

**THE 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**  
**COMMEMORATION OF OUR VENERABLE FATHER SPYRIDON THE**  
**WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF TREMITHUS**  
**AT VESPERS**

At "Lord, I have cried ..., "six stichera, in Tone V:  
Spec. Mel.: "Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross ...":

**R**ejoice, thou rule of hierarchs, unshaken confirmation of the Church, glory of the Orthodox, wellspring of miracles, inexhaustible stream of love, most radiant beacon, organ of the Spirit, intellect divine, meek and guileless, adorned with true simplicity, heavenly man and earthly angel, laborer in the vineyard, true friend of Christ! Beseech Him to grant great mercy to them that honor thee! (Twice)

**O** Spyridon, glory of the fathers, thou wast truly shown to be meek and an heir to the land of the meek. By the sinews of thy wise and simple words thou didst strangle Arius, the most wicked and demented enemy, by divine grace. And, having clarified the divine dogma for all, and extolled by the Spirit that which leadeth to salvation, and enlightened all the Orthodox most manifestly, thou didst indicate to all the faithful to glorify the One Word as truly the Only Begotten of the all-unoriginate Father, Who granteth the world great mercy. (Twice)

**H**aving slain the carnal passions, thou didst raise the dead by the grace of God, and didst change a serpent into gold, and didst restrain the raging of the river by thy prayer, O father, Appearing to the afflicted emperor by night, thou didst heal him by drawing nigh unto his heart when the Lord glorified thee most gloriously. Wherefore, we honor thy memory with a mighty voice and reverence the divine and sacred shrine of thy relics, whence floweth forth a divine stream of healings and great mercy. (Twice)

Glory ..., in Tone I:

**O** venerable father Spyridon, blessed and wise, for the sake of the love of God thou didst question the dead woman as though she were alive, and didst transform a serpent into gold for him that was beset by poverty, and didst restrain the flow of the river, taking pity on the people, and didst stand before the emperor as physician through the providence of God; and, as His disciple, thou didst raise up the dead, and amongst many fathers didst make clear the Faith. Wherefore, enabled to do all things by Christ, Who strengtheneth thee, do thou now entreat Him that our souls be saved!

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

Spec. Mel.: "O all-praised martyrs ...":

**T**he Virgin, beholding Thine unjust sacrifice, weeping, cried out to Thee, O Christ: O my Child most sweet, how is it that Thou diest unjustly? How is it that Thou, Who suspended all the earth upon the waters, art Thyself suspended upon a Tree? O most merciful Benefactor, I pray Thee, leave me not alone who am Thy Mother and handmaid!

**The Aposticha from the Oktoechos; Glory ..., to the saint, in Tone II:**

**O** father Spyridon, venerable and wise, by thy virtues hast thou been shown to be a divine treasure of hierarchs. Wherefore, being an intercessor of the Church, thou didst cast out the chief of the heretics and, in council, didst crush the blasphemy of Arius to the earth. Therefore, working wonders in word and deed, do thou beseech Christ that our souls be saved.

**Now and ever ..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion: Spec. Mel.: "When from the Tree ...":**

**S**he that kneweth not wedlock, beholding Thee nailed to the Tree of the Cross, O Jesus, weeping said: O sweet Child, why hast Thou left me, who gave Thee birth, alone, O unapproachable Light of the all-unoriginate Father? But haste Thou and glorify Thyself, that they that glorify Thy divine Passion may receive divine glory!

**Troparion, in Tone IV:**

**T**he very truth of things revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness and teacher of abstinence. Wherefore, thou didst attain the heights through humility, and riches through poverty. O father Spyridon, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved!

**Or this Troparion, in Tone I:**

**T**hou wast shown forth as a champion of the First Council and a wonderworker, O Spyridon, our God-bearing father. Wherefore, thou didst speak to one dead in the grave, and didst change a serpent into gold. And, whilst chanting thy holy prayers, thou didst have angels serving with thee, O most sacred one. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength! Glory to Him that hath crowned thee! Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee!

## AT MATINS

Both canons from the Oktoechos, without their troparia to the martyrs; and the canon to the saint, with six troparia, the composition of Theophanes, in Tone II:

### ODE I

**Irmos: Once, the almighty Power overwhelmed Pharaoh's whole army in the deep, and the incarnate Word hath destroyed pernicious sin. Most glorious is the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified!**

**H**aving attained unto the land of the meek, being thyself meek, merciful and pure, O father, calm thou the present tempest of my heart, that, in divine tranquility, I may hymn thee.

**H**aving cleared thy soul of the overgrowth of the passions through godly cultivation, O father Spyridon, thou didst become God-like and wast enriched by the most radiant splendor of the divine Spirit. Wherefore, thou dost illumine them that sincerely bless thee.

