

Vespers 07/18

THE 6th DAY OF THE MONTH OF JULY
THE COMMEMORATION OF OUR VENERABLE FATHER
SISOES THE GREAT

AT VESPERS

At "Lord, I have cried...", these stichera, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Thou hast granted a sign..."—

Thine all-festive commemoration * hath radiantly shone forth like the sun, O venerable one, / illuminating the thoughts of the faithful * with the splendor of thy wonders * and enlightening them with the rays * of thy virtuous works, O all-blessed one! // Wherefore, celebrating it, we joyously honor and faithfully bless thee, * thou boast of monks.

Thou didst live as an earthly angel, * O thou who art most rich, * and didst lay waste to thy body as though it belonged to another, * ever divinely instructing thyself with vigils and the remembrance of death, O father, * and growing through great ascents * to thine ultimate desire. // Wherefore, thou hast truly drawn nigh * unto perfection itself.

A wonder past comprehension * took place at the time of thy repose, * O wondrous one of venerable wisdom, * when a choir of saints suddenly stood before thee, O father; * for thy countenance shone like the sun, O wise one, * revealing thy luminous form * and the purity of thy soul, * assuring all * of what manner of repose thou didst receive.

Glory...: in Tone VIII—

We honor thee as the instructor of a multitude of monks, O Sisoës our father; for, following thy steps, we have truly learned how to walk the straight path. // Blessed art thou who didst labor for Christ, and didst denounce the power of the enemy; thou conversor with angels and companion of the venerable and the righteous. // With them do thou entreat the Lord, that He have mercy upon our souls!

Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion—

The unblemished heifer, beholding her Bullock hanging upon the Tree, nailed there of His own will, cried out, lamenting piteously: "Woe is me, O my most beloved Child! What

hath the thankless synagogue of the Jews rendered unto Thee, wishing to leave me bereft of Thee, O my most Beloved?"

Troparion, in Tone I—

Thou wast shown to be a desert-dweller, an angel in the body and a wonder-worker, O our God-bearing father Sisoës. Having received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, thou dost heal the infirm and the souls of those who have recourse unto thee in faith. Glory to Him Who hath given thee strength! Glory to Him Who hath crowned thee! Glory to Him Who worketh healings for all through thee!

AT MATINS

Canon, in Tone VIII

ODE I

Irmos: Let us chant unto the Lord, Who led His people across the Red Sea, for He alone hath gloriously been glorified.

By thy prayers enliven me who am slain by the passions, O father, interceding with great boldness now before the Life of the living.

Rejecting the love of the flesh, O father, with divine desire thou didst follow after Him Who crieth out to thee with love, O blessed Sisoës.

Accepting the immaterial radiance within thy heart, O father, thou wast illumined and didst drive away the gloom of all the passions.

Theotokion: O all-immaculate one who gavest birth unto the Savior, the Tranquility of all: save me who am tempest-tossed by the storm of all the passions.

ODE III

Irmos: Thou art the confirmation of those who have recourse to Thee, O Lord; Thou art the Light of the benighted; and my spirit doth hymn Thee.

Mightily didst thou subject thy flesh to thy mind, O venerable one, and didst show thy soul to be free from slavery to the passions.