

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021
VENERABLE EUTHYMIUS THE NEW

Saint Euthymius the New of Thessalonica and Mt Athos, in the world was named Nicetas, and he was a native of the city of Ancyra in Galatia. His parents, Epiphanius and Anna, led virtuous Christian lives, and from childhood their son was meek, pious and obedient. At age seven he was left fatherless and he soon became the sole support of his mother in all matters. Having entered military service, Nicetas married, on the insistence of his mother. After the birth of a daughter, he secretly left home in order to enter a monastery. For fifteen years the venerable Euthymius lived the ascetic life on Mount Olympus, where he learned monastic deeds from the Elders.

The monk went to resettle on Mount Athos. On the way he learned that his mother and wife were in good health. He informed them that he had become a monk, and he sent them a cross, calling on them to follow his example. On Mt Athos he was tonsured into the Great Schema and lived for three years in a cave in total silence, struggling with temptations. Saint Euthymius also lived for a long time as a stylite, not far from Thessalonica, instructing those coming to him for advice and healing the sick.

The monk cleansed his mind and heart to such an extent that he was granted divine visions and revelations. At the command of the Lord, Saint Euthymius founded two monasteries in 863 on Mount Peristeros, not far from Thessalonica, which he guided for 14 years, with the rank of deacon. In one of these his wife and mother received monastic tonsure. Before his death he settled on Hiera, an island of Mt Athos, where he reposed in 898. His relics were transferred to Thessalonica. Saint Euthymius is called “the New” to distinguish him from Saint Euthymius the Great (January 20).

GREAT VESPERS

LORD I CALL: Four stikhera of the resurrection in tone 1 (spiral bound vespers book), followed by five stikhera for the Fathers

Fathers, tone 6:

The seven honorable councils of the Fathers, held at various times, were brought together under one canon in good order by Patriarch Germanus the New. He established and recorded their teachings; he also presented these Fathers to the Lord as watchful intercessors for our salvation// and as fellow-shepherds of the fold.

The book of the Law instructed the sons of Israel that the seventh day was to be honored, and they devoted themselves to a shadow and reverenced it. But, O Fathers, who came together in the Seventh Council, at the behest of God, Who fashioned the universe in six days and blessed the seventh day,// you have made the seventh more honorable by laying down a definition of the Faith.

You have enabled all men, O thrice-blessed Fathers, to come to the knowledge of the Trinity as the Cause of the world's generation; for by your mystical reasoning you established three and four Councils, and you appeared as champions of Orthodoxy, for you showed that, while there are four elements// it is the Trinity Who created them and made the world.

It would have been enough for Elijah the Prophet to have bent down only once to give life to the dead son of the woman; but he knelt and bent seven times.

And in his foresight he prophesied your gathering,
by which you breathed life into the slaying of God the Word,//
by putting to death Arius and his profane companions.

In your wisdom, O venerable Fathers,
you mended the garment of Christ rent by howling dogs;
for you could not bear looking upon the nakedness of his body,
but as Shem and Japheth of old who hid their father's nakedness,
you put to shame that slayer of his father, the wretched Arius,//
and those who foolishly follow his teachings.

Glory..., Fathers, tone 6:

Today let us praise the mystical trumpets of the Spirit,
the God-bearing Fathers,
who stand in the midst of the Church, singing true theology,
praising the changeless Trinity.
They laid low the errors of Arius and upheld the Orthodox Faith.//
They always entreat the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

***NOW AND EVER... the Dogmatikon in tone 1 (spiral
bound vespers book)***

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The reading from the book of Genesis.

And Abram, having heard that Lot his nephew had been taken captive, numbered his own home-born servants three hundred and eighteen, and pursued after them to Dan. And he fell upon them at night, he and his servants who were with him, and he smote them and pursued them as far as Chobal, which is on the left of Damascus. And he recovered Lot his nephew, and all his possessions, and the women and the people. And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after he returned from the slaughter of Chodollogomor, and the kings with him, to the valley of Saby; this was the king's dale. And Melchisedek, king of Salem, brought forth bread and wine, and he was the priest of the Most High God. And he blessed Abram, and said: Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, Who made heaven and earth, and blessed be the Most High God, Who delivered your enemies into your power.
Genesis, (14:14-20)

The reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Thus said Moses to the sons of Israel: Behold, God has delivered the land before you; go in and inherit the land which I swore to your fathers Abraham and Issac and Jacob, to give it to them and to their seed after them. And I spoke to you at that time, saying: I shall not be able by myself to bear you. The Lord your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are today as the stars of heaven in multitude. The Lord God of your fathers add to you a thousandfold more than you are, and bless you as He has spoken to you. So I took of you wise and understanding and prudent men, and I set them to rule over you as rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, and rulers of tens, and instructors for your judges. And I commanded your judges at that time, saying: Hear causes between your brethren, and judge justly between a man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. You shall not have respect to persons in judgment, you shall judge small and great equally; you shall not shrink from before the person of a man, for the judgment is God's.
Deuteronomy, (1:8-11, 15-17)

The Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Thus said Moses to the sons of Israel: Behold, the heaven, and the Heaven of heaven, belong to the Lord your God, the earth and all things that are therein. Yet the Lord chose your fathers to love them, and above all nations, as at this day He chose you out of their seed after them. Therefore you shall circumcise the hardness of your heart, and you shall not harden your neck. For the Lord our God, He is God of gods, and Lord of lords, the great, and strong, and terrible God, Who does not respect persons, nor will He by any means accept a bribe; executing judgment for the stranger and orphan and widow, and He loves the stranger to give him food and raiment. You shall fear the Lord your God, and serve Him, and shall swear by His Name. He is your boast, and He is your God, Who has wrought for you these great and glorious things, which your eyes have seen.
Deuteronomy, (10:14-21)

***APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the resurrection in tone 1 (spiral
bound vespers book)***

GLORY...for the Fathers, tone 4:

Come, all Orthodox Churches,
let us celebrate today in faith and true worship
the yearly commemoration of the divinely-arrayed Fathers
who gathered at Nicea from throughout the world!
There they refuted the godless teaching of Arius,
banishing him from the catholic Church by a decree of the council.
They taught all to confess openly the Son of God,
consubstantial and co-eternal with the Father,
proclaiming this with precision and true worship in the Symbol of
Faith.

Therefore, as we faithfully follow their divine doctrines,
let us worship the Father, the Son, and the most Holy Spirit,//
the consubstantial Trinity in one Godhead!

***NOW AND EVER...the Theotokion of the resurrection in
tone 4 (spiral bound vespers book)***

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Your Kingdom!//
Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

Fathers, tone 8

You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.
Through them You have guided us to the true Faith.//
O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

Resurrection Dismissal Theotokion, tone 8

For our sake You were born of the Virgin
and endured crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.
Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of
Your hand!

Reveal Your love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the
Theotokos praying for us,//
and save the despairing people, O our Savior!

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