

**THE 27<sup>th</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**  
**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY MARTYR NESTOR OF THESSALONICA**  
**AT VESPERS**

At "Lord, I have cried ...," three stichera for the martyr, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: "O most glorious wonder ...":

**O** wondrous sufferer Nestor, \* thou didst array thyself in all the armor of Christ; \* and, locked in mortal combat with Lyaeus, \* thou didst destroy him, \* and with invisible arrows \* thou didst bring down the invisible Belial and didst slay him. \* Wherefore, the Bountiful One hath crowned thee \* with a wreath of victory.

**S**trengthened with divine words, \* O wise Nestor, \* with true courage didst thou slay \* the proud tormentor of the martyr Demetrius; \* and confessing the immortal God \* Who died and harrowed hell, \* thou didst receive an unjust death, O glorious one. \* Wherefore, rejoicing, \* thou hast inherited life everlasting.

**T**hou wast a godly youth, \* shining forth in comeliness of body \* and adorned with grace divine, O wise one, \* and invested with power. \* Wherefore, having cast down the power of Lyaeus \* by the power of the Almighty, \* thou didst suffer, rejoicing, \* and hast been numbered among the choirs of sufferers. \* Rejoicing with them, do thou remember us.

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

**T**hee, our intercessor, \* do we entreat, O all-pure one:\* Do thou not overlook us, thy servants, \* who are troubled amid grief, \* that we perish utterly; \* but haste thou to remove us from this present wrath and grief, \* O divinely joyous, all-holy and pure one, \* for our rampart art thou, \* and our unassailable assistance.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion:** **B**eholding Thee, O Jesus, \* nailed to the Cross, \* and willingly accepting Thy Passion, \* the Virgin, Thy Mother, O Master,\* cried aloud: O woe is me, my sweet Child! How dost Thou endure wounds unjustly inflicted, \* O Physician Who hast healed the sickness of man, \* and hast delivered all from corruption \* in Thy tender mercy?

Troparion, in Tone IV:

**T**hy martyr Nestor, O Lord, hath in his sufferings received an imperishable crown from Thee our God; for, possessed of Thy might, he cast down his tormentors and set at naught the feeble audacity of the demons. By his prayers do Thou save our souls.

## AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, and this canon for the Martyr, in Tone IV, with four troparia.

### ODE I

**Irmos: He that is mighty in battle cast the chariots of Pharaoh and his power into the sea. Let us chant a new hymn, for He hath been glorified!**

**B**y thy blood wast thou vouchsafed to sit upon the fiery chariot rejoicing, and with joy didst thou ascend to the heights of heaven, where Jesus, the ageless Light, doth dwell.

**H**aving arrayed thyself in the breastplate of faith, O Nestor, and having the Cross in thy hands, as it were a spear, thou didst mightily cut down legions of the enemy.

**S**trengthened with the fervor of Christ's love, thou didst stride forth into the midst of the arena and didst set at naught the wiles of Lyaeus and didst win the trophy of victory.

**Theotokion: I**n thy womb didst thou conceive Him that is co-unoriginate with the Father, and in manner transcending nature thou didst give birth unto Him in the flesh, O thou that hast not known man, remaining truly a pure Virgin. Wherefore, we all honor thee.

### ODE III

**Irmos: O** Lord, Who out of heaven dost thunder upon thine adversaries and walkest upon the wings of the wind, raise me up, that I may truly hymn Thee and do Thy will, for there is none holy as Thou, O our God.

**S**trengthened with the might of the strength of Him that shattered the gates and portals of hell, with zeal didst thou enter into the arena and mightily shatter the wiles of the enemy.

**W**ith thy feet didst thou trample down the ancient author of deception, for as a youth didst thou bow thyself to be beheaded by the sword, O Nestor, boast of martyrs. Wherefore, we praise thee.

**S**etting at naught the pride of the most iniquitous, O martyr, thou didst sacrifice a sacrifice unto God, shedding thy sacred blood as an offering. Wherefore, He hath rewarded thee with rich gifts.

