongs * bore the Ember of immaterial fire in thine arms, * O new paradise, * garden enclosed, * divine and most radiant table, * undefiled dove, * throne of the Most High, noetic bed of God, ** whom the Holy Spirit covered, O Maiden!

Stavrotheotokion: **W**hen, of old, the unblemished ewe-lamb and immaculate Sovereign Lady, * beheld her Lamb * upon the tree of the Cross, * she exclaimed maternally, and marveling cried aloud: * “O my Child most sweet, * what is this new and most strange sight I see? * How hath the thankless synagogue * betrayed Thee to the judgment-seat of Pilate * and condemned Thee to death, * Who art the Life of all? * Yet do I hymn Thine ineffable condescension, ** O Word!”

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone IV:

The truth of things revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith, * icon of meekness, and teacher of temperance; * wherefore, thou hast attained the heights through humility and riches through poverty; * O hierarch Metrophanes our father, ** entreat Christ God, that our souls be saved.

AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, and this canon of the holy hierarch, the acrostic whereof is: “I sing the glory of the great Metrophanes”, in Tone VI:

ODE I

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 with the heavenly choirs as a holy hierarch and servant of God, pray thou earnestly for us, that by thy supplications we may receive eternal good things.

Chosen to serve the precious Gospel of the Lord, O blessed father Metrophanes, with thy most wise teachings thou didst cause men to grow in a proper understanding.

Enriched with the understanding of God, thou didst pour forth the word of life from thy heart, watering souls hardened by the passions, O most wise and divinely blessed Metrophanes, hierarch of God.

Theotokion: From afar the sacred choir of the prophets revealed thee as the one who would become the true Mother of God, O pure one, who art more exalted than the cherubim and all of creation.

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.

Letting divine sweetness fall from thy lips, O father, thou didst dry up the odor of bitter godlessness, giving the pious the proper understanding of God to drink, O blessed one.

Chosen beforehand by the judgment of God, O hierarch father Metrophanes, thou wast shown to be a hierarch, offering un-bloody sacrifices to God Who was sacrificed for our sake.

The tomb where thy precious body lieth poureth forth sweet fragrance as if it were the garden of God, perfuming the faithful, O most glorious and all-honored Metrophanes.

Theotokion: The human mind is at a loss as to how to comprehend the ineffable depths of thy birthgiving, O pure one; for God, having abased Himself in His compassion, hath wholly renewed me within thy womb.

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone II:

Spec. Mel.: “Seeking the highest ...”:

Thou didst manifestly preach the Faith of Christ, * and preserving it, thou didst truly cause thy faithful flock to increase. * Wherefore, thou dost rejoice with the angels, O Metrophanes, ** entreating Christ unceasingly for us all.

Sessional Hymn, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: “Of the Wisdom ...,”:

Having gained dominion over carnal passions, thou wast revealed to be a godly hierarch, O venerable and divinely inspired one, and most gloriously shepherding the imperial city, thou didst drive away the hordes of heretics with the staff of thy divine words. Wherefore, having come to thine end thou hast worthily inherited endless grace, O blessed and holy hierarch, for which cause we cry out to thee: Entreat Christ God, that He grant forgiveness of sins unto those who honor thy most precious memory.

Glory ..., Both now ..., of the Pentecostarion, or the Theotokion in Tone VIII:

From the snares of enemies visible and invisible, * we have been overcome by the storms of our uncountable sins, * and fleeing unto the safe harbor of thy goodness O pure one, * we have thee as our rampart and sure protection. * Wherefore we thy servants beseech thee * to ceaselessly make fervent supplication, O most pure one, * unto Him who seedlessly became incarnate from thee, * that those who worthily hymn thee ** may be granted the remission of their sins.

Stavrotheotokion: **U**pon beholding the Lamb, Shepherd and Redeemer * upon the Cross, * the ewe-lamb exclaimed weeping, bitterly lamenting, and crying aloud: * “The world rejoiceth, having received deliverance through Thee, * but my womb doth burn, beholding Thy crucifixion, * which Thou hast endured in Thy merciful loving-kindness. * O long-suffering Lord, * Thou abyss and inexhaustible well-spring of mercy, * take pity, and grant forgiveness of sins ** unto those who hymn Thy divine sufferings with faith!”

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.**

Full of the Holy Spirit, O sacred father Metrophanes, thou didst drive evil spirits away from all, and by thy spiritual teachings render them faithful.

Thou didst theologize concerning the uncreated Unity indivisible in three Hypostases, inseparable and uncommingled, illumining the pious with thy sacred theology.

Having first mortified carnal thoughts by asceticism and labors, thou didst show thyself to be a godly hierarch and a most sacred intercessor before the Trinity.

Theotokion: **T**hrough thee, O most pure Mother of God, the curse of our first mother hath been annulled, for thou hast given birth for us to the Well-spring of holiness, to Life everlasting.

