

October 12

Sunday of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

(Second Council of Nicea)

(3rd Class, 1st Tone, 7th Eothinon)

ORTHROS

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (*Tone 1*) [Twice]

After the stone was sealed by the Jews, and while the soldiers were watching Your spotless body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, bestowing life to the world. Therefore, the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom! Glory to Your Economy, O You who alone are the Lover of Mankind!"

TROPARION OF THE FATHERS (*Tone 8*)

O Christ our God, You are infinitely glorified, for You established our Fathers as radiant stars on earth. Through them, you led us to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory to You!

RESURRECTIONAL THEOTOKION (*Tone 8*)

O Good One, You were born of the Virgin and suffered crucifixion for us. You destroyed Death by Your death, and as God You made manifest the Resurrection. Turn not away from those You have made by Your hands. O Merciful One, show Your love to men and accept as our intercessor the Mother of God who gave birth to You. O our Savior, save a desperate people.

SESSIONAL HYMNS (*Tone 1*)

The soldiers who were standing guard at Your tomb were struck down by the radiance of the angel who appeared to announce to the women the good news of Your holy Resurrection. We glorify You, who delivered us from death! We fall down in worship before You who rose from the grave, You who alone are God!

v. Arise, O Lord my God; lift up Your mighty hand, and never forget Your poor.

You were willingly nailed to the Cross, O Merciful One, and laid in a grave like any dead man, O Giver of Life. You trampled down the pride of death, O Mighty One, and the gatekeepers of Hades trembled in fear before You. You raised up all those who had fallen

asleep in death throughout the ages when You arose, for You are the only true Lover of Mankind!

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All of us confess you as the Theotokos, who remained a Virgin after giving birth. We seek refuge in your goodness, for we sinners have you for an advocate. In temptations, we have you for salvation, O all-pure Virgin.

Today the Polyelos is sung instead of the Evlogitaria of the Resurrection.

HYPACOI (*Tone 1*)

The repentance of the thief merited paradise for him, and the wailing of the ointment-bearing women became a herald of joy; for You have risen, O Christ God, bestowing great mercy upon the world!

KONDAKION OF THE RESURRECTION (*Tone 1*)

Being God, You rose in glory from the tomb and restored life to the world. O Lord, You conquered death: every human being exalts You as God. Adam rejoices; and Eve, delivered from her bonds, exults and cries out to You: "O Christ, You are the Resurrection of all!"

IKOS

Let us sing the praises of our mighty God who rose on the third day. He has shattered the gates of Hades and raised up those who had been lying in the tombs. He appeared to the myrrh-bearing women: they were the first to receive His greetings. As the only Giver of Life, He gave joy to His Apostles. The women went in faith to the Disciples to proclaim the victory of Christ. Hades groaned; Death mourned; the world exults and rejoices. O Christ, You are the Resurrection of all!

KONDAKION OF THE FATHERS (*Tone 6*)

The Son who rose from the Father like the sun, was ineffably born in two natures from a woman. Having known Him, we cannot deny the image of His features, but rather portray and venerate it with faith. Thus, keeping the true Faith, the Church honors the icon of the incarnate Christ.

IKOS

Wishing that we ceaselessly keep the perfect memory of His incarnation, the God of compassion inspired in men the idea of

portraying His venerable features by painting icons. Thus, seeing them with our eyes, we may believe what His word has taught us, recognizing clearly the name and aspect, the work and deeds of the holy people and the Judge of all combats, Christ, who grants crowns to the holy martyred athletes. Through these images, the Church has continued to keep the true Faith ever more clearly, and honors the icon of the incarnate Christ.

SYNTAXARION

On October 12, we commemorate the holy martyrs Probos, Andronicos and Tarachos.

By the sword, Andronicos, Probos and Tarachos won the victory and left this troubled life for the land of peaceful repose. On the twelfth of October, they counted all their bones.

On the same day, we commemorate our venerable and God-bearing father, Symeon the New Theologian, who ended his days in peace.

