

**THE 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**  
**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYR CHARITINA**  
**AT VESPERS**

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

Spec. Mel.: "As one valiant among the martyrs ...":

**A**s the namesake of joy \* thou hast passed over with joy \* to the heavenly bridal-chamber, O most honored one, \* where, having truly endured \* the painful torment of fire \* and the uprooting of all thy teeth and nails, \* thou didst desire to acquire thy dwelling-place, \* O athlete Charitina, \* much suffering virgin martyr.

**T**hou didst break the jaws of the lions, \* O much suffering one, \* enduring the breaking of thine own jaw, \* and thou didst valiantly bear \* the rending away of thy nails, \* uprooting the cruel savagery of deception; \* and, cast into the depths of the sea, \* thou didst drown the malice \* of the wicked adversary.

**A**fter thy blessed end, \* thy father received thee, O glorious one, \* who hadst been cast into the sea; \* and he cried out in awe: \* "What grace hath been bestowed upon thee, \* O my most sacred and beloved child, \* through the torments of thine honored suffering! \* Truly thou hast justified thy name, \* which signifieth grace!"

Glory ..., Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in the same tone & melody:

**W**ith the showers of the all-holy Spirit \* bedew thou my mind, \* O all-pure one who ineffably gavest birth to Christ, \* the Dew-drop Who by His compassions washeth away \* the countless iniquities of men; \* and by thy supplications \* dry up the wellspring of my sufferings \* and ever vouchsafe unto me \* a torrent of living nourishment.

Stavrotheotokion, in the same melody:

**A**s she beheld Thee, \* the Lamb and Shepherd, upon the Tree, \* the ewe-lamb who gave Thee birth lamented \* and cried out to Thee maternally: \* "O long-suffering Son most desired, \* how is it that Thou art suspended upon the tree of the Cross? \* How is it that Thy hands and feet, O Word, \* have been pierced with nails by the iniquitous? \* How is it that Thou hast shed Thy blood O Master?"

Troparion, in Tone IV:

**T**hy ewe-lamb Charitina crieth out to Thee with a loud voice, O Jesus: "I love Thee, O my Bridegroom, and, seeking Thee, I pass through many struggles. I am crucified and buried with Thee in Thy baptism, and suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; I die for Thee, that I may live with Thee. As an unblemished sacrifice accept me who sacrifice myself with love for Thee!" By her supplications save Thou our souls, in that Thou art merciful.

## AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, and that of the martyr, with 4 troparia;

The acrostic whereof is: "With love I hymn the grace of Charitina";

The composition of Joseph, in Tone IV:

### ODE I

**Irmos:** Israel of old, having traversed the depths of the Red Sea with dryshod feet, vanquished the power of Amalek in the wilderness by Moses' arms outstretched in the form of the Cross.

**G**race thou my mind with thy gifts, O Charitina who wast graced with sacred sufferings, that in sanctity I may hymn thee as an athlete and martyr resplendent in virginity.

**T**he grace of the all-holy Spirit which was given thee adorned thee with wreaths woven of joy, and strengthened thee, who suffered with manly mind, to inherit everlasting joy.

**T**he right glorious martyr, O Master, understanding Thee Who wast lifted up upon the Cross, received the strength to endure painful wounds by the power of Thee Who hast strengthened our nature.

**Theotokion:** Thou wast a habitation containing the divine Essence, O pure Theotokos; wherefore, Charitina, who loved thee and followed after thee in virginity, hath been brought before thy Son.

### ODE III

**Irmos:** Thy Church rejoiceth in Thee, O Christ, crying aloud: Thou art my strength, O Lord, My refuge and confirmation!

**T**he divine desire which set thy soul afire burned up carnal love and the cruel pangs of being boiled alive.

**B**eholding the enemy laid prostrate before thy martyric feet by the grace of Christ, we offer praises to Him.

**W**ith the strength of the Almighty thou didst crush the head of the malicious one, mightily enduring the burning of thine own head, O martyr.

**Theotokion:** Loving thee as the only one blessed among women, O pure one, Charitina was glorified by thy goodly grace.

**Sedalion, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Joseph marveled ...":**

**H**aving graced thy soul with God-given virtues, thou wast truly illumined by thy suffering, O honored Charitina, and didst betroth thyself to thy Creator, remaining incorrupt in purity; wherefore, thou didst trample the enemy underfoot, victoriously enduring multifarious sufferings and pangs. Therefore, with faith we celebrate thine all-holy memory.

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

**J**oseph marveled, beholding that which transcended nature, and in thy seedless conception, O Theotokos, he perceived with his mind the rain which descended upon the fleece, the bush which was unconsumed by the fire and the rod of Aaron which budded forth; and bearing witness as thy betrothed and guardian, he cried out to the priests: "The virgin giveth birth, yet still remaineth a virgin after birthgiving!"

**Stavrotheotokion:** **T**he Virgin and ewe-lamb, beholding on the Cross the Lamb Who was born of her without seed, his side pierced by the spear, was wounded with darts of grief, and cried out, exclaiming in pain: "What is this new mystery? How is it that Thou diest, Who alone art the Lord of life? Wherefore, arise, raising up our fallen first father!"

### ODE IV

**Irmos:** **T**he Church, beholding Thee, the Sun of righteousness, lifted up upon the Cross, stood rooted in place, crying out as is meet: **Glory to Thy power, O Lord!**

**O** passion-bearing martyr, like an unblemished sacrifice the tyrants snatched thee from the hands of thy father, who didst love the heavenly Father exceedingly.

