



OUR
COMMON
SAINTS

*Hymns of Rome, Alexandria
Constantinople & Sebaste*

THE ST. VLADIMIR'S SEMINARY OCTET
Hierodeacon Herman, *director*

Saturday, 3 October 2015,
two o'clock in the afternoon
Metropolitan Philip Auditorium

PROGRAM

*Kindly silence all cellular phones.
Please withhold applause until the end of the program.*



Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God (1 October)

TROPARION

Russo-Greek chant, tone four, arr. Hierodeacon Herman (Majkrzak)

TODAY THE FAITHFUL celebrate the feast with joy, illumined by your coming, O Mother of God! Beholding your pure image, we fervently cry out to you: encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection, and deliver us from every form of evil, by entreating Christ, your Son and our God, that he may save our souls.

Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God

STICHERA AT VESPERS

Kiev Caves Lavra chant, tone one: 'O Marvelous Wonder'

YOU ARE A great protection to those in affliction, O pure Theotokos, a swift helper, the salvation of the world, and its confirmation, an abyss of mercy, a source of the wisdom of God, the protection of the world. Let us sing, O faithful, ineffably praising her radiant stole: Rejoice, O joyous one! The Lord is with you, granting the world through you great and rich mercy.

Isaiah prophesied wondrously, for he said, 'In the last days the mountain of the Lord will be revealed, and the house of the Lord on the summit of the mountain.' And we indeed have seen the true fulfillment of this prophecy in you, O Lady, for the mountains and hills are adorned with temples in the many names of your feasts. Wherefore with joy we cry out to you: Rejoice, O joyous one! The Lord is with you, granting the world through you great and rich mercy.

You are the wondrous beauty of all the faithful, the true fulfillment of prophecy, the glory of the apostles and the adornment of the martyrs, the boast of virginity,

and most wonderful protection for all the world. With the cloak of your mercy, O Theotokos, protect all the Orthodox people who cry out: Rejoice, O joyous one! The Lord is with you, granting the world through you great and rich mercy.

Feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul (29 June)

STICHERA AT VESPERS

Kiev Caves Lavra chant, tone two: 'With what Wreaths'
arr. Archpriest L. Margitich

WITH WHAT WREATHS of praise shall we crown Peter and Paul? They were separate in body yet united in spirit; the foremost of the preachers of God: the one as leader of the apostles, and the other as the one who labored more than the rest. For Christ our God, who has great mercy, doth truly crown them with diadems of glory as is meet.

With what beauties of song shall we hymn Peter and Paul? They are the wings of divine knowledge who soared above the ends of the earth and were upborne to the heavens; the hands of the grace of the Gospel, the rivers of wisdom, the arms of the Cross, with which Christ, who has great mercy, has cast down the pride of the demons.

With what spiritual hymns shall we praise Peter and Paul? They have closed the ever-gaping mouths of the ungodly; they are the dreadful swords of the Spirit, the splendid adornments of Rome, the nurturers of the whole world, the noetic and divinely-graven tablets of the New Covenant, which Christ, who has great mercy, proclaimed in Zion.

Feast of Saint Andrew the First-Called Apostle (30 November)

STICHERA AT VESPERS

Optina Hermitage chant, tone four: 'Called from on High,' arr. Hdn. Herman

O GLORIOUS APOSTLE ANDREW, formed by the light of the Forerunner: when the Radiance of the Father's glory was revealed in the Person of Christ, wishing to save the human race, in his loving-kindness, then thou wast the first to run to him, illumined in mind by the perfect gleaming of Christ's

Godhead. Wherefore thou art titled both herald and apostle of Christ our God. Beseech him to save and enlighten our souls.

O all-wise Apostle Andrew, instructed by the voice of the Forerunner, when the all-holy Word became flesh, granting us life, and announcing the glad tidings of salvation to those on earth, then thou didst follow after him, and thou didst dedicate thyself to him, as the best of all offerings, and all-holy first-fruits. Thou didst recognize him as our God, and didst reveal him to thy brother Peter. Beseech him to save and enlighten our souls.

O blessed Apostle Andrew, disciple of him who blossomed from a barren woman: when the Offspring of the Virgin dawned forth, the teacher of piety and wisdom, who showed an example of purity, then thou becamest a fervent lover of virtue, making ascents in thy heart; and from glory thou wast caught up to the ineffable glory of Christ our God. Beseech him to save and enlighten our souls.

Feast of the Apostle Thomas (6 October)

EXAPOSTILARION AT MATINS

Galician chant: 'By the Spirit in the Sanctuary,' arr. Archpriest S. Meholic

O THOMAS, GLORY of the apostles, like the most radiant sun of the East, thou wast sent to the people of India, and didst enlighten them with the light of thy words and by faith in the Trinity. And for this cause we celebrate thy divine and holy memory.

