

June 27

**Commemoration of our Venerable Father
Samson, the Hospitable
(5th Class)**

VESPERS

Stichera for the Apostles (Tone 4)

6. Fighting with a firm heart, you set out against the enemy, protected by the armor of the Spirit. Having destroyed all the power of the devils, you snatched the souls of men away from them as your booty. Through all ages we sing to you, O glorious Apostles of the Lord!
5. Casting out the net of the faith in the form of the Cross, Your twelve Apostles, Lord, caught all the nations that they might lead them to You. They dried up the salty seas of our passions. Therefore, I entreat You: draw us up from the depths of sin through their most acceptable prayers.
4. With divine songs, let us today celebrate the Twelve holy Apostles, chosen by God, singing of Peter and Paul, Andrew and John, James, Matthew, Simon and Thomas, Luke and Mark, Philip and Bartholomew as well as the rest of the seventy other Apostles!

For Samson (Tone 1)

3. O far-famed father Samson, having submitted the fires of the flesh to the flame of asceticism, you dwelt in the desert, as did Elijah long ago. You purified your spirit, turning it constantly to God. Now entreat Him to grant our souls peace and great mercy.

2. O divinely-minded father Samson, by dispassion, you have been joined to the ranks of ascetics in the heavenly mansions which have become your home. There you constantly gaze upon the never-setting Sun and partake of the Tree of Life. Entreat God now to grant our souls peace and great mercy.
1. O divinely-inspired father, you have shone like a star, enlightening the whole world with the splendor of your miracles. O Samson, you drive away the dark cloud of deadly sickness and expel the dread demons. Forever entreat Christ to grant our souls peace and great mercy.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion

O divine chariot of purity, who surpass every spirit, O Mary: carry me far away from the reach of my sins. Take me to a place of repentance, encircling me with your powerful protection. You have the power to do so as the Mother of God Most High.

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

APOSTICHA (*Tone 4*)

1. 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: 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. Your Holy Spirit made the unlearned Disciples become teachers; and by the beauty of their words resounding in every language, He has abolished error, O Christ, our mighty God!

All: 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. O holy martyrs, you were living sacrifices, spiritual holocausts, victims pleasing to the Lord, sheep who know their divine Master and are known by Him whose fold is inaccessible to the ravaging wolves. Intercede with the Good Shepherd that we, too, may be nourished with you beside the still waters.

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

Theotokion

Deliver us from all danger, O Mother of Christ our God, who gave birth to the Creator of all, that we may continually sing to you: "Hail, O Protectress of our souls!"

TROPARION OF SAMSON (*Tone 8*)

Through your patience, your assiduous prayer, your love for the poor and the help you gave them, O holy Samson, you deserved your reward. Intercede with 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.



THEOTOKION OF THURSDAY (*Tone 8*)

O Pure Theotokos, Gate of Spiritual Life, save from dangers those who run to you with confidence to glorify your holy birth-giving for the salvation of our souls.