

**THE 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**  
**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYRS CARPUS & PAPYLUS**  
**AT VESPERS**

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

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

**B**ound with chains, \* immured in prison, \* given as food for wild beasts, \* hung aloft and mangled, \* yet, receiving divine help from heaven, \* ye remained unshaken \* through the love of the Master and Savior of all, \* O most wise Carpus and Papyrus.

**G**rounding thy thought through wisdom \* on the rock of faith, \* O steadfast martyr Papyrus, \* thou didst rejoice when thou wast stoned, \* likening thyself to the divine leader of martyrs, \* the archdeacon Stephen, \* as a minister and servant of the mysteries of God, \* as one numbered among the martyrs \* and a converser with angels.

**U**nswervingly walking \* the path of witness, \* your feet nailed to iron sandals, \* ye did steadfastly destroy the sting of the enemy and destroyer, \* O all-praised ones, \* and were crowned with victories. \* Wherefore, all the Church of Christ \* doth celebrate \* your holy, luminous and renowned commemoration.

Glory ..., in Tone VI:

**I**n that thou wast worthy among godly seers, O venerable one, thou didst behold the heavens opened, and the Lord seated upon the throne, and the cherubim and seraphim round about Him; and we, thy sacred flock, enlightened by thee, O Carpus, cry out to thee: Ask thou peace for the world and great mercy for our souls.

Now and ever ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion:

Spec. Mel.: "On the third day ...":

**T**he all-immaculate Theotokos, beholding our Life suspended upon the Tree, maternally lamenting, cried out: "O my Son and my God, save them that hymn Thee with love!"

Troparion, in Tone IV:

**T**hy martyrs, O Lord, in their sufferings received imperishable crowns from Thee, our God; for, possessed of Thy might, they cast down the tormentors and set at naught the feeble audacity of the demons. By their prayers do Thou save our souls.

Glory ..., Now and ever ..., Theotokion.

## AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, and this canon of the martyrs, the acrostic whereof is: "With hymns I crown Carpus and Papyrus," the composition of Joseph, in Tone I:

### ODE I

**Irmos:** Thy victorious right arm hath in godly manner been glorified in strength; for as almighty, O Immortal One, it shattered the adversary, fashioning anew the path of the deep for the Israelites.

Praising the most sacred memory of the mighty Carpus and Papyrus, the witnesses to the Truth, in godly manner let us hymn the Lord of glory Who hath made them victors.

Tried first by the fire of fasting, through suffering ye did truly show forth a second, spiritual testing, O martyrs, and in your divine virtues ye shone forth more brightly than gold.

Making haste to woundings, hanging, fire and death with divine power, O glorious ones, ye vanquished the might of the tyrants and were crowned with imperishable crowns.

**Theotokion:** O divinely joyous one, portal of the Light which shone forth from thine incorrupt womb: shine forth upon me the luminous beams of repentance, and dispel thou the gloom of my sins.

### ODE III

**Irmos:** O Thou Who alone hast known the weakness of human nature, having mercifully formed Thyself therein, Thou dost gird me about with power from on high, that I may chant to Thee: Holy is the living temple of Thine ineffable glory, O Lover of mankind!

With thyself thou didst bear unto Christ an acceptable and most sacred fruit, the sacred Agathadorus, who endured stripes and wounds, and with the might of knowledge becometh victorious in the flesh over the incorporeal foe.

Unjustly broken at the command of the judge, O wise one, thou didst endure the mangling of thy flanks; and set aflame with fire, thou didst extinguish the burning embers of deception with the blood of thy wounds, O much-suffering Carpus.

Desiring to see Christ, hung aloft, thy breast burnt with fire, thou didst endure manfully, O divinely wise Papyrus, manifestly bedewed with the dew of the Spirit and strengthened by divine aspirations.

**Theotokion:** O pure, most holy and all-immaculate Virgin, all we, the faithful, proclaim thee to be the undefiled dwelling-place of God, the unquarried mountain, the holy ark, the censer of the immaterial Ember.

**Sedalion, in Tone I: Spec. Mel.: "When the stone had been sealed ...":**

**P**lanting the fruits of the knowledge of God by the labors, thou didst uproot the thorns of ungodliness; having anointed thyself with divinely effective oil, thou didst shepherd thy people, O sacred one. And having suffered under the law, thou wast vouchsafed twofold honors, O Carpus. Glory to Him that gaveth thee strength! Glory to Him that crowned thee! Glory to Him that through thee worketh healings for all!

**Glory ..., Now and ever ..., Theotokion:**

**S**tretching forth thy divine arms wherewith thou didst bear the Creator Who in His goodness becometh incarnate, O all-holy Virgin, do thou entreat Him to deliver from temptations, sufferings and misfortunes us that praise thee with love and cry out: Glory to Him that made His abode within thee! Glory to Him that issued forth from thee! Glory to Him Who by thy birth giving hath delivered us!

**Or this Stavrotheotokion:** **T**he ewe-lamb, beholding Thee, the Lamb, O longsuffering Word, crucified upon the Cross with two thieves, Thy side pierced by a spear, exclaimed, crying out maternally: "What is this strange and dread mystery which is ineffably accomplished, O my Jesus? How is it that Thou art entombed, O uncontainable God? Forsake me not who gavest Thee birth, O my Jesus most sweet!"

#### **ODE IV**

**Irmos: Habbakuk, gazing with the eyes of foresight upon thee, the mountain overshadowed by the grace of God, prophesied that the Holy One of Israel would come forth from thee unto our salvation and restoration.**

**B**ound with the indissoluble love of the Creator, O martyr of Christ, stoned, thou didst manifestly vanquish them that stoned thee with the endurance God granted thee, O all-praised one, struggling with manly mind against hatred.

