

THE 29th DAY OF THE MONTH OF JULY
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYR CALLINICUS
AT VESPERS

On "Lord, I have cried ...", these stichera, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: "O all-glorious wonder ...":

O divinely wise martyr Callinicus, * piously desiring to die * rather than to live, * thou didst truly present * an image of the death of Christ; * wherefore thou hast received immortality * and unwaning blessedness; * and, rejoicing, thou hast made thine abode, O glorious one, * where the ranks of the angels and athletes dwell.

A light emitting healing, * a river full of true gifts, * a treatment which costeth nought, * a vessel of sanctity * hath the shrine of thy relics been shown to us, * whence let us who approach with faith * draw forth ever-living health, * O glorious martyr, * for whose sake we glorify our wondrous God.

O all-blessed martyr Callinicus, * possessing the invisible God * as an invincible aid * against the invisible foe, * thou didst raise the standard of immortality; * and having felled him who boasted * that he would destroy the earth * thou didst drown him in the streams of thy blood * by the exercise of thy sufferings.

Glory ..., in Tone VIII:

With hymns let us honor today the wondrous Callinicus, the champion of piety and destroyer of the enemy, the converser with martyrs, who was a temple of the Holy Spirit, the warrior of Christ God, the truly inexhaustible treasury of healings, the confirmation of the faithful.

Now & ever ..., Theotokion:

Spec. Mel.: "O all-glorious wonder ...":

The pre-eternal God Who took flesh of thy blood * showed thee forth, O pure one, * as an intercessor for men. * Wherefore, deliver thy servants * from every misfortune and evil circumstance, * and from the snares of the wicked foe; * and vouchsafe that all who glorify * and bow down to thee * may partake of the splendor of the elect.

Stavrotheotokion: "What is this sight * which mine eyes behold, O Master? * Lifted up upon the Tree, Thou diest, * granting life unto all, * O Thou Who sustainest all creation!" * weeping, the Theotokos said * when she beheld suspended upon the Cross * the God and man * Who had shone forth from her ineffably.

Troparion, in Tone IV:

In his suffering, O Lord, Thy martyr Callinicus received an imperishable crown from Thee, our God; for, possessed of Thy might, he cast down the tormenters and set at nought the feeble audacity of the demons. By his supplications save Thou our souls.

AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, and this canon for the martyr, in Tone IV:

ODE I

Irmos: **The Lord Who is mighty in battles cast the chariots of Pharaoh and his power into the sea. Let us chant a new song unto Him, for He is glorious!**

Having truly mounted the noetic chariot, thou didst drown the captains of the noetic Egypt in the streams of thy blood, O Callinicus, boast of martyrs.

Clothed in divine vesture, O all-blessed and wise one, thou didst divest thyself of earthly garments, didst hasten to the contest and put the enemy to shame.

Having broken the subtle snares of the enemy with the bonds of thy suffering, thou didst cast him, helpless, to the ground, O Callinicus, and didst trample him under thy feet.

Theotokion: **O** pure Virgin Mother, we know thee to be her who gave birth unto God, whom the choir of the prophets foresaw as the portal of heaven and the bush unburnt.

ODE III

Irmos: **O Lord Who dost establish the thunder and createst the wind: make me steadfast, that I may truly hymn Thee and do Thy will; for there is none as holy as Thee, O our God!**

Wounded with the love of Christ, the martyr cried out, enduring pain amid his struggles: "I make haste to the sweet fragrance of myrrh, following Thy Passion, through the suffering of my blood!"

Thou wast preserved un-assailed by the darts of the serpent; for the crafty one, having bruised thy heel amid thy wounds, crushed his own head in thy sufferings, O Callinicus.

Having cut down the thorns of deception with the sword of the Spirit, thou didst truly offer unto thy Master the fruit of the Christian Faith, O most blessed one: thy hundredfold pangs.

Theotokion: **I**n thy womb thou alone didst conceive as the ineffable Offspring of thy birthgiving God the Word, Who existed before thee, O Mother; and with milk thou didst nourish the Unoriginate One as a babe, O all-pure one.

Sedalion of the martyr, in Tone III:

Spec. Mel.: "Of the divine Faith ...":

Having divine zeal within thy soul, O glorious one, thou didst steadfastly denounce those who vainly worked iniquity; and having drawn nigh unto torments, thou didst pass through thy struggle with valiant mind. O martyr Callinicus, entreat Christ God, that He grant us great mercy.

Glory ..., Now & ever ..., Theotokion:

Without being separated from the divine nature, yet becoming flesh within thy womb, the one Lord remained God and man, Who after thy birthgiving preserved thee, His Virgin Mother, all-immaculate, as thou wast before giving birth. Him do we earnestly entreat, that He grant us great mercy.

Stavrotheotokion: **T**he unblemished ewe-lamb of the Word, the incorrupt Virgin Mother, beholding Him hanging upon the Cross Who had come forth from her without pain, cried aloud, lamenting maternally: "Woe is me, O my Child! How is it that Thou sufferest willingly, desiring to deliver man from the indignity of the passions?"

ODE IV

Irmos: **I** heard report of Thee, O God, and I was afraid; I considered Thy works, O Lord, and was amazed, for the earth is full of Thy praise.

Washed in the streams of thy blood, O all-blessed one, thou wast revealed as most pure by the Spirit, and hast attained unto the delight of the incorporeal ones, O martyr Callinicus.

