

November 6

**Commemoration of our Father among the Saints,
Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople**
(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.

For Paul (Tone 4)

4. In you, O blessed one, the divine Paul has found an imitator bearing the same name, adorned with the same virtues of purity, spiritual courage, constancy in the midst of perils; for you were enflamed with zeal for the true Faith, a defender of Orthodoxy. Together with him, you too are now glorified in the dwellings of Heaven.
3. By the garrote of your solid teachings, you choked off and brought an end to Arius, who denied the divinity of Christ, and the impious Macedonius, O blessed hierarch; and the correctness of your doctrine strengthened Orthodoxy. Thus, accepting your brilliant confession, the Lover of Mankind made you a sharer in His Kingdom in Heaven.
2. You kept the faith and ran the race to the end, O blessed hierarch. Christ has crowned you for this with the wreath of righteousness and placed you among the resplendent

confessors, O Father worthy of our praise. Having inherited the kingdom of Heaven, intercede with the Savior for those who honor you with hymns.

1. O blessed father, well-named confessor, protector of those who acclaim you with fervor, O holy Paul: save us from all sin, all dangers, all the storms of the passions and from tyranny. As an acceptable hierarch, as an invincible witness, you can plead freely before Christ our God.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 1)

O venerable father, having been clothed as a bishop, you imitated the zeal of your namesake, the apostle Paul, enduring the same persecutions and dangers as he. You took pains to put an end to the blasphemy of Arius. Suffering for the sake of the eternal and consubstantial Trinity, you overcame the impious Macedonius, the adversary of the Spirit. Then, having explained the true Faith to all, you went to share the dwelling of the bodiless angels; forever with them, now intercede for the salvation of our souls.

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

Theotokion

Happiness of the angels in Heaven, protectress of mankind on earth, O pure Virgin, save us who seek refuge in you, for - after God - our hope rests in you.

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

APOSTICHA (Tone 4)

1. You enlightened the choir of the Apostles with Your Holy Spirit, O Christ. Through their prayers, wash away the stain of our sins, O Lord, and have mercy on us!

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. Your Holy Spirit made the unlearned Disciples become teachers; and by the beauty of their words resounding in every language, He has abolished error, O Christ, our mighty God!

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 holy martyrs, you were living sacrifices, spiritual holocausts, victims pleasing to the Lord, sheep who know their divine Master and are known by Him whose fold is inaccessible to the ravaging wolves. Intercede with the Good Shepherd that we, too, may be nourished with you beside the still waters.

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

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

Having crossed the sea of asceticism, driven by the breeze of abstinence, you escaped the storm of the passions. O venerable father, namesake of holy Paul, you endured persecutions, dangers, and mistreatment by heretical babblers; but you overthrew the doctrine of Arius and put to flight the heresy of Nestorius in your zeal for the Church of Christ. Intercede before Him, O blessed hierarch, for the salvation of our souls.

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

Theotokion

I have recourse to your holy protection as to a harbor of salvation, O spotless Virgin Mary, and I ask you to take pity: do not reject your servant, but save him from present affliction, O you who have compassion by nature. O Mother of the Most High God, by your constant prayer, save your faithful servants from adversity.

TROPARION OF PAUL (*Tone 3*)

Your confession of the divine Faith established you in the Church as another Paul, full of zeal, among the hierarchs. Your innocent blood cries out to the Lord with that of Abel and Zechariah.

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 3*)

The prophets foretold, the apostles taught, the martyrs professed and we have believed that you are indeed the Theotokos. Wherefore we exalt your inexpressible birthgiving.