**Theotokion: O** Theotokos, Jesus, Whom thou didst bear in thy womb, having supernaturally transformed the ugliness which was incurred through eating by the race of Adam, hath granted us our pristine comeliness.

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

**T**hou didst not fear the tyranny of the enemy, nor wast thou afraid of the wounding of thy body, but didst run fearlessly to the conflict, O wise one, bearing the invincible divine weapon of the Cross. Wherefore, having slain the deceiver straightway, thou wast thyself slain, O Nestor, and, standing before Christ, thou hast been vouchsafed life.

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

**T**hough I am a lover of sin, O all-pure one, yet do I beseech thee, who gavest birth unto the sinless God Who taketh away the sins of the world, to have pity on my most sinful soul, and to wash away my many sins; for thou art the cleansing of the sinful, the salvation and preservation of the faithful.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion:** She that in these latter days gaveth birth unto Thee, Who wast begotten of the unoriginate Father, O Christ, beholding Thee suspended upon the Cross, cried aloud: Woe is me, O my most beloved Jesus! How art Thou, O my Son, who art glorified as God by the angels, now crucified by iniquitous men? I hymn Thee, O Long-suffering One!

#### ODE IV

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

**S**hining with the splendid teachings of Demetrius, thou didst put to flight the gloom of Hellenic vanity and wast illumined with the light of martyrdom.

**T**hou didst trouble the salty sea of unbelief with the sweetness of thy good faith, O martyr, and didst drown an army of the impious in the abyss of thy blood.

**T**hou wast shown to be a tree raised up towards life, nourishing the fullness of the faithful with the bounty of thy struggles, O Nestor of Christ, thou boast of martyrs.

**Theotokion:** Be thou unto me for the cleansing of sins and do thou extend a helping hand unto me who am in distress, O most holy Mistress, sure aid of Christians.

#### ODE V

**Irmos:** Send Thou a radiant dawn upon us, as Thou art good, and guide us to the fear of Thee, O Master.

**H**aving watered thy thoughts with words of divine understanding, O glorious Nestor, thou didst put forth the ripe ear of martyrdom.

**W**ith the healing of thy words, O Demetrius, martyr for Christ, Nestor put an end to the great iniquity of godlessness.

**L**ocked in combat with a visible foe, thou didst invisibly acquire the help of God, O glorious Nestor.

**Theotokion:** **R**ejoice, thou that without seed gavest birth unto our God! Rejoice, thou that alone art the all-pure Mother of God! Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded!

## **ODE VI**

**Irmos:** **T**he tempest of evil thoughts, having overtaken me, doth drag me down into the abyss of my countless sins; but going before me, O good Helmsman; do thou govern me and save me, as Thou didst the prophet Jonah.

**H**aving stamped thy heart with a seal, thou didst courageously wound the heart of Lyaeus with the spear of thy valor, O passion-bearer. And, rejoicing, thou wast slain for Christ, the Life of all.

**L**ike a bridegroom didst thou depart from the chamber of thy flesh, O wise one; and manifestly arrayed in garments woven of thy sacred blood, O martyr, thou hast taken thy place before Christ the Master.

**H**aving set thy feet upon the rock of piety, Christ, the Rock of life, guided thy steps to Himself, O Nestor, and put thine enemies to shame.

**Theotokion:** **O** Virgin Mary, who gavest birth unto God Who taketh away the sin of the world, thou hast broken the chains of my transgression, for on thee have I placed my hope of salvation.

**Kontakion, in Tone II, Spec. Mel.: "Seeking the highest...":**

**H**aving contested well, thou hast now inherited immortal glory, for thou wast an excellent warrior of the Master by the prayers of the martyr Demetrius; with him, then, cease not to pray for us all, O wise Nestor.

**Ikos:** **F**rom childhood didst thou tread the path of the Lord, O thrice-blessed one, and didst piously desire His testimonies; and, having zealously taken the Cross upon thy shoulders, O divinely wise Nestor, thou didst destroy the wicked deception of the madness of idolatry, breaking and destroying the snares and nets of Lyaeus. Wherefore, we flee to thy protection with faith, crying aloud: O most rich one, entreat Christ God in behalf of us all!

