

July 4

Commemoration of our Father among the Saints

Andrew of Jerusalem, the Hymnographer,

Archbishop of Crete

(5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for the Apostles (Tone 5)

6. O Apostles, you are like sharpened arrows sent forth throughout the whole world by the Mighty One. You swiftly and wisely blunted all the terrible fiery darts of the demons as you banished idolatry and taught the faith to all. You made them sheep of the flock of Christ our God, the true Chief Shepherd, who sent you forth, O blessed ones, into the midst of wolves, so that you could tame their fierceness by means of the Faith.
5. Disciples of the Incarnate Word, who dwelt among men in the greatness of His love and truly assumed their nature in order to deify it, you wisely followed in His divine footsteps. You imitated His poverty, counting all things as loss. Renouncing even a second tunic, you took neither a staff nor traveling bag on your way; and now, O glorious Apostles, you rejoice in your inheritance of the treasures of Heaven.
4. By your intercession before the Lord, O blessed Apostles, deliver us from the storm of temptations, the fatal babbling of unholy heresies, the evil intent of the demons, the cruelty of wicked men, tempests and storms, the gnashing of teeth and every other punishment. Entreat Him that by our abstinence and

labors, we may acquire the reward of virtue, the inheritance of the Kingdom and great mercy!

For Andrew (Tone 8)

3. What shall we call you, O holy Andrew? You are an ascetic who reined in the rebellious passions, a bishop who preached the Gospel of Christ, a harmonious zither played by the Spirit, a harp giving joy to the whole universe, an inspired singer, a new David exulting before the Ark of grace of the New Covenant!
2. What shall we call you, O holy Andrew? You are an imitator of the elect who struggled valiantly, an unfailing hymnographer of the martyrs and saints, a guide for the faithful in renewal through virtue, an expositor of the vanities of this life, a perfect teacher, a true spiritual father! Intercede for the salvation of our souls.
1. What shall we call you, O holy Andrew? You are a delightful flower of holy Jerusalem, a firm support for the orthodoxy of the Faith, a most holy bishop of Crete, an illuminator of the world by your radiance, rising in the East to give light to the West! Intercede for the salvation of 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

To whom can I compare you, O my poor soul? You refuse to repent, yet do not fear the fire as you persist in evil. Arise and call upon our only help; say to her: "O Virgin Mother, entreat your Son, our God, to save me from the snares of the evil one!"

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

APOSTICHA (*Tone 5*)

1. O disciples of the Savior, witnesses of the mysteries of Christ, You proclaimed the One who cannot be seen and who has no beginning, as you said: "In the beginning was the Word!" You were not created before the Angels; nor were you taught by men, but by the Wisdom from on high. Therefore, since you have confidence, we entreat you to intercede for our souls in the presence of the Lord.

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. In melodious hymns, let us sing to the Apostles of the Lord: armed with the Cross, they brought an end to the error of idolatry and are seen to wear the crown of victory. At their prayers, have mercy on us, O Lord!

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. In your unshakable resolve, you never denied Christ, O holy martyrs, as you endured the most terrible torments. You triumphed over the arrogance of the tyrants and kept the faith, whole and entire, as you passed from earth to Heaven. By the confidence you have in the presence of God, pray that He grant peace to the world and great mercy to 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.

Theotokion

Hail, O full of grace, Mother of Christ our God: the King of Glory revealed Himself to you and the Holy Spirit overshadowed you. By the confidence which you have before Him, intercede on our behalf for the salvation of our souls.

TROPARION OF ANDREW (*Tone 8*)

Guide of Orthodoxy, teacher of piety and holiness, Star of the universe, glory of hierarchs, wise Andrew, inspired by God. By your teachings you enlightened us all, O Harp of the Spirit! Intercede with Christ God for the salvation of 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.