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.**

Performing the divine mysteries in a godly manner and touching pure things with the most pure thoughts, serving God thou wast revealed to be immaculate, as a most sacred hierarch of God.

Adherents of idolatry became favorites of God through thine honored teachings; and, removing them from unworthy things, thou didst show thyself to be a worthy favorite of God Almighty.

Called by grace, thou didst destroy the ungodliness of idolatry, O venerable, and with the rain of thy discourses thou didst render stony hearts fruitful through the grace of God.

Theotokion: **A**fter thy strange birthgiving thou didst remain a virgin as thou wast before; for God was born, transforming all things by His will, O Mary, thou Bride of God who knewest not a man.

ODE VI

Irmos: **B**eholding the sea of life surging with the tempest of temptations, * **I** run to **T**hy calm haven, and cry to **T**hee: * **R**aise up my life from corruption, * **O** greatly **M**erciful **O**ne.

Thy tongue wisely sharpened by the Spirit like the pen of a scribe, inscribed the word of grace upon the hearts of the pious at the behest of God, O most sacred father.

Learning things divine as one who entereth the mystic holy of holies, with the radiance of the Trinity and by the Spirit thou didst render men faithful, O sacred father, most perfect Metrophanes.

Closing off the pretentious commands of the impious with the streams of thy precepts, thou wast shown to be like a river of peace, watering the congregations of the faithful with piety, O most honored and holy hierarch.

Theotokion: **T**he Word made His abode seedlessly within thy womb and revealed Himself as perfect man, restoring nature in a godly manner, as He alone knew how to do, O God-receiving and all-immaculate Maiden.

Kontakion of the holy hierarch, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: “Thou hast appeared today ...”:

From childhood thou wast shown to be a precious vessel, * becoming a chosen hierarch of God; * and to Him hast thou cried aloud with gladness: * O Christ, Thou art equal to the Father ** and the Spirit!

Ikos: **S**uch a high priest, an initiate and minister of the Word befitted us, as the divine Paul, the instrument of Christ, crieth out, ever offering service to God as one blameless and honorable, and though seen to be clad in a corrupt body, thou didst converse in thy service with the incorporeal ones, removing the sins of the people with a just scale. And now, as a great hierarch, Metrophanes hath appeared unto us, preaching with boldness: O Christ, Thou art equal to the Father and the Spirit.

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.

Illumined with the grace of the Spirit and by participating in the will of God, thou didst become a radiant star, O wise one, enlightening those who chant: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

The most holy Church, illumined by the virtuous deeds, had the uncreated Trinity living within thee, O sacred one, crying out: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Driving slumber from thine eyes with divine wakefulness, thou didst receive the effulgence of God from an angel of light, which made thee a pillar and support of the faithful, a true holy hierarch.

Theotokion: The Uncircumscribable One Who sitteth in the bosom of the Father, O most pure one, now sitteth, circumscribed, in thy bosom, clad in thy visage, having become circumscribed for the salvation of Adam.

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 didst humble the prideful serpent by thy humility, O blessed one, being elevated to God by thy pure understanding. Wherefore, we honor thee, supremely exalting Christ forever.

Thou didst theologize concerning the incarnate Word, and didst save men from slavery to falsehood, driving away the impiety of idolatry, O hierarch father Metrophanes, most wise God-bearer.

Having a life like unto that of thy Master, and discourse befitting such a life, thou hast passed over to places of rest on high, O father, full of the spiritual days.

Theotokion: Delivered from the primal curse by thy birthgiving, O most blessed and divinely joyous Maiden, we address to thee the cry of Gabriel: Rejoice, thou cause of the salvation of all!

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.

As one meek and innocent thou hast made thine abode in the land of the meek, O holy hierarch, joining the armies of heaven, wholly adorned with the splendors of the virtues and clad in the light of virtue.

Behold the splendors of God and the angels, and the beauties of the patriarchs, martyrs and apostles, do thou with them entreat Him Who is the Lover of mankind, to grant remission of sins and amendment of life unto us who praise thee, O venerable one.

Thou didst first splendidly adorn the throne of the foremost of all cities, having lived therein like an angel and adorned it with thy hierarchy; and anointing, thou hast sanctified the people, rendering them divinely wise.

Theotokion: Like a heavenly rain God descended into thy womb, O Virgin, drying up the torrents of falsehood and raining down incorruption upon all mankind, for through thee, O divinely joyous one, deliverance hath been granted.

Exapostilarion of the holy hierarhc:

Spec. Mel.: “Hearken, ye women ...,”:

We know thee to be a greatly radiant star of the Church, O holy hierarch Metrophanes; for with the council thou didst cast down the blasphemy of Arius, illumining the Church with Orthodox doctrines. Wherefore, we hymn thee with faith.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion:

O Virgin who hast given birth to the hypostatic Wisdom, the transcendent Word, the Physician of souls and bodies; heal thou the cruel and long-standing infection and wounds of my soul, and ease the pangs of my heart.

AT LITURGY

Troparion of the holy hierarch, in Tone IV:

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