

October 12

**Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs
Probos, Tarachos and Andronicos;
and of our Venerable Father Symeon the New Theologian
(5th Class)**

VESPERS

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

Stichera for Thursday (Tone 2)

6. O Apostles of God, you were seen to be heralds of the Word who appeared on earth. You revealed His salvation to all. You gathered all the nations to lead them to the Faith as you destroyed the strongholds of error. Thus you have rightly received the honors and crowns of victory, O blessed ones!
5. Truly the multitude of Angels in the heights of Heaven celebrated and rejoiced as they saw the divine Apostles boldly and firmly proclaiming the incarnation of the Lord as they said: "Behold, this is our God, who existed before all ages! He has willed to take flesh and become one of us, He who shares the same throne as the Father and the same glory with the Holy Spirit!"
4. O fishermen of the whole world, hasten to free my soul which has been captured by the hook and lures of the enemy. Save me from the danger which I am experiencing in my despair. Grant me strength to bear worthy fruits of repentance, O divine Apostles, that escaping the fires of Gehenna, I may be judged worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven.

For the Martyrs (Tone 1)

3. The holy martyrs, all three, ceaselessly worshiped with one heart the thrice-holy Divinity, enduring the threats of the tyrants: Probos, Tarachos and their companion, Andronicos, strengthened by the faith, suffered the wounds of their torments and received the crown as victors.
2. Holding in your hands the weapon of the Cross, O holy martyrs, who had put on Christ, you firmly brought down the impudence of the enemy. You received from God the recompense for your labors, O illustrious martyrs. Entreat Him to grant our souls great mercy.
1. Inflamed as you were by love of Christ, O illustrious martyrs, you remained invincible. Indeed, neither the sword, the fire, nor the rage of persecutors, nor the pain of punishments or death frightened you. But, fulfilling the struggles of martyrdom, you received your merited crowns.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 4)

As true soldiers of Christ, you renounced the pleasures here below. Taking up your Cross, you followed after Christ through manifold torments, without denying Him before the judges. Thus the angels brought you your rewards as victors. Your heads crowned and your souls comforted, you joined the great joy of the wedding banquet. O Probos, glory of martyrs! Tarachos, exterminator of demons! Andronicos, triumph of our Faith! By the boldness you possess before the Lord of all, intercede for our souls.

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

Theotokion

I fall under the blows of the demons. They push me to the abyss of perdition. O Lady, show me your compassion, making me firm on the rock of the virtues, and scatter the plots of my enemies, that I may carry out the precepts of your Son and our God, and thus find remission on the day of judgment.

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Wednesday evening.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 2*)

1. O Savior, You exalted the names of Your chief Apostles throughout the whole world: they were instructed in the ineffable mysteries of heaven; they became a source of healing for those on earth; their shadow alone was enough to heal the sick. The first wonderworker was once a fisherman; the second, who explained the divine mysteries of grace, was chosen from the Jews. At their prayers, O compassionate God, grant us Your great mercy.
- 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. Assailed unjustly on every side, we take refuge in You, O God of truth, and call out to You with the words of Your Disciples: "Save us, O Lord, for we are perishing!" We entreat You to show our enemies that You protect Your people and save them from all danger. At the prayers of Your Apostles, pardon the multitude of our

sins in Your great goodness: O Lord and Master, glory to You!

- 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. Great is the glory which you acquired through your faith. You not only overcame the enemy in your sufferings, but you still cast out devils and heal the sick, O physicians of souls and bodies. O holy martyrs, intercede with God that He have mercy on our souls.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 1)

The three-limbed branch, the martyrs whose number is equal to the Trinity, arising like brilliant stars in the East, invite the whole creation to their sacred feast: it is Probos, with Tarachos and Andronicos. They handed over their flesh to savage beasts. After empurpling the earth with their blood, they exult with the angels in Heaven. They wear their crowns and entreat the Lover of Mankind, our God, to grant us the remission of sins and great mercy.

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

Theotokion

O Virgin, obtain for me conversion of life. Make me pass from the search for pleasures to the absence of passions and ineffable reconciliation with God. Grant that my soul may pour forth abundantly the sweet tears of repentance.

TROPARION OF THE MARTYRS (*Tone 5*)

The heavenly Powers marveled at the accomplishments of the holy martyrs, for in mortal bodies they triumphed over the bodiless enemy by the power of the Cross. Now they intercede before the Lord for the salvation of our souls.

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

TROPARION OF SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN (*Tone 3*)

Since you received within your pure soul enlightenment from God, O venerable father, you appeared to the world as a blazing light which drives away its deep darkness and moves all to seek the grace of the Spirit like a coin which they have lost. O holy Father Symeon, fervently intercede with Him to grant great mercy to us all.

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

THEOTOKION OF THURSDAY (*Tone 3*)

The prophets foretold, the apostles taught, the martyrs professed and we have believed that you are indeed the Theotokos. Wherefore we exalt your inexpressible birth-giving.