

February 13

Commemoration of Our Holy Father Martinian

(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 Martinian (Tone 4)

3. Having chosen asceticism and penance, you fled to the caves and mountains, O blessed father Martinian. You

purified your spirit, adorning it by your progress in the contemplation of God. Thus, O God-bearing and blessed father, you became the pride of monks and the tabernacle of the Holy Spirit.

2. You were your own judge and executioner, O father Martinian, you willingly condemned yourself to martyrdom. Tempted by the fire of an unchaste lust, you ignited a huge pyre and threw yourself into it to be burned. But the dew of the Holy Spirit came down from Heaven to refresh you; and it reduced the raging fire to calm ash.
1. You dwelt on a rocky island in the midst of the sea, fleeing the plots of the serpent. But even there the Enemy threatened you, in order to catch you in his net by means of a woman saved from shipwreck in the sea. You returned to the mainland, miraculously carried by dolphins, where you fought the good fight to the end in the loneliness of exile, O God-bearing and blessed father, Martinian.

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

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

Hail, O glory and honor of Palestine! You are worthy of praise, for you dawn upon us like a radiant sun. You delivered your body to the fire in order to consume the power of the Enemy. He tempted you in many ways in the mountains, in the wilderness and on the islands of the sea. Finally, he sent a temptress to your desert. But, on an island in the sea, the temptress converted from tempting. O blessed father Martinian, never cease to intercede for us who celebrate your sacred memory with faith!

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

Theotokion

O all-pure Lady, you are the joy of the angels, the glory of mankind, the hope of believers and our protection. Taking refuge in you, we cry out with faith, "By your prayers, O holy Bride of God, may all of us who acclaim you be delivered from the snares of the Enemy, deadly misfortune and every type of affliction!"

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of the day.

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,

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

Adorned with the beauty of purity, radiant through prayer to God, and bearing Christ, the Son of the Virgin, as through you were His dwelling, you were never taken captive by the beauty of a woman, nor did you ever surrender to the pleasures of the flesh. You entered resolutely into the fire, your fellow minister in the service of God, O you whose heart burned with love for God. In the material and passing fire, you consumed the fire of the passions in order to extinguish Gehenna and its fires. O blessed Martinian, continue to intercede that we also may be delivered from the eternal fire.

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

Theotokion

Turn your face to us, O all-pure one! At the prayers of your servants, grant us streams of tears to wash away the stains of our sins and to extinguish the eternal fires. You hear the prayers of those who call upon you with their whole heart, O Mother of the Lord!

TROPARION OF MARTINIAN (*Tone 8*)

Blessed Martinian, you appeased the flames of passion with streams of tears; you calmed the waves of the sea and stopped the wild beasts' assault saying, "Glorified are You, O God almighty: You saved me from fire and storm!"

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.