September 28

Commemoration of our Venerable Father Chariton the Confessor; the prophet Baruch (5th Class)

VESPERS

For the Bishop





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

Stichera for Thursday (Tone 8)

- 6. O Lord, You made Your Apostles shine with the splendor of the Paraclete. You set them as stars shining the spiritual light of the knowledge of God upon the world. Thus, we fall prostrate before Your surpassing goodness.
- 5. Lord, surrounding Your sheepfold with the prayers of Your divine Apostles, you keep it in peace from the attacks of Enemies. Having redeemed it at the price of Your blood, You have set it free from the bondage of the Enemy, O Savior, in the compassion of Your heart.

4. O blessed Apostles, who stand before the Trinity and intercede for our souls, you are like precious jewels set in the crown of the Church of Christ. By your radiance, you give light to the universe which shines with the knowledge of God through you.

For Chariton (Tone 4)

- 3. By temperance and constant prayer, you weakened the bodily passions, drowning the treacherous serpent in the flood of your tears, O venerable father Chariton. Being wondrously acceptable to God, you were adorned with divine charisms by Jesus, the Lover of Mankind and Savior of our souls.
- 2. Toiling at the labors of asceticism, you extinguished the burning embers of the passions. When you were exposed to the fire of pains and torments, in the presence of the impious who were judging you, you confessed the Word who emptied Himself and became incarnate for our sake. Thus you became a witness, branded by the marks of your countless torments, O admirable and blessed God-bearing father.
- 1. Fleeing to the mountains and wilderness, you sought solitude, O holy father, keeping your soul spotless, so that now, O Chariton, you have become the dwelling of the Trinity. By His power, you built up three holy communities, dwellings for the salvation of the monks who venerate your holy memory, all-worthy of our hymns.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
 O God-bearing father Chariton, immediately after your death, you saw Christ in heaven, for whose sake you

had crucified yourself to the world. For, being a stranger both to the world and to the flesh, you transcended visible things in your life; for it was not you who lived, but Christ our God who lived in you. Pray to Him to save our souls.

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

Theotokion

O all-pure one, protect me, whether I am sailing the sea, traveling the road, or sleeping at night. Grant me a watchful spirit. Grant that I may do the will of the Lord, so that at the hour of judgment, I may find absolution for the deeds of my life, for I take refuge in your holy protection.

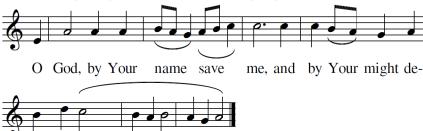
"O Joyful Light..." (p. 33) Prokimenon of Wednesday evening (below).



O God, by Your name save me, and by Your might de-



- fend my cause.
- v. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to You.



- fend my cause.

APOSTICHA (Tone 8)

- 1. O Lord, the Apostles loved You sincerely above all things on earth; they counted all things as ashes and waste in order to possess You as their only Treasure. For Your sake, they handed over their bodies to torment. Thus glorified in Heaven, they intercede for our souls.
- v. To You I have lifted up my eyes, to You who live in heaven. Behold: the eyes of the servants are turned to the hands of their masters, and the eyes of the maid-servants to the hands of their mistresses; thus do our eyes watch the Lord our God until He takes pity on us.
- 2. O Lord, You have glorified the memory of Your divine Apostles on earth. Now as we all gather together in their memory, we glorify You, for You grant us healing through their prayers. At their intercession, the world receives peace and great mercy.
- v. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we have been filled with shame: our soul has been filled to overflowing. May scorn befall detractors, and humiliation come to the proud.
- 3. All praise and glory to the holy martyrs: they bowed their heads to the sword for the sake of You who bowed the heavens and came down. They emptied out their blood for the sake of You who emptied Yourself and took the form of a servant. Imitating Your poverty, they humbled themselves to death. At their prayers, O Lord, have mercy on us in Your great compassion.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

(Tone 8)

All the monks honor you, O venerable Chariton, as a spiritual guide. Through you, we have set out on the narrow path; blessed are you for having served Christ and for having broken the power of the enemy, O companion of the angels, the just and the saints. With them, ask the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

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

Theotokion

Hail, O safeguard of believers, harbor for sinners, amendment for the fallen! Hail, O guide of souls, help of the afflicted! Hail, O perfect consolation, healing for our spiritual ills, messenger of peace, intercessor before God, O pure Virgin, surpassing the assembly of the Seraphim in your eminent holiness!

Troparion of Chariton (Tone 8)

Your abundant tears made the wilderness sprout and bloom, and your deep sighings made your labor fruitful a hundred fold. You became a star shining over the world with miracles, Holy Father Chariton, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

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

Troparion of Baruch (*Tone 4*)

You foretold the divine Incarnation of the Lord when you cried aloud to all the world, O Prophet: "Such is our God; no other is to be compared to him! He has appeared upon earth, being born of a Virgin. He has shone upon our souls the divine light of knowledge." He grants salvation to all who sing your praise, O divinely-inspired Baruch.

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

THEOTOKION OF THURSDAY (Tone 4)

O Virgin Theotokos, we acknowledge that the Word of the Father, Christ our God, was incarnate of you, the only pure one, the only blessed one. Wherefore we sing to you a hymn of praise and we exalt you.