

October 30

Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Zenobios and His Sister Zenobia

(5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for the Apostles (Tone 3)

6. At the prayers of Your divine Apostles, O Lover of Mankind, the only compassionate One, grant peace to Your people and save from all danger the faithful who sing to You and bow down in worship before You.
5. O eye-witnesses of God, deliver me from the arrows of the evil one. Sprinkle the refreshing dew of the Spirit upon my soul which is melting away under the scorching heat of sin, O divine Apostles who fill me with your blessings.
4. Your divine voice has truly gone forth over the whole world; and it has brought light to the nations that lay in darkness. O divine Apostles of the Lord, you have offered as incense to God those who have come to acknowledge Him.

For the Martyrs (Tone 4)

3. Having dyed your vestment with the blood of martyrdom, O illustrious Zenobios, you made it even more sacred in grace. You entered the Holy of Holies as a hierarch, to offer yourself as a pure victim, a perfect oblation, to Him who was immolated for you.
2. When your body was torn, the inner beauty of your soul shone forth even more clearly, O divinely-minded Zenobios, hieromartyr who stirs up our admiration. You are the splendor of hierarchs, the glory of conquering athletes, the never-exhausted fountain pouring forth healing, O you who drive away impure spirits and protect our souls.

1. Sharing your wise convictions, your own sister Zenobia chose to struggle at your side. She valiantly endured the burning cauldrons, the threatening fire and violent death. Thus, O hierarch Zenobios, at your side, she has found the crown of victory in the Kingdom on high.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 6)

Today, O friends of the martyrs, let us form a choir and sing to the memory of the victorious athletes, Zenobios and Zenobia; for they were champions of the Trinity. In the arena, they valiantly drowned the invisible enemy in their blood. Then they received the glorious crown as conquerors. Thus, we sing to them, "O holy pair, blessed by the Lord, O radiant martyrs, intercede, both of you, for our souls before the Savior."

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

Theotokion

You are my defense and my protection, all-pure Mother of God. I have you for a help in affliction, anguish, and sickness; and I glorify you, O spotless Virgin.

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

APOSTICHA (Tone 3)

1. Your voice has gone forth over the whole world, O holy Apostles. You brought an end to idolatry and proclaimed the knowledge of the one true God. You fought the good fight, O blessed ones, and we sing and glorify your memory.

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. O holy Apostles, you kept the commandments of Christ faultlessly. Freely have you received, and freely have you given, for you heal the passions of our souls and bodies. By the confidence which you have in the presence of God, intercede on our behalf for the salvation of our souls.

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. Sustained by faith and strengthened by hope, Your martyrs were united in spirit by love for Your Cross. They vanquished the tyranny of the enemy. Having received the crown of immortality, they now intercede for our souls together with the bodiless Angels.

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

You are the joy of the divine Angels, the glory of the Apostles, the seal of the prophets, the protectress of believers and the way to salvation. O Virgin, we wish to bow down to honor you.

TROPARION OF THE MARTYRS (*Tone 4*)

Your martyrs, O Lord, received the crown of immortality from You, O our God, on account of their struggle. Armed with Your strength they have vanquished their persecutors and crushed the powerless arrogance of demons. Through their 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.