

THE 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE COMMEMORATION OF OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS JONAH, METROPOLITAN OF MOSCOW & ALL RUSSIA

AT GREAT VESPERS

After the Introductory Psalm, we chant "Blessed is the man...", the first antiphon.

On "Lord, I have cried...", 8 stichera: 4 in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Called from on high..."—

When the divine calling * came upon thee, * O divinely wise Jonah, * thou didst forsake the world and that which is in the world, * and didst follow after Christ * with unwavering resolve. * Hence, the all-seeing Eye, * beholding thy good intentions, * adorned thee with the episcopacy. * Entreat Him * and pray unto Him, * that He save and enlighten our souls. *Twice*

When divine effulgence * made its abode within thy heart, * O holy hierarch Jonah, * thou didst acquire all-radiant joy * and all-honorable glory. * Wherefore, thou didst hold all things * to be transitory, * and with all thy heart * thou didst cleave unto God alone. * Entreat Him * and pray unto Him, * O thou who art great among hierarchs, * that He save and enlighten our souls.

When love divine * came upon thee, O holy hierarch, * inclining thyself wholly * unto Christ the Master from thy youth, * thou didst desire Him, * cleansing thyself of all the passions * which drag us down. * Wherefore, thou wast shown to be * the abode and habitation of the all-holy Spirit, * working all-glorious miracles. * Entreat Christ, * that He save and enlighten our souls.

And 4 stichera, in the same tone: Spec. Mel.: "As one valiant among the martyrs..."—

Having dwelt on earth like an angel, * O most blessed and holy hierarch Jonah, * thou didst gain mastery over the passions, * and didst make what is lower subject to that which is higher; * wherefore, having passed over to the kingdom which passeth not away, * ever pray * that Christ send down * cleansing of sins and great mercy * upon those who honor thee with faith. *Twice*

By thy teachings thou didst nurture well *

with the grass of life * the flock given thee by God, * O holy hierarch Jonah; * and having now passed over into never-waning radiance * and everlasting gladness, * be thou mindful, O all-blessed one, * of those who honor thine honorable repose, * and pray that our souls be saved.

Celebrating today the sacred memory * of the blessed Jonah, * the great hierarch, * come, let us all honor with divine hymns, * him who ever prayeth for us, * that a multitude of compassions and salvation * be sent down upon our souls.

Glory..., idiomelon, in Tone VI—

The divine shrine of thy relics is redolent with sweet fragrance, O holy hierarch Jonah, imparting healing to the souls and bodies of all. Wherefore, we beseech thee to preserve thy God-given flock, our civil authorities and all of Orthodoxy in peace, that we may all unceasingly magnify thee as our true pastor and advocate before God.

Now & ever...: Dogmatic theotokion, in the same tone—

Who doth not call thee blessed, O all-holy Virgin? Who will not hymn thine all-pure birthgiving? For the only-begotten Son Who shone forth timelessly from the Father, came forth, ineffably incarnate, from thee, the pure one; and being God by nature, He becometh man for our sake, not divided into two Persons, but known in two natures without confusion. Him do thou beseech, O pure and most blessed one, that our souls find mercy!

Entrance. Prokimenon of the day. Three Readings:

A READING FROM PROVERBS

The memory of the just is praised, and the blessing of the Lord is upon his head. Blessed is the man who hath found wisdom, and the mortal who knoweth prudence. For it is better to traffic for her, than for treasures of gold and silver. And she is more valuable than precious stones: no precious thing is equal to her in

value. For length of existence and years of life are in her right hand; and in her left hand are wealth and glory: out of her mouth righteousness proceedeth, and she carrieth law and mercy upon her tongue. Hearken to me, O children, for I will speak solemn truths. Blessed is the man who shall keep my ways; for my outgoings are the outgoings of life, and in them is prepared favor from the Lord. Ye, O men, do I exhort; and utter my voice to the sons of men. I, wisdom, have built up; upon counsel, knowledge and understanding have I called. Counsel and safety are mine; prudence is mine, and strength is mine. I love those that love me; they that seek me shall find grace. O ye simple, understand subtlety, and ye that are untaught, imbibe knowledge. Hearken unto me again; for I will speak solemn truths. For my throat shall meditate truth; and false lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing in them wrong or perverse. They are all evident to those that understand, and right to those that find knowledge. For I will instruct you in truth, that your hope may be in the Lord, and ye may be filled with the Spirit.

A READING FROM PROVERBS

The mouth of the righteous droppeth wisdom: but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. The lips of just men drop grace: but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. False balances are an abomination before the Lord: but a just weight is acceptable unto Him. Wherever pride entereth, there will also disgrace: but the mouth of the humble doth meditate wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the overthrow of the rebellious shall spoil them. Possessions shall not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness will deliver from death. When a just man dieth, he leaveth regret: but the destruction of the ungodly is speedy and causeth joy. Righteousness traceth out blameless paths: but ungodliness encountereth unjust dealing. The righteousness of upright men delivereth them: but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. At the death of a just man his hope doth not perish: but the boast of the ungodly perisheth. A righteous man escapeth from a snare, and the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. In the mouth of ungodly men is a snare for citizens:

but the understanding of righteous men is prosperous. In the prosperity of righteous men a city prospereth, but at the destruction of the wicked there is exultation. At the blessing of the upright a city shall be exalted, but by the mouths of ungodly men it is overthrown. A man void of understanding sneereth at his fellow citizens: but a sensible man is quiet.