Feast of the Apostle and Evangelist Mark (25 October)

STICHERA AT VESPERS

Seven Lakes Hermitage chant, tone one, 'Joy of the Heavenly Hosts' harm. B. Sheehan

COME, O FAITHFUL, let us sing praises to Mark, the wise writer of the Gospel, the great instructor of Egypt. O apostle, by your prayers and teachings, guide our lives in the way of peace.

O companion of Paul, the chosen vessel, you accompanied him throughout all Macedonia; then you followed Peter to Rome; as his secretary and interpreter

you were welcomed. But it was in Egypt, O all-wise Mark, that you finished your course in a manner well-pleasing to God.

You gave life to barren souls, watering them with the radiant stream of your Gospel. Because of you, O holy Mark, Alexandria rejoices with us today, and celebrates your blessed memory.

Feast of Saints Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria (18 January)

TROPARION

Russo-Greek chant, tone three, arr. B. Sheehan

YOU SHONE FORTH with works of Orthodoxy, and quenched all heresy. You were victors and conquerors, O hierarchs Athanasius and Cyril, who enriched all with godliness, and greatly adorned the Church. Thus you have worthily found Christ God, who grants us great mercy.

Feast of Saint Gregory the Enlightener of Greater Armenia (30 September)

STICHERON AT VESPERS

Kievan Chant, tone six, harm. Hdn. Herman

WHO CAN WORTHILY recount the victories of thy virtues? What mouth can describe thine endurance of torture? For thou wast triumphant in both. O saint of God, O hieromartyr Gregory, never cease to pray that our souls be saved, for thou hast great boldness.

Feast of the Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste (9 March)

STICHERA AT VESPERS

Kievan Chant, tone two, arr. Hdn. Herman

THE HOLY MARTYRS bravely endured their present torments, and rejoicing in what they longed for, they said to one another: 'If we do not shed our garments, we cannot put off the old man. Winter is cruel, but paradise is sweet. The ice is painful, but acquiring the Kingdom will be delightful. So let us not give in,

O warriors! Let us endure but a little while, that we may receive crowns of victory from Christ our God, the Savior of our souls.’

✠. Thou hast tried us by fire : like as silver is tried. (*Ps. 65:10*)

Casting off all their clothes, and going into the lake without fear, the holy martyrs spoke thus to one another: ‘Let us not spare today our corruptible garments, that we may obtain the Paradise that we lost when we were clothed because of the pernicious serpent. So let us now unclthe ourselves for the resurrection of all. Let us disdain the frigid ice and despise the flesh, that we may receive crowns of victory from Christ our God, the Savior of our souls.’

✠. We went through fire and water : and thou broughtest us out into refreshment (*ibid., v. 12*)

Delighting in tortures, running to the frozen lake as to a warm spring, the holy martyrs said: ‘Let us not fear the season of winter, that we may avoid Gehenna’s fearsome fire. Let fire consume our legs, that in eternity, they may dance. Let our arms be cut off, that they may stretch themselves out to the Lord. Let us not spare our mortal nature. Let us submit to death, that we may receive crowns of victory from Christ our God, the Savior of our souls.’

Synaxis of the Three Holy Hierarchs (30 January)

EXAPOSTILARIA AT MATINS

Put chant, ‘Hearken, ye Women,’ harm. J. van Gardner

NOW LET US proclaim the memory of those who shone with light, having received divine light: Basil the Great, and Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom.

✠. Glory to the Father...

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, O Trinity: May I not be deprived of thy glory, through the prayers of Basil, Gregory, and John, and the pure Theotokos.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross

PRAISES AT MATINS

Optina Hermitage chant, tone eight: “O Marvelous Wonder”

O MARVELOUS WONDER! The most holy Cross, the life-giving Tree, is lifted up on high today and shown to the world. All the ends of the earth give glory, all the devils are affrighted. How great a gift is here bestowed on mortal men! Through thy Cross, save our souls, O Christ, thou who alone art full of compassion.

O marvelous wonder! The Cross which carried the most high as a cluster of grapes full of life is seen today exalted high above the earth. Through the Cross we are all drawn to God, and death has been forever swallowed up. O undefiled wood! Through thee we enjoy the immortal fruit of Eden, as we glorify Christ.

O marvelous wonder! The length and breadth of the Cross is equal to the heavens, for by divine Grace it sanctifies the whole world. By the Cross the unfaithful are conquered, by the Cross the Orthodox Christians are confirmed. O divine Ladder! By thee we go up to heaven, exalting Christ our Savior.

Feast of the Annunciation of the Mother of God (25 March)

KONTAKION AT MATINS

Russo-Greek Chant, tone eight, arr. Deacon S. Trubachev; ed. B. Sheehan

TO THEE, OUR CHAMPION LEADER and defender, we thy servants, delivered from calamity, offer hymns of victory and of thanksgiving, O Theotokos. Since thou art invincible in power, set us free from every peril, so that we may cry to thee: Hail, O Bride without bridegroom!

ST VLADIMIR'S SEMINARY OCTET

Andrew Cannon	Christopher Moore
Mark Chenoweth	Christopher Rakowski
Ignatius Green	William Rettig
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