

The 28th Day of March

Commemoration of our Venerable Fathers Hilarion the New and Stephen the Wonderworker.

Evening Service

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stikhera.

3 stikhera to Ven. Hilarion in Tone 4: *Special melody: “Thou hast given a sign...”*

Having acquired a chaste life, O father, /
Patience, meekness, and sincere love, /
Extreme abstinence, and standing all night in prayer, /
Divine compunction, true faith and hope, /
Thou didst live on earth as an angel in the flesh ///
O blessed Hilarion, intercessor for our souls.

Thou didst shine forth, O venerable one /
As an earthly angel and heavenly man, /
A fountain of compunction, a stream of compassion, a sea of miracles, /
The surety of sinners, a worthy and fruitful olive tree of God, /
Anointing the faces of those who faithfully praise thee ///
With the oil of thy labors, O *father* Hilarion.

Enlightened with divine understanding, /
Thy mind overcame bodily passions /
By not participating in earthly matters /
But bearing in thyself the imprint of divine goodness, /
Thou art seen as godlike by all through the grace of the Divine Spirit ///
O our father Hilarion, thou adornment of monastics.

And 3 stikhera to Ven. Stephen, in the Same Tone: *Special melody: “As one valiant among the martyrs...”*

[If at Presanctified, these stikhera are sung at the Praises of the Morning Service]

Being the truest monk, /
The brightest star and a fountain of compunction, /
Thou wast revealed as one filled with love, /
Meekness, tranquility, compassion and humility, /
Without guile and blameless, O father Stephen, ///
Therefore Christ placed thee as a shepherd of monastics, honored by miracles.

Awake all night in keeping vigil, /
And with ineffable abstinence, O venerable father, /
With a godly life, fervent prayer, faith, hope and sincerity, /
Thou didst possess wondrous endurance and Orthodox wisdom; /
And thou didst shine with divine radiance before thy repose. ///
Therefore we honor thee, O venerable Stephen.

We praise thee, O father, /
As a brilliant star, a never-waning sun, a shimmering heaven /
Adorned with stars and divine wonders /
As a garden of fragrant flowers, the delight of Paradise, /
A fountain of sanctification, /
As a great physician bringing healing to the sick, ///
As our good shepherd and intercessor, O Stephen.

Glory... now and ever..., in the Same Tone: and melody.

Refresh my thoughts, O most pure Lady, /
With the dew of the Most-holy Spirit /
For ineffably thou didst give birth to Christ /
Who through the drops of His blood, /
Washed away the innumerable transgressions of mankind. /
Now through thy prayers, dry up the fountain of my passions ///
And grant me a bountiful stream of *living waters*..

Or the Stavrotheotokion: Same Tone and melody.

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross /
The Ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, was amazed and cried: /
'What is this sight, O Most-desired Son? /
What has the disobedient assembly done to Thee /
Having delighted themselves in Thy many miracles? ///
But I glorify Thy ineffable condescension, O Master!

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a resurrection service;

[No Troparions are given in the Menaion]

28 MARCH: VEN. HILARION THE NEW & STEPHEN THE WONDERWORKER.

Morning Service

The Canon for Venerable Hilarion, Tone 2, with the acrostic: *“I praise thy silent virtues, O venerable father,”* by Joseph.

The Canon for Venerable Stephen, Tone 1, with the acrostic: *“I honor thy divine labors, O blessed one.”* by Joseph.

[No Kontakia is given in the Menaion]