**T**aking thee from a flock as He had David, the Creator appointed thee as a most eminent shepherd of the rational flock, shining forth in simplicity and meekness, and adorned with guilelessness, O venerable pastor.

**Theotokion: O** all-holy and pure Virgin, enlighten and hallow thou my thoughts and soul, I pray thee, dispelling the clouds of mine ignorance, and removing the darkness of sin, that I may bless thee as is meet.

### ODE III

**Irmos: Having established me upon the rock of faith, Thou hast enlarged my mouth over mine enemies, for my spirit doth rejoice when it doth sing: There is none holy as our God, and none righteous save Thee, O Lord!**

**H**aving illumined thy mind with dispassion and adorned thyself with divine humility, thou didst receive the gifts of the Spirit to cast out evil spirits and to loose the infirmities of them that faithfully honor thee, O most sacred one.

**H**aving slain the serpent, the author of evil, and trampled down the inclination towards avarice, O holy hierarch, taking pity on him that was in need, thou didst transform a serpent into a golden ornament by thy sacred prayers, O venerable father.

**T**hou didst ascend the mountain of dispassion; thou didst enter the darkness of the vision of God, and didst receive the law of salvation on the tablets of thy heart, in that thou art a most sacred and faithful favorite of thy Master.

**Theotokion: Heal** thou the wounds of my soul, O Bride of God, and illumine my mind which hath been darkened by neglect, that I may chant: There is none blameless save thee, O immaculate one, and none pure but thee, O Mistress!

**Sedalion, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: "Of Wisdom ...":**

**T**hou didst shine forth as a divinely appointed pastor, O Spyridon, raised from the tending of sheep by God, Who entrusted thee to preside over the Church of Christ. Thou didst drive away the wolves of false teaching by thy words, grazing thy flock on the pasture of piety. Wherefore, thou didst affirm the Faith by the wisdom of the Spirit in the midst of the God-bearing fathers, O blessed hierarch. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of transgressions unto them that celebrate thy holy memory with love.

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

**O** all-immaculate Bride of the Creator, Mother of the Deliverer, thou that knewest not man: in that thou art the tabernacle of the Comforter, O all-hymned one, haste thou to deliver me, who am the vile abode of iniquity and have become in mind the plaything of the demons, from their malice; and make of me a splendid habitation of the virtues, O radiant and incorruptible one; drive from me the clouds of the passions, and vouchsafe me, through thy prayers, the fellowship of the Most High and the never-waning Light.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion:**

**T**he ewe-lamb, beholding her Lamb, Shepherd and Deliverer upon the Cross, weeping, exclaimed, and bitterly lamenting, cried out: The world doth rejoice, receiving deliverance through Thee, but my womb doth burn, beholding Thy crucifixion, which Thou dost endure in the lovingkindness of Thy mercy. O longsuffering Lord, Thou abyss and inexhaustible wellspring of mercy, have pity and grant remission of sins unto them that hymn Thy divine Passion with faith!

**ODE IV**

**Irmos: Thou didst come forth from the Virgin, not as an intercessor, nor as an angel, but as the Lord Himself, incarnate; and Thou hast saved me, the whole man. Wherefore, I cry unto Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!**

**S**et afire by the burning coal of the honored Spirit, thou didst burn up all the readily kindled fuel of the passions, O most blessed one, and didst enlighten the world with the fiery rays of thy virtues.

**H**aving slain the movements of thy flesh, O divinely inspired one, thou didst raise up the dead by thy life-imparting call. Wherefore, I beseech thee: Enliven my slain soul, O father!

**O** father, the dead woman, obeying thee, spake, and by thy commands the raging of the river was restrained. For thou wast revealed as a worker of wonders endowed with grace divine, O blessed one.

**Theotokion: T**he prophets foretold the incomprehensible abyss of thy mystery, for thou alone, O pure one, didst give birth unto the Unknowable One, Who, in His unutterable lovingkindness, became incarnate.

## ODE V

**Irmos: I rise at dawn to Thee, O Christ my Savior, King of peace, Thou enlightenment of them that lie in darkness and the salvation of the despairing. Illumine me with Thy radiance, for I know none other God than Thee.**

**T**he river of the gifts which are within thee doth water every heart, O venerable one, and richly granteth health unto all, and it moveth all to glorify God, Who hath glorified thee and honored thee with all manner of wonders.

**T**he earthly emperor clearly recognized thee as a true servant of the heavenly King, full of divine gifts, O blessed one, when thou didst come to him, proclaiming the great Physician, Who is God.

**E**mulating the hospitable character of Abraham, thou didst open the doors of thy house unto all, and wast all things to all men, mindful of them that were in evil straits, O blessed Spyridon.