## **ODE VII**

**Irmos:** **B**lessed art Thou, O God of our fathers, Who spake on the mountain with Moses and revealed an image of the Virgin in the bush.

**B**lessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, Who hast illumined the hearts of the faithful with the splendor of the passion-bearer's struggles.

**H**aving quenched the flame of impiety with the dew of thy blood, O divine martyr Nestor, thou dost chant: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

**O**ffering a living sacrifice as an odor of sweet fragrance to the Lord, O martyr Nestor, thou didst cry out: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

**Theotokion:** **T**hou hast been shown to be more holy than the cherubim, O most holy Mistress who gavest birth unto the Word of God Who doth sanctify us.

### **ODE VIII**

**Irmos:** **O** ye earth and all that therein is, O ye seas and every shower and dew, O ye stars of heaven, light and darkness, frost and fiery heat, children of men and priests, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever!

**T**he earth received thy precious blood which was shed for Christ; the heavens received thy soul which was adorned like a bride; and the choirs of martyrs and the souls of all the righteous greeted thee with joy, O martyr.

**O**h, thy God-loving soul which considered a temporal death to be but naught and chose to live in the Lord! Oh, thy divine manliness which was much stronger than the cowardice of the foe! For thou hast denounced them that do not confess Christ!

**H**aving fought the good fight, thou didst truly finish thy course, O wise martyr, and didst keep the faith. And now a crown of righteousness doth lie before thee, which Christ shall bestow upon thee forever.

**Theotokion:** **I** fear not the pursuit of the enemy, for I have thy help; I fear not evil men, but flee to thee, O Theotokos. For in thee do I boast, and in thee do I cross the wall of sin, saved by thy prayers.

### **ODE IX**

**Irmos:** **F**or He that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is His Name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations.

**I**n sacred manner hast thou arrayed thyself in a purple cloak dyed in thy blood; and, grasping the Cross in thy right hand as a scepter, thou dost reign with Christ, O blessed Nestor.

**T**hou art shown to be a ripe cluster on the noetic Vine; and, squeezed out by the winepress of martyrdom, thou hast poured forth the wine of compunction upon us that ever praise thee.

**J**oining chorus with the angels before the face of Jesus and delighting in His glory, O Nestor, do thou ever remember them that faithfully keep thine honored memory.

**Theotokion:** **T**hou wast revealed as the abode of the Light which hath truly driven away the gloom of the ancient ignorance, O pure one, ark of holiness and golden candlestick, O thou that art more spacious than the heavens.

**Exapostilarion, Spec. Mel.: "Hearken, ye women ...":**

**B**y the power of the Cross and the prayers of Demetrius, the glorious martyr, thou didst cast down the magnitude of the impious Lyaeus and the pride of the enemy, O Nestor, having first vanquished the passions; and thou wast shown to be an excellent martyr for Christ, O wise sufferer.

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

**S**aved by thee, O Theotokos, we hymn thee as an invincible weapon, an unassailable rampart, a tower of all strength, a haven of salvation, a truly divine foundation, and the bridge which leadeth from earth to heaven.

## AT LITURGY

### Troparion, in Tone IV:

**T**hy martyr Nestor, O Lord, hath in his sufferings received an imperishable crown from Thee our God; for, possessed of Thy might, he cast down his tormentors and set at naught the feeble audacity of the demons. By his prayers do Thou save our souls.

### Kontakion, in Tone II:

**H**aving contested well, thou hast now inherited immortal glory, for thou wast an excellent warrior of the Master by the prayers of the martyr Demetrius; with him, then, cease not to pray for us all, O wise Nestor.

**Prokimenon, in Tone IV:** In the saints that are in His earth hath the Lord been wondrous; He hath wrought all His desires in them.

**Stichos:** I beheld the Lord ever before me, for He is at my right hand, that I might not be shaken.

### THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS [6:10-17]

**F**inally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**Alleluia, in Tone IV:** The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations.

**Stichos:** Many are the tribulations of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all.

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE [21 :12-19]

**B**ut before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and

brethren, and kinsfolk, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But there shall not a hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls.

**Communion Verse:** In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings.