

The 9th Day of November

The Holy Martyrs Onesiphorus and Porphyrius of Ephesus; and our Venerable Mother Matrona of Constantinople.

Evening Service

At “Lord, I have called...,” 6 Stikhera:

3 Stikhera of the Martyrs, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder...”*

O greatly suffering martyr, /
Blessèd Onesiphorus, /
Thou didst bear torments for confessing Christ God. /
First, enduring wounds made by the lawless in the court /
Then being condemned to the flames; /
Through this, earning thy crown of victory ///
Given thee by the hand of the Creator, O all-praised one.

O greatly suffering martyr Porphyrius! /
Thy blood hast colored thy robes in the purple of porphyry. /
Being thus arrayed in splendid apparel, O glorious one, /
Thou dost reign together with our One True God /
By the grace and power of the Spirit. ///
Beseech Him now that we all may be saved.

O most glorious martyrs ! /
You were slain in a sacred manner for the Life of all — /
Rejoicing, you were stretched out on a searing grill /
And dragged by horses around the arena. /
Thus you achieved a blessèd end /
And are rightly glorified. ///
O ever-blessèd ones, ceaselessly pray for us all.

And 3 Stikhera of the Venerable Matrona, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs...”*

Thou didst quell the longings of thy flesh, O Matrona, /
Through thy pious and heroic abstinence. /
Thou didst follow in the steps of Christ /
Coming to live with thy fellow ascetics /
Quenching the flames of passion with showers of thy divine tears ///
Kindling in their place a most-fervent desire for the Creator;

9 NOVEMBER: MARTYRS ONESIPHORUS AND PORPHYRIOS;
AND OUR VENERABLE MOTHER MATRONA.

Becoming thyself a temple of the Spirit /
Thou didst erect for the pleasure of God, /
A sacred habitation in the souls of [thy many disciples], /
Leading them to the benefits of fasting by example of thy spiritual purity, /
And bringing them saved, as a dowry, to the Master; ///
So, together with them, O Matrona, we faithfully honor thee.

Thy maiden disciples /
Loved the Bridegroom and Lord, /
And submitting to His teachings /
In spirit, they learned to disregard the weakness of the flesh /
And diligently, they learned to restrain the passions. /
So, together with thee, O Matrona, ///
They have entered, rejoicing, into the heavenly bridal chamber.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the Same Tone,

O all-pure [Lady] /
Who contained the infinite God in thy womb, /
Who, in His love for mankind became man of thee /
Thus deifying our nature which He received from thee, /
Despise me not, for I am in sorrow: /
But do thou quickly take pity on me ///
And deliver me from the many attacks and assaults of the enemy.

Or the Stavrotheotokion: *To the melody, "On the third day...."*

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross, O Lord, /
The ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, cried out in amazement: /
'What is this sight, O Most-desired Son? /
What has the ungrateful assembly done to Thee /
Having once delighted themselves in Thy many miracles? ///
But I glorify Thy ineffable condescension, O Master!

Or Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection service.

The General Troparion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:

Thy martyrs, O Lord, /
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God /
For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies /

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AND OUR VENERABLE MOTHER MATRONA.

And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Glory..., the Troparion of the Venerable Matrona, in Tone 8:

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, /
For thou didst take up thy cross and follow Christ /
By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away /
But to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal ///
Therefore thy spirit, O venerable Matrona, rejoices with the angels.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or Stavrotheotokion.

Morning Service

One Canon from the Octoechos, and two Canons of the Saints
incomplete as of 10/20/2014

After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Venerable Matrona, in Tone 2: To the melody, "Having received grace...."

For the sake of thy love for the Lord /
Thou didst despise a life of ease, O Matrona. /
Thou didst illuminate thy spirit with fasting /
And through thy prayers cast down the arrogance of the demons ///
Mightily destroying the enemy.

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Martyrs, in Tone 2: To the melody, "Seeking the highest"

Having suffered greatly for the Lord, /
The two martyrs cast down the pride of the enemy. /
And being illumined by the grace of the uncreated Trinity /
The glorious Onesiphorus and Porphyrius ///
Ceaselessly pray on behalf of us all.