**A**rmed against all manner of pain, O most valorous ones, and cast to the wild beasts, together ye vanquished them, as did Daniel, by the divine images of faith, O Carpus and Papyrus, ye glorious martyrs.

**T**he most wicked one, the author of evil, mercilessly committed the favorites of Christ to the unquenchable conflagration, thinking thus to weaken their power. But his designs were reduced to ashes.

**Theotokion: O** Virgin, we that are ever tempest-tossed amid the sea of evils have thee as a haven of salvation. To thee do we flee, and in thee do we trust, that we may not fear the treachery of the invisible foe.

## ODE V

**Irmos: O Christ** Who hast enlightened the ends of the world with the radiance of Thy coming and hast illumined them with Thy Cross: with the light of Thy divine knowledge enlighten the hearts of them that hymn Thee in Orthodox manner.

Neither the tribulations of persecution, nor hunger, nor even death, could separate the divinely wise from the love of Christ; for earnestly foreseeing their recompense, they paid no heed to the vexatious.

Strengthened by divine power, ye endured the most cruel piercing of your feet, O all-praised ones, traveling the path of witness and setting at naught the sting of ungodliness.

Bearing the inextinguishable torch of suffering, ye traversed the night of ignorance, O martyrs, and drew nigh to the never-waning Light, being truly sons of the day by faith.

**Theotokion: W**ithout knowing man thou didst conceive the infinite God and didst give birth unto the transcendent Creator of nature. Great is the mystery! Inconceivable the wonder, O Virgin, who alone art all-immaculate!

## ODE VI

**Irmos: T**he uttermost abyss hath surrounded us, and there is none to deliver us. We are accounted as lambs for the slaughter, we Thy people, O our God, for Thou art the strength and correction of the weak!

Your virtues perfume the assemblies of men, manifestly dispelling the foul stench of polytheism, O right glorious ones, for ye have now been shown to be the fragrance of God, O martyrs.

With the dew of faith did ye extinguish the burning flame, O blessed ones, and ye fervently enkindled the desire to suffer within Agathonica, who was with you, O noble ones, and with her did ye manfully undergo suffering.

Sharpened by the infliction of pain, O valiant athletes Carpus and Papyrus, ye were truly shown to be swords of heavenly workmanship which cut down legions of the enemy.

**Theotokion: F**rom the mire of the passions and the pit of sinful falls do thou raise me up and set aright me, thy servant, who confess thee to be the Theotokos, O pure one; for thou art ever the restoration of the fallen.

**Kontakion, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Having been lifted up ...":**

As a most precious treasure and a wellspring pouring forth streams of healings hath the Master bestowed your relics upon them that are on earth; for they removed the afflictions of divers passions and unceasingly impart grace to men's souls. Wherefore, together we celebrate your festival, O divine martyrs.

## ODE VII

**Irmos:** **O** Theotokos, we, the faithful, perceive thee to be a noetic furnace; for, as the supremely Exalted One saved the three children, in thy womb the praised and most glorious God of our fathers wholly renewed the world.

Extinguishing the furnace of youthful passions with the dew of abstinence, and the fire of suffering with blood, ye reduced to ashes another furnace, that of idolatry, hymning God Who is praised and all-glorious, O martyrs.

The athletes Carpus and Papyrus cried with fervor of soul: "Let us stand firm, for, lo! the contest is begun! Let us not weaken, for with His life-creating hand Christ will manifestly bestow crowns of endurance upon us for the sake of our sufferings!"

O holy ones who are manifestly deified in entreating God in every way, ye easily endured wounding by the godless, sustaining it as though it were another person suffering, remaining truly yourselves, and hymning our praised and all-glorious God.

**Theotokion:** O pure one, thou hast clearly annulled the curse of Eve, our first mother, having borne the First-fruit of blessedness, O all-immaculate Maiden who knewest not wedlock. And the ranks of angels bless Him, the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers.

## ODE VIII

**Irmos:** **T**he children of Israel in the furnace, shining more brightly than gold in a crucible in the beauty of their piety, said: **Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!**

Today the radiant memory of the martyrs hath shone upon us, illumining with the light of healings us that cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord; hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

O most blessed Carpus, thou hast been adorned as a hierarch, as a divine prophet, as a witness to the sufferings of Christ, as a divine standard, O all-blessed one, chanting: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

The streams of the blood of thy suffering utterly overwhelming the torrents of ungodliness, O martyr Papyrus, thou wast shown to be a wellspring of healings for them that cry: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

**Theotokion:** **T**he sacred choir of divine prophets doth proclaim thee, O all-immaculate one, to be her that art the Mother of God to Whom all cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely forever!

## ODE IX

**Irmos:** The bush aflame with fire yet unconsumed showed forth an image of thy pure birthgiving; and now we pray thee to extinguish the furnace of temptations which rageth against us, that we may unceasingly magnify thee, O Theotokos.

As whole burnt-offerings, as sacrifices perfect and without blemish, did ye offer yourselves to the Creator. O most blessed ones, meeting your end by the sword; and now, O crowned ones, ye live in the heavens.

O martyrs, ye are shown to be immovable pillars and ramparts of the Church, springs of water which pour forth healings, and luminous and most radiant beacons which deliver the pious from the night of sin.

O Papyrus and Carpus, having already made your abode in the splendid mansions of heaven, illumined with rays of divine light and filled with everlasting joy, pray ye ever in our behalf.

**Theotokion:** O all-pure one, in thine arms, like the throne of the cherubim, thou bearest Him Who upholdest all things, Who for our sakes clad Himself in flesh like unto ours, and is seen as a twofold unity, Him do thou ever entreat in behalf of us that hymn thee.