

January 11

**Sixth day of Theophany;
Commemoration of our venerable Father
Theodosios, the Cenobiarch
(3rd Class)**

GREAT VESPERS

[First Kathisma: Blessed the man...]

Stichera for Theodosios (Tone 5)

6. O venerable, God-bearing father Theodosios, during your night-long vigils of prayer, you became a model for your disciples. Now you exult with the bodiless angels, ceaselessly glorifying Christ the Word, God from God, and Redeemer, who bowed His head before the Forerunner and sanctified the nature of the waters. Intercede in His presence, O venerable father, asking Him to grant His Church peace, unity and great mercy!
5. O venerable, God-bearing father... *(Repeat)*
4. O venerable, God-bearing father Theodosios, finding your soul pure in keeping with His will, the grace of the Holy Spirit dwelt in you as a pure radiance. By His resplendent work, you ceaselessly glorified Christ, One in two natures, the Son. The voice of the Father bore witness to Him when the Forerunner baptized Him with his hand. Intercede in His presence, O venerable father, asking Him to grant His Church peace, unity and great mercy!
3. O venerable, God-bearing father... *(Repeat)*

2. O venerable, God-bearing father Theodosios, you truly merited the blessed life which you have found through asceticism and purity. When you were dying, moving toward the life of the Age to Come, you asked your brothers to rejoice and ceaselessly glorify Christ with the angels. He ineffably took flesh of the Virgin, then drowned our sins by His Baptism in the streams of the Jordan. Intercede in His presence, O venerable father, asking Him to grant His Church peace, unity and great mercy.

1. O venerable, God-bearing father... *(Repeat)*

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

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

O venerable father, your sacred soul rejoices in the streams of a river, like the City of the Living God. The Water of remission, Christ our God, passed through the Jordan, making the word of Faith flow throughout the whole world. O blessed Theodosios, pray to Him to grant great mercy to our souls!

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

Dogmatikon

When You bowed Your head to the Forerunner, You crushed the heads of the dragons; and when You stood in the midst of the stream, You let Your light shine upon all creatures that they might glorify You, our Savior, who enlighten our souls!

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

READINGS

1) *Wisdom 3:1-9*

Thus says the Lord: But the souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of Himself. As gold in the furnace, He proved them, and as sacrificial offerings He took them to Himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in Him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with Him in love: because grace and mercy are with His holy ones, and His care is with His elect.

2) *Wisdom 5:15-6:3*

Thus says the Lord: The just live forever, and in the Lord is their recompense, and the thought of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive the splendid crown, the beauteous diadem, from the hand of the Lord-for He shall shelter them with His right hand, and protect them with His arm. He shall take His zeal for armor and He shall arm creation to requite the enemy. He shall don justice for a breastplate and shall wear sure judgment for a helmet. He shall take invincible rectitude as a shield and whet His sudden anger for a sword, and the universe shall war with Him against the foolhardy. Wellaimed shafts of lightning



shall go forth and from the clouds as from a well-drawn bow shall leap to the mark; and as from His sling, wrathful hailstones shall be hurled. The water of the sea shall be enraged against them and the streams shall abruptly overflow; a mighty wind shall confront them and a tempest winnow them out; thus lawlessness shall lay the whole earth waste and evildoing overturn the thrones of potentates.

Hear, therefore, kings, and understand; learn, you magistrates of the earth's expanse! Hearken, you who are in power over the multitude and lord it over throngs of peoples! Because authority was given you by the Lord and sovereignty by the Most High, who shall probe your works and scrutinize your counsels!

3) *Wisdom 4:7-14*

Thus says the Lord: The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age. He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported, snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; for the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind. Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 4*)

1. The Lord says, "Behold how I have assumed your image, the work of My hands, in an ineffable abasement. Why does it seem strange to you, My friend, that I bow down under your hand, as one like you, a servant, and strip Myself and be clothed with the waters? For in My compassion, I wish to clothe all those who are naked in an incorruptible garment forever!"

All: The sea fled at the sight; the Jordan turned back on its course.

2. "You allowed Yourself to be seen with a body, and the womb that received You was not consumed by Fire, for it was once prefigured by the furnace that kept the young men unburnt. I am chaff. How can I stretch out my hand to You, O Lord, who are fire? O Master, You are revered with awe by every being on earth and in Heaven, O Savior of our souls, all-powerful Jesus!"

All: Why was it, O sea, that you fled? That you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

3. "Wash Me in the waters of the Jordan, although I do not have the least stain," said the Lord. "Thus human nature, stained by the fault committed by Adam, will be purified and renewed. By My Baptism, all men will be born again by water and the Spirit!"

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (*Tone 8*)

All the monks honor you, O Theodosios, holy father, 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.

Dogmatikon

The choirs of angels were rapt in amazement when they saw You today, O Savior, stripped in the waters of the Jordan. Inclining Your spotless head, You received baptism from John. But because of Your voluntary poverty, the world was enriched. O Lord, glory to You!

TROPARION OF THEODOSIOS (*Tone 8*)

Your abundant tears made the wilderness sprout and bloom, and your deep sighings made your labor fruitful a hundredfold. You became a star shining over the world with miracles, holy father Theodosios. Pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

TROPARION OF THEOPHANY (*Tone 1*)

At Your Baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the Father's voice bore witness to You by calling You His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God who have appeared to us and enlightened the world, glory to You!