**Theotokion: F**or us hast thou given birth unto a newborn Babe, Who before the ages was begotten of the unoriginate Father, O Maiden. Him do thou entreat as thy Son and God, that He spare them that, with a pure soul, proclaim thee to be the Theotokos.

## ODE VI

**Irmos: Whirled about in the abyss of sin, I call upon the unfathomable abyss of Thy lovingkindness: Lead me up from corruption, O God!**

**G**old was as mire to thee who shone forth in dispassion more brightly than gold, and wast enriched by thy most golden gifts of the Spirit, O venerable one.

**S**erving thy Master in purity, O venerable one, thou didst have a multitude of the angelic hosts serving thee with unseen voices, O most sacred one.

**O** most glorious and all-wise father, thy life hath made thee most glorious to the world. Wherefore, rejoicing, we that hymn thee celebrate thy divine memory.

**Theotokion: M**ore spacious than the heavens was thy womb, which contained God Whom no place can contain, O all-hymned virgin Bride of God, who knewest not man.

**Kontakion, in Tone II: Spec. Mel.: 'Seeking the Highest ...':**

**O** most sacred one, wounded with love for Christ, and giving wings to thy mind through the radiance of the Spirit, thou didst find thy work fulfilled in the activity of divine vision. O thou who art pleasing to God, thou divine oblation, beseech Him that divine illumination be granted unto all.

**Ikos: L**et us now praise Spyridon, the hierarch of the Lord, sanctified from his mother's womb, who received the tablets of the grace of divine glory, as most glorious in miracles of all creation, as a fervent witness of the divine radiance, intercessor for the poor, and spiritual guide for the sinful; for he hath become a divine oblation for the throne of Christ, asking divine illumination for all.

## ODE VII

**Irmos:** The God-hating command of the iniquitous tyrant raised a lofty flame; but Christ spread a spiritual dew upon the pious youths, He who is blessed and most glorious.

Having acquired the guilelessness of Moses, the meekness of David and the blamelessness of Job of Uz, thou didst become a dwelling-place of the Spirit, chanting most sacredly: Blessed and most glorious art Thou!

The showers of heaven rained down upon thy head during the harvest and prefigured the future; for, as thou didst say, God glorified thy divine memory, sanctifying the faithful by thy mediation.

In the council of the fathers God glorified thee, who guarded thy words in judgment, O blessed one. Thou didst bring them forth with faith, openly disclosing the follies of the most irrational Arius and destroying his opposition.

**Theotokion:** Through the ineffable Word, O Virgin, thou didst put forth the Cluster of grapes as the Branch which alone was uncultivated and which poureth forth the wine which maketh all men glad, sanctifieth mortals and doth dispel all the drunkenness of the wicked.

## ODE VIII

**Irmos:** Once, in Babylon, the activity of the fire was divided at the command of God, for it consumed the Chaldeans, yet bedewed the faithful, who sang: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Thou didst extinguish the furnace of the passions with divine outpourings of the divine Spirit, O father, and didst pour forth a dew which taketh away the fever of the ailing that ever have recourse unto thee in faith, O blessed Spyridon, thou that art most rich.

Guileless, upright, meek, merciful, not mindful of the wrongs done thee, loving and hospitable wast thou, a most sacred hierarch, adorned with the wisdom of Orthodoxy, O venerable one. Wherefore, we honor thee with faith.

Of old, the dead woman when questioned by thee O father, replied as though alive. Oh what a most marvelous wonder! Oh what a most glorious mystery! Oh, the grace which thou hast received, adorned with an angelic life, O right wondrous one!

**Theotokion:** Heal thou the passions of my heart with thy mercy, O all-hymned one; calm thou my mind, enlighten my soul, and guide me to walk the paths of salvation, that I may ever hymn thee, O all-hymned one.

## ODE IX

**Irmos:** Our God and Lord, the Son of the unoriginate Father, hath appeared to us incarnate of the Virgin, to enlighten the benighted and to gather the dispersed. Wherefore, we magnify the all-hymned Theotokos.

**E**xalted among the God-bearing fathers, thou didst openly proclaim the Son of the unoriginate Father to be of one essence and equally everlasting with the Father, and didst stop the mouths of the iniquitous, O most blessed and holy hierarch.

**O** most radiant sun, adornment of the fathers, glory of priests, converser with angels: By thy prayers vouchsafe the unwaning Light unto them that now joyously celebrate thy light-bearing memory.

**W**ith a voice of rejoicing have the divine mansions, the heavenly city and the beauteous choir of them that hold festival received thy soul, which hath been hallowed and adorned with the virtues, O most blessed one.

**Theotokion:** **T**he great mystery of thy birthgiving, which passeth understanding doth astound the angels, O divinely joyous one, doth delight the assembly of the venerable and maketh glad the sacred fathers that hymn thee, the hope of our souls, in a godly manner.

