

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023
MARTYR ANASTASIA
VENERABLE ABRAMIUS

Our Holy Father Abraham the Recluse and his niece Maria.

Under pressure from his parents, Abraham married, but on the very day of his wedding, he left his bride, his parents, his home and all that he had and went off into solitude to live in strict asceticism. He lived thus for fifty years, only leaving his cell twice in the whole of that time. Once it was at the command of the local bishop, to convert a pagan village to the Christian faith, and the other was to save his dissolute niece Maria. He entered peacefully into rest in 360, at the age of seventy.

Our Holy Father, the Martyr Timothy of Esphigmenou. From the village of Paraora, in the province of Kessana in Thrace, he was married and had two daughters. His wife was seized by the Turks and converted to Islam, and, in order to save her from the harem, he also pretended to become a Turk. Saving his wife, he gave her to a women's monastery and went off to the Holy Mountain, first to the Lavra and then to Esphigmenou. He desired martyrdom for Christ, like Agathangelos of Esphigmenou, and was beheaded in Jedrene on October 29th, 1820. His body was thrown into a river, but his clothing was taken back to Esphigmenou by the elder Germanus, his spiritual father.

GREAT VESPERS

LORD I CALL: Four stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 4 (spiral bound Vespers book), followed by three for the martyr and three for St. Abramius

Martyr Anastasia, tone 4:

You bore the torturing of your body with patience,
O greatly-suffering Anastasia.
You were maimed and burned before your unjust death,
receiving the crown of victory./

Now you dwell in the heavenly bridal-chambers.

You are manifested to those who celebrate your memory as a
treasure of virginity,
an enclosed paradise, a holy offering and a sacred wall.
You are a living icon, a bride of Christ,
a model for those who lead the ascetic life,
the adornment of martyrs and a fountain springing with waters of
healing,//
O all-praised Anastasia.

Come, let us all zealously praise in songs
the adornment of martyrs,
the flowering of virgins and greatest jewel of monastics:
the greatly-suffering Anastasia, the boast of Rome,
a most pleasing and undefiled sacrifice,
an unshakable foundation of piety,//
for she has struggled most gloriously in the contest!

Saint Abramius, tone 8:

O godly-minded Father Abramius,
being an imitator of Abraham in the spirit,
you became an exile in your native land.
Denying yourself the desires of the flesh,
and shutting your body within a tiny hut,
you made your mind take wings to Heaven,//
whose citizenship you clearly gained.

O venerable Father Abramius,
bearing his name you possessed a soul like Abraham's;
strengthened by divine faith you endured temptations;
through love you were united to God;
adorned with the brilliance of virtues you inherited the Promised
Land.//
Therefore we joyfully celebrate your memory.

O venerable Father Abramius,

you drew up and brought into the saving presence of God
the woman who had been seduced by the deceptions of the serpent,
and had slipped into the pit of destruction.

All were astounded at her repentance,//
and devoutly glorified the Lord, Who is supremely good.

**GLORY...NOW AND EVER... the Dogmatikon in tone
4 (spiral bound Vespers book)**

**APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 4 (spiral
bound Vespers book)**

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 4

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

Saint Anastasia, tone 4

Your lamb Anastasia calls out to You, O Jesus, in a loud voice:

“I love You, my Bridegroom, and in seeking You I endure
suffering.

In baptism I was crucified so that I might reign in You,
and I died so that I might live with You.

Accept me as a pure sacrifice,
for I have offered myself in love.”//

Through her prayers save our souls, since You are merciful!

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.

John of Damascus Orthodox Church

Rector: Father Michael Anderson

16903 Espola Rd

Poway, CA 92064

Email: powaypadre@stjohnofdamascus.org

Office: 858-674-1931