

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 2022
16th Sunday after Pentecost (2nd of Luke)
Hieromartyr Cyprian, Virgin-Martyr Justina,
Martyr Theoctist, of Nicomedia

THE HIEROMARTYR CYPRIAN AND JUSTINA THE VIRGIN Cyprian moved from Carthage to Antioch, where Justina lived with her parents, Edesius and Cleodonia. Edesius was a pagan priest, and his entire household was pagan. But when Justina visited a Christian church and learned the true Faith, she converted both her father and mother to the Christian Faith. All three received baptism by Optatus the bishop. Cyprian, however, was a magician, who consorted with impure spirits and practiced sorcery. A certain dissolute pagan youth named Aglaidas was willing to pay any price to charm Justina, for she was beautiful. The holy virgin Justina rejected him adamantly, and he sought help from Cyprian. Cyprian invoked one evil spirit after another, to inflame Justina with impure passion for Aglaidas, but did not succeed. By the sign of the Cross and prayer to God, she drove the evil spirits away. After this futile effort, Cyprian recognized the power of the Cross and was baptized. Eventually, he was made a presbyter, then a bishop. Embittered pagans denounced him and Justina; both were tried in Damascus, tortured, and then beheaded in Nicomedia. They entered into rest at the end of the third century.

GREAT VESPERS

LORD I CALL: *Six stichera of the Resurrection in tone 7 (spiral bound Vespers book), then ...*

Saints, tone 4:

Through the anointing of the priesthood
and the blood of martyrdom,
you drew near to God, O most perfect and all-glorious Cyprian.
You are the flower of nature;
the adornment of preaching,

the summit of wisdom and a rule of true dogmas,
a most harmonious rightness of the canons.//
and the splendor of the Churches.

O most honorable Cyprian,
glory of athletes and crown of martyrs,
by your sermons you persuaded the divinely wise
to maintain their courage with nobility
in the face of imprisonment, bondage, and varied tortures,
nakedness, binding, and bitter cold.//
with wounding and death at the end.

You are the splendor of virgins and martyrs, O Justina.
You opposed the spells of demons with hymns to the Spirit.
By the sign of the Cross, you preserved your virginity,
offering yourself to Christ as a most holy sacrifice.
You are an unconquered martyr.//
who received the crowns of victory.

Glory ... saints, tone 2:

O most blessed Cyprian,
you turned aside indeed from the falsehood and lore of idolatrous
teaching.
You armed yourself for salvation with the sword of the Cross,
throwing away the books of sorcery
as you put off the old man.
The knowledge of the consubstantial Trinity lived within you.//
With the angels, ever beseech Him, O Bishop, that we may be
saved!

now and ever ... the theotokion-dogmatikon of the Resurrection in tone 7 (spiral bound Vespers book)

APOSTICHA: *All stichera of the Resurrection in tone 2 (spiral bound Vespers book)*

Glory ... saints, tone 2:

Let us praise Cyprian,
the divinely shining lamp,
the converser with Paul and sharer of his labors.
Having received an incorruptible crown from the one God,
he dwells with the angels,//
and he ever prays that our souls may be saved.

*now and ever ... theotokion of the Resurrection in tone 7
(spiral bound Vespers book)*

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 7:

By Your Cross You destroyed death.
To the thief You opened Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that You are risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

St. Cyprian, tone 4:

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,
you became a successor to their throne.
Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine con-
templation, O inspired one of God;
by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the
Faith, even to the shedding of your blood.//
O Hieromartyr Cyprian, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Resurrectional dismissal theotokion, tone 4:

The mystery of all eternity,
unknown even by Angels,
through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate by union without confusion.
He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,

by which He resurrected the first-created man,//
saving our souls from death.

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