*Exapostilarion from the Oktoechos; Glory ..., that of the saint:*

*Spec. Mel.: "He, Who as God hath adorned heaven with stars ...":*

**O** God-bearing Spyridon, thou light of the world, like Moses and David, whose calling thou didst follow, the Spirit led thee up from an irrational flock unto the rational one.

**Theotokion:** **T**hou wast the cause of the blessings bestowed by God upon the world, O Theotokos. And, even now, for the salvation of all, do thou move to pity God, Who is readily appeased.

*At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Oktoechos; and Glory ..., in Tone IV:*

**O** venerable father, all-praised and holy hierarch, filled with the teaching of the apostles, and manifest as the habitation of the divine Spirit by thy virtuous life, with thy teachings thou didst drive off the wolves that beset the Church, and didst make clear the Faith of the Orthodox, and wast a pillar and champion of piety. Wherefore, working wonders in days past, thou didst transform a serpent into gold, and didst raise up a dead woman to question her. Yet, O thou that art right wondrous among the fathers, converser with teachers, entreat the Savior, that He save our souls.

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

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

**T**he all-pure Mistress, beholding Christ dying, Who doth slay the deceiver, bitterly cried out to Him that had come forth from her womb, and marveling at His longsuffering, exclaimed: O my most beloved Child, forget not Thy handmaid! O Lover of mankind, delay not my consolation!

*N.B. In Greek usage, the service to St. Spyridon is of Doxology rank, rather than of six-stichera rank, as in the Slavonic Menaion. Therefore, if Greek usage is followed, the above Aposticha stichera are omitted and, at the Praises, four stichera, in Tone I: Spec. Mel.: "Joy of the ranks of heaven ...":*

**I**llumined with the radiance of the Spirit, thou didst dispel the darkness of the foolish prating of Arius, O wise hierarch. Wherefore, in simplicity, faithfully teaching the Trinity, thou wast glorified by the wise and learned, and didst confirm the Council. **(Twice)**

**I**llumined with heavenly rays and with the power of Christ, thou dost bestow healing of both soul and body upon them that even now celebrate thy memory with faith, O divinely blessed father and wonderworker. Cease thou never to intercede for us.

**I**n thy faithfulness to the commandments, thou wast shown to be a husbandman of Christ, the True Vine, O God-bearer. Wherefore, having mystically received the talent of the kingdom from on high, pray thou without ceasing for us that honor thee, O wise Spyridon.

## AT LITURGY

On the Beatitudes, eight troparia: four from the Oktoechos, and four from Ode III of the canon to the saint.

**H**aving illumined thy mind with dispassion and adorned thyself with divine humility, thou didst receive the gifts of the Spirit to cast out evil spirits and to loose the infirmities of them that faithfully honor thee, O most sacred one.

**H**aving slain the serpent, the author of evil, and trampled down the inclination towards avarice, O holy hierarch, taking pity on him that was in need, thou didst transform a serpent into a golden ornament by thy sacred prayers, O venerable father.

**T**hou didst ascend the mountain of dispassion; thou didst enter the darkness of the vision of God, and didst receive the law of salvation on the tablets of thy heart, in that thou art a most sacred and faithful favorite of thy Master.

**Theotokion:** **H**eal thou the wounds of my soul, O Bride of God, and illumine my mind which hath been darkened by neglect, that I may chant: There is none blameless save thee, O immaculate one, and none pure but thee, O Mistress!

### Troparion, in Tone IV:

**T**he very truth of things revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness and teacher of abstinence. Wherefore, thou didst attain the heights through humility, and riches through poverty. O father Spyridon, entreat Christ God that our souls be saved!

### Or this Troparion, in Tone I:

**T**hou wast shown forth as a champion of the First Council and a wonderworker, O Spyridon, our God-bearing father. Wherefore, thou didst speak to one dead in the grave, and didst change a serpent into gold. And, whilst chanting thy holy prayers, thou didst have angels serving with thee, O most sacred one. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength! Glory to Him that hath crowned thee! Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee!

### Kontakion, in Tone II:

**O** most sacred one, wounded with love for Christ, and giving wings to thy mind through the radiance of the Spirit, thou didst find thy work fulfilled in the activity of divine vision. O thou who art pleasing to God, thou divine oblation, beseech Him that divine illumination be granted unto all.

**Prokimenon, in Tone I:** My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

**Stichos:** Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

### THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS [13:17-21]

**O**bey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you. Pray for us: for we trust we have a good

conscience, in all things willing to live honestly. But I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**Alleluia, in Tone II:** The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

**Stichos:** The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be tripped.

### **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE [6:17-23]**

**A**nd [Jesus] came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; and they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed. And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

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