

# September 3

**Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyr Anthimos,  
Bishop of Nicomedia;  
of our Holy Father Theoctistos,  
Companion in Asceticism of Euthymios the Great  
(5th Class)**

## **GREAT VESPERS**

**At "O Lord, to You I call..."**

*Stichera of the Resurrection (Tone 5)*

10. By Your precious Cross, You have put the deceitful devil to shame, O Christ, and by Your Resurrection You have annihilated the power of sin and snatched us away from the gates of Death. Therefore, we sing to You a hymn of glory, Only-begotten One.
9. As a lamb, He was led to the slaughter, He who bestowed Resurrection upon the human race. As King of glory, Christ entered Hades, saying to those in fetters: "Come out;" and to those in darkness: "let light surround you!" Wherefore the powers of Hades trembled and its gates flew open.
8. It is a great wonder indeed that in His love for mankind, the Creator of the material and the spiritual worlds had to suffer in the flesh, and that the Immortal One rose from the dead. Come, therefore, all you nations of the world: let us bow down to Him in worship, for His love saves us from the ways of error and teaches us how to sing a hymn of praise to the One God in Three Divine Persons.

*Stichera of Anatolios the Patriarch (Tone 5)*

7. O Light who never fade, we offer You this evening worship, for in the fullness of time You filled the world with light, Your flesh being a mirror to Your splendor. You went down to Hades, dispelled the darkness and made manifest to all nations the light of the Resurrection. O Lord, O Giver of Light, glory to You!
6. Let us with hymns of glory praise Christ, our very salvation: for His Resurrection from the dead has saved the world from error. The ranks of the angels rejoiced, the demons' deceit vanished, Adam rose from his fall and the deceitful devil was humiliated and cast away.
5. The guards appointed by the transgressors of the Law were told to deny the Resurrection of Christ. They were bribed with money and directed to say: "While we were sleeping, the body was taken away from the tomb." Who ever heard or who ever saw a body stolen, especially naked and embalmed, while the linen is left in the tomb? Do not be misled, O people of the Old Law, but learn what the prophets teach and understand that Christ is indeed the Savior of the world and the Almighty!
4. O Lord our Savior, who despoiled Hades and crushed Death and enlightened the world through the precious Cross: have mercy on us!

*For Anthimos (Tone 1)*

3. O blessed hierarch, you joyfully dyed your sacred priestly vestments with the purple of your own blood. You reverently grew in strength and glory; and now you pray that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.

2. As a priest, you offered the unbloody Sacrifice to God. Then, O venerable preacher, you offered yourself in your own blood as a holocaust, a victim acceptable to Jesus Christ. As a true martyr, entreat Him for those who honor you.
1. O venerable father Anthimos, by your teaching and wise exhortations you have brought a whole troop of martyrs to Christ. You instructed them not only by your words, but also by the example of your life. O venerable hierarch, pray with them that our souls be granted peace and great mercy.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

*Doxastikon - Anthimos (Tone 6)*

Blessed Anthimos, you persevered as a holy priest to the end, for as you celebrated the ineffable and divine Mysteries, you shed your blood for Christ our God and offered yourself to the Lord as an acceptable sacrifice. By the boldness you have before Him, pray for those who celebrate your holy memory in faith and love, that they may be delivered from all affliction, danger and need.

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Dogmatikon (Tone 5)*

A symbol of the undefiled Virgin and Bride was revealed in the Red Sea. There, Moses divided the waters; here, Gabriel is the messenger of a wondrous miracle. There, the Israelites crossed the deep, and their feet were not even wet; here, the Virgin gives birth to Christ without human seed. There, the sea remained uncrossed after the passing of Israel; here, the immaculate remained incorrupt after giving birth to

Emmanuel. Therefore, O immortal God, existing before all ages, who appeared in the flesh as a true Man: have mercy on us!

*Entrance. "O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Saturday evening.*

**APOSTICHA** (*Tone 5*)

1. O Christ the Savior, who became incarnate while not leaving heaven, we magnify You in hymns of praise, for You suffered crucifixion and death for our human race, because You are the Lord who loves mankind. You crushed the gates of Hades and rose on the third day, granting salvation to our souls.
  - v. The Lord has reigned and He is clothed in splendor. The Lord is robed, He is girt about with might.
2. O Giver of Life, from Your pierced side gushed forth sources of pardon, life and salvation for all. Your death in the flesh bestowed upon us immortality, and Your burial delivered us and raised us up with You in glory, for you are God. Wherefore, we cry out to You, O Lord and Lover of Mankind: "Glory to You!"
  - v. For he has settled the earth: it shall remain unmoved.
3. O Lord and Lover of Mankind, Your crucifixion and Your descent into Hades are amazing wonders, for You despoiled Death when You raised up with You in glory those who had been for ages bound in the chains of death, when You opened Paradise to them and made them worthy to enjoy it: for You are God. To us also who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, grant forgiveness of our sins and make us worthy of Your Paradise, for You alone are merciful.

- v. Righteousness is fitting for your house, O Lord, throughout eternity.
- 4. O you who for our sake accepted suffering in the flesh, and who on the third day rose from the dead, heal the pains of our bodies, lift us out of our heavy sins and save us, for You are the Lover of Mankind.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

You became a temple, a palace, a door and a throne of the King, O Virgin most venerable, through whom Christ the Lord appeared as the Sun of Justice, our Savior, who willed to light the way of those stumbling in darkness, those He fashioned in His likeness with His own hands. We beseech You, O Woman most worthy of praise, since you have upon Him the power of a Mother: never cease to intercede for the salvation of our souls.

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION** (*Tone 5*)

Let us, O faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, for He was pleased to be lifted in the flesh upon the Cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection!

- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

**TROPARION OF ANTHIMOS** (*Tone 4*)

Sharer in the Apostles' way of life and successor on their thrones, inspired by God, you found ascetical effort as the means to contemplation. And so, dispensing rightly the word of truth, you fought for the faith unto the shedding of

your blood. O hieromartyr Anthimos, intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**RESURRECTIONAL THEOTOKION** (*Tone 4*)

The mystery which was hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels, has been revealed through you, O Theotokos, to those on earth. For God took flesh in a union without commixture, and willingly took up the Cross by which He elevated the first man and saved our souls from death!