

# October 16

## Commemoration of the Holy Martyr Longinos the Centurion (5th Class)

### VESPERS

*Stichera for the Apostles (Tone 1)*

6. O glorious Apostles of Christ, disciples called by our God, you are teachers of the whole world! Having found the Lord, the Mediator between God and men, you were united to Him and clearly proclaimed Him throughout the world as true God and true Man.
5. O most wise Apostles of Christ, by your prayers obtain wisdom of heart for me. You are truly initiates and dispensers of Wisdom who shed the light of the Paraclete. In that Fire, burn out the corruption from my heart; make me worthy to sing of you and call you blessed.
4. O Apostles, you have seen the Word of God! Enlighten my soul which has been darkened by the passions, for your divine teachings have illumined the very limits of the universe and drive out the darkness of idolatry. Intercede now that our souls be given peace and great mercy.

*For Longinos (Tone 4)*

3. You beheld the One who became mortal, the One who caused the sun to hide when He was sent to the Cross, the One whose side poured forth remission and salvation. With the Good Thief, you confessed Him, O Longinos, as the God and Master who willingly suffered His Passion in the immense compassion of His heart.
2. Seeing the fruitful Vine hanging from the Tree of the Cross, pouring forth the wine of life and pardon, you drew near with the lips of your heart. Drinking there from, you were filled with joy as you wisely renounced the bitter wine of the unbelievers, for you preferred the better to the worse.

1. The boldness of your speech put the tyrant to death; then you willingly marched to the slaughter, O wondrous Longinos, without fearing that death which obtains immortal life for you by the grace of God. Thus, with faith, we celebrate your festive memory, asking you to intercede for us before the Lord.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

*Doxastikon (Tone 6)*

O Christ, the veil of the Temple was rent at Your Passion. Seeing this, Longinos the Centurion declared to the Jews that You were the Son of God. Then, by a blow of the sword, those wretches cut off your head and cast it into the rubbish. Touching it, a blind woman recovered sight in her eyes. Together with her, we sing of You, "O Lord who crowned Your martyr, by his prayers, illumine also the eyes of our hearts, permitting us also to glorify You, our God, who were nailed to the Cross to save us!"

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

*Theotokion*

More than any of the children of men, I alone, wretched as I am, have committed that which the tongue dare not speak nor the ears hear. Thus I entreat you, spotless Lady: grant me pardon, repentance, amendment, tears, and sighing, that in the contrition of my heart, I may cry aloud, "Have mercy on the sinner that I am, O Lord, and save me!"

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

**APOSTICHA** (Tone 1)

1. The harp of the Apostles is filled with sweet harmonious music as it is played by the Holy Spirit. It banished the mysteries and worship inspired by demons. As it sang of the one and only Lord, it delivered the people from the error of idolatry, teaching them to bow down in worship before the consubstantial Trinity.

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. Let us praise with one accord the Apostles Peter and Paul, Luke, Matthew, Mark and John, Andrew, Thomas, Bartholomew, James, Philip and Simon. Let us direct our hymns of praise to the whole company of the Disciples!

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 martyrs worthy of all praise, although the earth did not conceal your bodies in burial, heaven has welcomed you. The gates of Paradise were opened to you, and there you rejoice in the Tree of Life. Intercede with Christ that He grant our souls peace and great mercy!

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

*Doxastikon (Tone 6)*

Standing near the Cross, you were kept watch. You saw the God-Man crucified on the Tree and you cried out to Him, "In Your Kingdom, remember me, O Lord!" And the Savior answered you, "Blessed are you, O Longinos: you will be remembered from age to age!"

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

*Theotokion*

All my hope I place in you, O Virgin. Turn not away from me, but in your goodness, make haste to deliver me speedily from the passions which trouble me and fight against me each day.

**TROPARION OF LONGINOS** (*Tone 4*)

Your martyr, O Lord, received the crown of immortality from You, O our God, on account of his struggle. Armed with Your strength he has vanquished his persecutors and crushed the powerless arrogance of demons. Through his supplications, O Christ God, 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.