**F**ollowing the wise maidens, O most glorious one, thou didst richly provide the lamp of thy soul with thy blood as with oil, and thou didst inherit the divine bridal-chamber, O martyr, namesake of joy.

**T**hy heart, set afire with love for the Bridegroom, extinguished the embers of falsehood with the outpouring of thy blood and dried up the sea of polytheism, O thou of valiant mind.

**Theotokion:** **O** pure Theotokos, thou gavest birth to the incarnate Word of God; and Charitina, loving Him ardently, stood up against the fire and multifarious torments.

### ODE V

**Irmos:** **T**hou hast come, O my Lord, as a light into the world, a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance those who hymn Thee with faith.

**T**hough they shaved thy head and tormented thee with the heat of burning embers, O divinely wise one, they in nowise were able to shake the strength of thy mind.

**P**ortraying an image of Thy nails and sacrifice, O Lord, the martyr cried out: "I endure the pain of red-hot goads!"

**W**hen the nails of thy hands and feet were torn away, O pure virgin, thou didst hallow the faithful with the precious blood which flowed forth, and like Christ didst cleanse the world of the blood of demons.

**Theotokion:** **A**n earthly mind cannot understand thy conceiving, which transcendeth nature, O Virgin Mother and Maiden; for thou gavest birth unto God.

## **ODE VI**

**Irmos:** **I** will sacrifice to Thee with a voice of praise, O Lord, the Church crieth out to Thee, having been cleansed of the blood of demons by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.

**W**ith grace and signs was thy sacred head crowned by Christ, for Whom thou didst will to suffer, O athlete, thou namesake of divine joy.

**H**e Who delivered Jonah from the depths saved thee alive when thou wast cast into the depths of the sea, O divinely wise one; and He drowned the enemy in the depths of thy blood.

**W**ith the sword of patience thou didst slay the enemy, O glorious one, and, enduring the utter uprooting of thy teeth, thou didst break the jaws of the incorporeal lions.

**Theotokion:** **T**he athlete Charitina, finding thee to be her strength and confirmation, mightily endured tortures; and, rejoicing, she is brought before the Master of all in thy train, O Virgin.

**Kontakion, in Tone II:**

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

**R**endering thy soul steadfast with mighty understanding, O most blessed Charitina, thou didst manifestly put to shame the adverse enemy, arrayed in a robe dyed purple in thy blood; and thou dost ever rejoice with the angels. Pray thou for us, O athlete.

## **ODE VII**

**Irmos:** **T**he children of Abraham in the Persian furnace, a fire more with love of piety than with the flame, cried out: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

**F**rom the wheel of fire did He Who delivered the three youths from the furnace save thee, O martyr, who chanted in thanksgiving: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

**T**hou dost go up to the heavens with the virgins as a lamp-bearer, in that thou didst mightily endure burning torches, when thou didst chant: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

The all-iniquitous one, reproved by thine endurance, bound thy hands and feet and cast into the depths thee who chanted: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

With thy divine discourse thou didst denounce the mindlessness of the enemy, O martyr, and by sufferings didst make up thy lack of the pangs of childbirth, crying: Blessed art Thou, O Lord my God!

**Theotokion:** The worshipful Word loved thee, who alone art a Virgin pure and incorrupt, and the Incarnate One made Himself a whole man through thee, O Maiden, and hath glorified Charitina with miracles.

### ODE VIII

**Irmos:** Stretching forth his hands, Daniel closed the mouths of the lions in the pit; and the young lovers of piety, girded about with virtue, quenched the power of the fire, crying: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Thou wast comely in the beauty of thy wounds, O most honored one, and, remaining an incorrupt virgin, didst join thyself to Christ, the comely Word Who was incarnate for our sake from the Virgin. To Him do we cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Beset by all the assaults of those who tortured thee, thou didst valiantly endure the cruelty of the blazing wheel, the burning of red-hot goads, being cast into the deep, and the uprooting of thy teeth and nails, O honored one, magnifying Christ forever.

Thy feet were adorned with the beauties of pain, O glorious one; wherefore, they did not become wet when thou didst walk upon the waters, for the glorious angel of God was with thee, O virgin martyr; and with him thou didst cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

It is a wonder which doth astonish every mind how, after thy death, the deep which had received thy relics gave them up to thy father, who paternally buried them; and, treasuring the grace which doth emanate from thee, O Charitina, he receiveth the kingdom of heaven.

**Theotokion:** Thou hast been shown to be more exalted than the heavens, O all-pure one, having given birth to the God of heaven Who maketh heavenly the whole nature of mortals, and hath enlightened the honored memory of Charitina. To Him let us chant: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

### ODE IX

**Irmos:** Christ, the Chief Cornerstone uncut by human hands, who uniteth two disparate natures, was cut from thee, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin; wherefore, in gladness we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

**T**hat thou mightest receive crowns of glory as one incorrupt, O virgin martyr, thou didst endure all manner of tortures in gladness of spirit and with firmness of mind.

**A**s a comely, beautiful and God-pleasing virgin, as an invincible martyr and the unblemished bride of the Master, thou hast soared aloft to the heavens on golden wings.

**T**hou didst shine forth rays of light, O radiant passion-bearer, and drivest away the darkness of demonic wickedness and the passions with the miracles ever given thee by God, O right wondrous One.

**G**laddening the people, thy joyous day bringeth them together to hymn thy valiant struggles and contests, and thy courageous suffering, O great martyr, namesake of joy.

**Theotokion:** **L**ight hath shone forth upon us from thy womb which knew not wedlock, O Virgin; and, illumined divinely by His radiance, the namesake of joy became light, O Theotokos who knewest not wedlock.