Thursday of the Samaritan Woman; Commemoration of the Transfer of the Remains of our Father among the Saints, Athanasios the Great, Patriarch of Alexandria (4th Class)

May 2

(411 Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for the Resurrection (Tone 4)

- 6. Christ met the Samaritan Woman at the well. He asked her for a drink of water, for He thirsted to draw her out of sin into salvation. He accomplished this as can be seen: for as she drew water from the well, He drew her and filled her with living water. She went to her village to announce to all: "Come and see Christ, the Messiah, who was foretold in the Law! He has assumed our human nature and knows secrets of our hearts!"
- 5. "Come and see Christ, who has appeared on earth!" cried the Samaritan Woman to the people of her village, "The One of whom the Law speaks has come: the great Prophet, the God-Man, who told me everything that I ever did and who knows all the secrets of my heart!" At that, the townspeople set out to meet Him and verified the truth of her words, wondering at the marvel that led them to the Faith.
- 4. Lord, at the sixth hour of the day, You were accustomed to walk about in Paradise as God. The daughter of the first woman saw You again at the sixth hour, seated near the spring and well of Jacob. Asking her for a drink of water, You refreshed her with the living water of salvation. Having drunk the life-giving water that flows

from You, the Samaritan woman recognized the richness of Your fountain, O Lord, and ran to her village to announce it.

For Athanasios

- 3. You endured persecutions and withstood perils, O venerable Athanasius, divine preacher, so strenuously that you drove out the impious error of Arius. You saved the Church from heresy as you proclaimed in true Faith that the Son and Spirit have the same Essence as the Father.
- 2. With the brilliance of your teachings, you brought light to those who lay in darkness. You drove off all error, exposing yourself to danger, O Athanasios, with the courage of a true Pastor, as an unshakable pillar of the Church of Christ. Thus, as we gather together, we venerate you with joy in our hymns.
- 1. Divinely inspired, you practiced all the virtues with perseverance. Consecrated by the anointing of the Spirit, in the sight of all, you became a most holy hierarch and a true Shepherd, a defender of the Faith. Thus, the whole Church honors your sacred memory, rendering glory to the Savior on this feast.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 6)

In our hymns, let us all honor Athanasios, the hierarch of Christ, who overcame the teachings of Arius, preaching clearly to the whole world the power of the Holy Trinity, the one God in Three Persons, without division. He intercedes before God for us who celebrate his memory with faith. - now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Dogmatikon (Tone 1)

O Source of miracles, You came to Jacob's well at the sixth hour of the day to save another child of the mother of all the living; for it was at that very hour that Eve lost Paradise, deceived by the serpent. The Samaritan Woman approached to draw water. Seeing her, the Savior asked, "Give Me water for the thirst of My body, and I will give you water leaping up to provide eternal life!" The woman wisely ran back to the village to announce to all: "Come and see Christ the Lord, the Savior of our souls!"

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

APOSTICHA (Tone 4)

- 1. O Lord, by Your death You shattered the gates of Hades and destroyed the power of Death. You saved the human race from corruption and gave life, incorruption and great mercy to the world.
- All: Their voice has gone forth over the whole world, and their words to the limits of the universe.
- 2. You enlightened the choir of the Apostles with Your Holy Spirit, O Christ. Through their prayers, wash away the stain of our sins, O Lord, and have mercy on us!
- All: God is wonderful among His saints, the God of Israel.
- 3. Since you have influence in the presence of the Savior, O holy martyrs, pray without ceasing for us sinners, asking the remission of our sins and great mercy for our souls.

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

Dogmatikon (Tone 2)

The Lord came and sat near the well of Jacob, and the Samaritan Woman asked Him, "Give me the water of faith, and I shall draw from the baptismal font streams of joy and redemption! O Lord, Source of Life, glory to You!"

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 4)

The women disciples of the Lord, having learned from the angel the joyful announcement of the Resurrection, and having rejected the ancestral sentence, proudly told the Apostles: "Death is despoiled! Christ God is risen, bestowing to the world great mercy!"

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

TROPARION OF ATHANASIOS (Tone 3)

O holy hierarch Athanasios, you became a stronghold of Orthodoxy, strengthening the Church through your divine teachings. Opposing the heretical opinion of Arius, you explained and taught that the Son is equal in nature with the Father. O holy Father, intercede with Christ God that He may grant us abundant mercy.

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

Resurrectional Theotokion (*Tone 3*)

We praise you, O Virgin Theotokos, mediatrix of our salvation, for your Son, our God, who suffered on the Cross in the flesh which was taken from you, redeemed us from corruption, for He is the Lover of Mankind!