Thou wast truly set as a stone precious to the Church, and didst shake the temples of the idols and cast them down to the ground by the steadfast opposition of thy sufferings.

The deadly blandishments of the enemy didst thou truly turn aside with the words of the Spirit, O martyr; and, strengthened in thy soul, thou didst win the victory over deception.

Theotokion: **W**e now recognize thee, O pure one, as the bush which the great Moses beheld prophetically on Sinai, burning without being consumed, bearing Fire within thy womb.

ODE V

Irmos: **S**hine forth upon me, O Lord, the light of Thy commandments, for my spirit waketh unto Thee and hymneth Thee. For Thou art our God, and unto Thee do I flee, O King of peace.

Foundering in the quicksand and abyss of my sins and having fallen into the tempest of mine evil deeds, I cry to thee: Be thou my helper!

When the soles of thy feet were pierced with nails, O martyr, thou didst sing: "In the path of Thy testimonies have I richly delighted, enduring wounds in the expectation of reward, O Master, Thou Judge of the contest!"

Having traded well in torment, thou didst trim thy lamp with the oil of mercy, O all-blessed one; wherefore, thou didst become a wholly unblemished sacrifice, an acceptable whole-burnt offering.

Theotokion: O Theotokos, thou art the subject of the prophets' proclamation, the boast of the angels and the adornment of martyrs, bearing the divine Word, Who wast ineffably begotten of the Father before time began, O all-pure one.

ODE VI

Irmos: Engulfed by the tempest of sin and held fast as in the belly of the whale, with the prophet I cry to Thee: Lead up my life from corruption, O Lord, and save me!

The fold of thy flock hath been preserved unharmed by the beasts of heresy; for the stout staff of thy sufferings, which thou didst hold fast, O glorious one, hath been shown to drive wolves away.

Thou didst escape the night of deception by thy suffering, and the beauty of faith shone forth like the sun upon the ends of the earth in thy confession.

As a renowned preacher of the Faith, thou didst readily cry out to the iniquitous one: "Why threatenest thou one whose spiritual strength is not weak? For the darts of the ungodly are feeble!"

Theotokion: As before thy birth giving, O thou who hast not known wedlock, thou remainest incorrupt and virginal; for in thee is known the mystery which passeth understanding and recounting, O Bride of God.

Kontakion, in Tone II:

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

The beautiful things of heaven hast thou now inherited as is meet; for, greatly aflame with the love of Christ, thou didst manfully brave the fire therewith, O Callinicus. Standing now before Him, cease not to pray in behalf of us all.

ODE VII

Irmos: The fire burning in the furnace quaked with fear, and the youths were bedewed and, chanting, said: Blessed art Thou alone, O God of our fathers!

"The terrors of torments are for me means to obtain sweetness; for neither fire nor wounds will separate me from Him Who truly loveth me!" cried the martyr.

Strengthened by the support of Christ, O glorious one, contending, thou didst cast the adversary down to the ground; and, true to thy name, thou didst show thyself to be the goodly victor over the tyrant.

Thou didst put the devil to shame and didst gladden the angels with thy sufferings, O glorious one; and thou didst cry out to Christ: Blessed art Thou alone, O God of our fathers!

Theotokion: **B**y thy birthgiving, O all-pure Virgin, thou didst annul the curse of Eve our first mother; for thou art the Mother of the Master of all, who hast mediated joy for all.

ODE VIII

Irmos: **I**n Thy wisdom, O Master, Thou hast ordered all things, and hast established the earth like a scale, setting its foundation upon the deep of boundless waters. Wherefore, we all cry out, chanting: **Bless the Lord without ceasing, O ye works of the Lord!**

Rejoice, O delight of true athletes! Rejoice, adornment and ornament of the Faith! Rejoice, torch-bearer most splendid among the martyrs, who hast dispelled deception and shone forth light upon the world by thy suffering, O most wise Callinicus.

The tyrant was put to shame by thy struggles and opposition, and the malefactors were vanquished by thy wounds, O blessed one. Thy heels were pierced with nails. All deception was consumed, and the temples of the idolaters were destroyed by the fire of thy contest.

Bowing thy head, O Callinicus, in thy boldness pray unceasingly to God in behalf of those who honor thee. Intercede for thy flock, rescuing it from the divers snares of the deceiver, and make it steadfast by faith. For through thee doth it grow in stature and might.

Theotokion: **I**n the Spirit, the prophets perceived thee, the Virgin, as tabernacle and altar, jar and lamp-stand, the all-holy mountain, the cloud and the tables of the law, the ark and the staff, the divine portal whereby the ancient paradise is made accessible unto all men.

ODE IX

Irmos: **T**hy seedless giving of birth to Christ our God, O pure Theotokos, do we magnify with unceasing hymns.

A robe of faith was woven for thee on high, whereby thou didst strip the enemy naked at the tribunal, O glorious martyr.

The tyrant thought to deceive the martyr with blandishments, but the martyr remained steadfast in the Faith.

O glorious Callinicus, thou didst offer thyself unto God as a pure whole-burnt offering and a pleasing sacrifice on the fire of thy contest.

Beautiful are thy feet, O athlete Callinicus, which, though pierced with nails, went on to preach God.

Theotokion: O pure one, we have acquired thee as our protection and refuge, our rampart and bulwark, our ever firm hope amid tribulations.