A READING FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

When the righteous is praised, the people will rejoice; for his memory is immortality, because it is known with God, and with men; for his soul pleased the Lord. Love wisdom, therefore, O men, and live; desire her, and ye shall be instructed. For the beginning of her is love and the observation of the law. Honor wisdom, that ye may reign for evermore. I will tell you, and will not hide from you the mysteries of God, for he it is who is the instructor of wisdom, the director of the wise, the master of all understanding and activity. And wisdom teacheth all understanding; for in her is a spirit understanding and holy, the brightness of the everlasting light, and the image of the goodness of God. She maketh friends of God, and prophets; she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the constellations of the stars; compared with the light, she is found pre-eminent. She hath delivered from pain them that please her, and guided them in right paths, given them knowledge of holy things, defended them from their enemies, and given them a mighty struggle, that they might all know that godliness is stronger than all; vice shall never prevail against wisdom, neither shall judgment pass away without convicting the evil. For they said to themselves, reasoning unrighteously: Let us oppress the righteous man, let us not spare his holiness, neither need we be ashamed of the ancient gray hairs of the aged, for our strength shall be a law unto us; let us lie in wait for the righteous, for he is displeasing to us, opposeth our doings, upbraideth us with our offending the law, and denounceth to our infamy the transgressions of our training. He professeth to have the knowledge of God, and calleth himself the child of the Lord. He is become a reproof to our thoughts, and is grievous even for us to behold; for his life is not like other men's, his ways are of another fashion. We are accounted by him as a mockery, and he

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avoideth our ways as filth, and pronounceth the end of the just to be blessed. Let us see if his words be true; let us test what things happen to him. Let us examine him with mockery and torture, that we may know his meekness and prove his forbearance. Let us condemn him with a shameful death, for by his own words shall he be visited. Such things did they imagine, and were deceived; for their own wickedness blinded them. As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not; neither bethought they that Thou alone art God, who hast the power of life and death, savest in time of tribulation, and deliverest from all evil; who art compassionate and merciful, givest grace to Thy saints and opposeth the prideful with Thine own arm.

At the aposticha, these stichera, in Tone I: Spec. Mel.: "Joy of the ranks of heaven..."—

O divinely wise and holy hierarch Jonah, * by thy prayers and fasting, * and by keeping vigil and giving alms, thou didst unite thyself unto God; * wherefore, thou wast shown to be the abode and dwelling of the all-holy Spirit. * As thou wast a hierarch of the Church of Christ, * pray thou that our souls be saved.

Stichos: My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Thou didst submit to the commandment of God Almighty, * wherefore thou didst follow in His steps from thy youth, O holy hierarch; * for this cause thou didst receive from Him * the grace to work all-glorious miracles * and to expel evil spirits * from all who honor thee with love.

Stichos: Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the earth.

Thou didst remain meek and innocent * throughout thy whole life, O holy hierarch Jonah; * wherefore, as thou didst desire, * thou didst find rest with the saints in the heavens. * For this cause we honor thy divine memory, * celebrating with faith, * O divinely blessed and most honored one.

Glory..., idiomelon, in Tone IV—

When with God's aid, O holy hierarch, thou didst reach the Imperial City, thou wast received with honor by the patriarch, and from thence wast sent back to the lands of Russia, bearing with thee peace and blessing. Where-

fore, the Russian land lovingly received thee as its father, and in accordance with the sovereign's will, thou wast most gloriously elevated upon the hierarchal cathedra, whereon thou didst remain for many years, until thy departure to the Lord. Him do thou entreat, that He save those who hymn thee.

Now & ever...: Theotokion, in the same tone—

Mercifully regard the supplications of thy servants, O all-immaculate one, quelling the uprisings of the cruel demons against us, delivering us from every sorrow; for thee alone have we as a steadfast and sure confirmation, and we have acquired thine intercession; let not us that call upon thee be put to shame, O Mistress. Haste thou to answer the entreaty of them that cry out to thee with faith: Rejoice, thou help, joy and protection of all, and salvation of our souls!

Troparion, in Tone IV—

Having dedicated thyself wholly to the Lord from thy youth, thou becamest a model of virtue in prayers, labors and fasting; wherefore, beholding thy goodly intent, God appointed thee the hierarch and pastor of His Church: and for this cause, thy precious body hath been preserved whole and incorrupt after thy repose. O holy hierarch Jonah, entreat Christ God, that He save our souls.

Glory..., Now & ever...: Theotokion—

The mystery hidden from before the ages and unknown even to the angels, through thee, O Theotokos, hath been revealed to those on earth: God incarnate in unconfused union, Who willingly accepted the Cross for our sake and, thereby raising up the first-formed man, hath saved our souls from death.

AT MATINS

After the first chanting of the Psalter, this sedalion, in Tone I: Spec. Mel.: "When the stone had been sealed by the Jews..."—

Thou didst adorn the Church of Christ with thy teachings and works, O holy hierarch Jonah; wherefore, thy virtuous life shone forth in the world, and thou wast a model for the Church in prayer, fasting and the keeping of vigils: wherefore, we cry out to thee: Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! Glory to Him Who hath crowned thee! Glory to Him Who through thee granteth healing unto all! *Twice*