

July 17

Commemoration of the Holy Great-Martyr Marina (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 Marina (Tone 8)

3. O wondrous marvel! The foolish pride of the one who boasted that he could do away with the earth and the sea, was brought down by the young virgin, Marina. She confounded his schemes by the power and grace of the Cross, which gives strength to our weakness in a wondrous manner!
2. O far-famed martyr Marina, you dwell in the halls of Heaven with the choirs of both virgins and martyrs, as you well deserve. By your prayers, save the faithful who celebrate your sacred memory, taking refuge under your

protection. Ask the Lord for remission of their sins, deliverance and great mercy.

1. O martyr worthy of all admiration: neither the fire of torments, the seductions of the world, the allurements of power, nor the joys of youth were able to separate you from the love of Christ. You longed for the surpassing beauty of the Lord, your Bridegroom; and you have entered into supreme happiness.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

Let us sing joyful hymns to the martyr Marina, sounding forth our exultation! On earth, she cast down the error of idolatry, bravely trampling our Enemy beneath her feet. She was carried up to Heaven, wearing her crown and crying aloud, "I long for You, my Bridegroom! I have drunk deeply of Your love; I have handed my body over to the flames for Your sake! Thus, I shall live forever in Your house, where all the just dwell in joy!"

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

Theotokion

All my hope I place in you, O Theotokos; keep me under the wings of your protection.

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

APOSTICHA (Tone 2)

1. Come, O friends of the martyrs! In faith, let us venerate Marina, the bride of Christ, that martyr who resolutely struggled for the King of all. She made virginity the tunic for her body, and the blood of her sacred martyrdom the jewels which adorned her as gold. Bearing a double crown, she now stands before the Judge of all combats.

All: God is wonderful among His saints, the God of Israel.

2. Truly sublime were your victory and your exploits, O Marina. Though frail and fearful by temperament, you triumphed over the invisible dragon, the cunning demon, as though he were nothing, like a fledgling bird. Having trampled him underfoot, you now exult with the Angels, O holy martyr, who are worthy of our admiration.

All: I have waited, waited for the Lord; and He stooped toward me and heard my cry.

3. You are the chosen bride of the Word who appeared on earth, O Marina. You shine with the beauty of your holy deeds; by grace, you cut down the initiatives of the godless. Thus, we venerate your sacred memory and your relics, which bring us healing.

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

Doxastikon (Tone 6)

At the right hand of the Savior stands the virgin martyr, victorious in her combat, clothed in the embroidered garments of her virtues, adorned with virginal purity, bedecked with the blood of her struggles. Having filled her lamp with the oil of gladness, she cries out to Him: "I am drawn to You in the fragrance of Your ointment, O Christ my God. Your love has wounded me; be not far from me, O heavenly Bridegroom!" By her prayers, grant us Your great mercy, O all-powerful Savior!

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

Theotokion

O Mother of God, you are the true vine laden with the Fruit of Life. Wherefore we implore you, O Lady, to intercede together with the martyrs and all the saints that we may obtain mercy for our souls.

TROPARION OF MARINA (*Tone 4*)

Your ewe-lamb, O Jesus, cries out to You in a loud voice: "O my Bridegroom, I long for You and I struggle in my quest for You. I am crucified with You and buried with You in Your Baptism. I suffer for Your sake in order to reign with You; I die for You in order to live with You." Accept her as an immaculate victim, since she is immolated for Your love. Through her intercession, O Merciful One, 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 4*)

O Virgin Theotokos, we acknowledge that the Word of the Father, Christ our God, was incarnate of you, the only pure one, the only blessed one. Wherefore we sing to you a hymn of praise and we exalt you.