Your tongue formerly fulfilled the role of a book: your book now plays the role of your words.

On this same day, we keep the memory of the holy and blessed Fathers assembled at Nicea for the second time by the august and Christ-loving Emperors Constantine and Irene, to combat those impiously, crudely and unthinkingly accusing the Church of Christ of idolatry and rejecting the venerable and holy icons.

O Word, armed with their words alone, Your defenders repelled the attacks of the adversaries of the icons.

By the prayers of the holy Fathers, O Christ our God, take pity on us and save us. Amen.

EXAPOSTILARIA *(Tone 2)*

~Revealing Your human nature, O Savior, after Your Resurrection from the tomb, You ate with Your Disciples as You appeared in their midst. You taught them to preach repentance. Then You were lifted up to Your Father in the heavens, promising to send the Paraclete upon Your Apostles. Glory to Your Resurrection, O Lover of Mankind and God Most High!

(Tone 3)

~O heavenly-minded Fathers, gathered for the Seventh Ecumenical Council, pray constantly to the Trinity to save from all heresy and from eternal judgment those who praise you, that they may receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

~By the intercessions of Your Mother and the Fathers who met at all the Ecumenical Councils, O good Lord, strengthen Your Church, make firm the Faith, and make us all sharers in the Kingdom of Heaven when You come to earth to judge the whole world.

PRAISES *Stichera of the Resurrection (Tone 1)*

8. O Christ, we sing a hymn of praise to Your Passion, and we glorify Your Resurrection!
7. O Good One who suffered crucifixion for our sake, destroyed death and rose from the dead: establish Your peace in our life, for You alone are Almighty!
6. O Christ, who by Your Resurrection despoiled Hades and raised us from death: make us worthy to praise You and glorify You with pure hearts!
5. O Christ, we sing a hymn of praise to You and glorify Your holy condescension. You were born of the Virgin without being separated from the Father. You suffered in the body and accepted crucifixion of Your own free will. You rose from the tomb as from a wedding chamber to save the world. O Lord, glory to You!

Stichera for the Fathers (Tone 6)

4. Pondering carefully in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Fathers divinely wrote the blessed Symbol of Faith, in which they proclaim clearly that the Word is coeternal with the Father who begot Him, and is of the same Essence; in this they follow the teaching of the divine Apostles.
3. Pondering carefully ... *(Repeat)*
- v. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers; praised and glorified is Your name forever.
2. When the holy Fathers received the light of the Holy Spirit, they proclaimed, under the inspiration of God, the mystery of Faith,

in few words, but words rich in meaning. As heralds of Christ, they were inspired by the teachings of the Gospel and holy Tradition. They received radiant revelation from on high; and, resplendent with radiance, they defined the divine dogmas.

- v. Assemble His holy ones before Him, all those who have made a covenant with him by sacrifice.
- 1. Uniting all their pastoral knowledge and moved by a righteous indignation, the holy Pastors used the staff of the Spirit to drive away the devouring, destructive wolves who had slipped into the fullness of the Church with an incurable disease leading to death. Thus the holy Fathers acted as noble servants of Christ and initiators of the divine message.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 8)

When the ranks of the holy Fathers gathered together from the corners of the earth, they proclaimed the one Essence and one Nature of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and transmitted clearly to the Church the mystery of the divine teachings. Celebrating them in faith, we call them blessed and sing, "Divine army of the Lord, shining stars in the spiritual firmament, unshakable watch-towers of the mystical Sion, fragrant flowers of Paradise, golden mouths for the Word, glory of Nicea and pride of the world: intercede for our souls before the Lord!"

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

Theotokion

You are truly most blessed, O Virgin Mother of God: through the One who was incarnate of you, Hades was chained, Adam revived, the curse wiped out, Eve set free, Death put to death, and we ourselves were brought back to life. That is why we cry out in praise: "Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who find in this Your good pleasure: glory to You!"