

GREAT VESPERS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018; TONE 3

HOLY FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

MARTYRS NAZARIUS, GERVASIUS, PROTASIUS AND CELSUS OF MILAN; COSMAS THE
HYMNOGRAPHER, BISHOP OF MAIUMA; VENERABLE PARASKEVA OF THE NEW OF THRACE

“O LORD I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE THREE

For the Holy Fathers in Tone Six (**Ere the morning star**)

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Patriarch Ger-ma-nos the New

assembled the accounts of all of the Seven Coun-cils

convened by the Fathers at di-verse times

and compiled them into a single rule and ca-non,

setting them all in or-der.

He thus confirmed their doc-trines,

gathering them in one written re-cord.

He established them as fellow shepherds o-ver the flock

and as most vigilant suppliants be-fore the Lord, //

that we may be saved.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

The Law's letter bound the sons of the He-brews

to observe the seventh day with due rev'rence,

and keeping that wor-ship,

they persisted in the sha-dow.

And when ye gathered in the Seven Coun-cils,
O sacred Fathers, bade thus by God,
Who finished all His works in a span of six days
and thereafter also blessed the se-venth,
ye made the seventh yet more hallowed and ven'ra-ble //
when ye decreed the bounds of the Faith.

*Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch
let Israel trust in the Lord.*

To all men ye clearly bequeathed the teach-ing
that the Holy Trinity is the Cause of the world's gen-er-a-tion,
as His works plainly de-clare Him;
for, being mystically in-spired,
ye called three and four great Coun-cils,
proving the champions of Orth-o-dox-y,
O thrice-blessed Fa-thers,
and ye showed that the God of Three Per-sons
is our Creator Who hath made the four el-e-ments //
and fashioned all of the un-i-verse.

*Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant
redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

It would have sufficed Prophet E-li-sha
to bend down but once
that he thus might quicken and breathe life a-gain
into the dead son of her that served him;
but rather, he knelt down sev-en times,
and seven times bowed up-on him.
Thus, in his fore-vi-sion,
he prophesied of your seven gath-er-ings,
in the which ye breathed your quick-en-ing word
on the death of God the Word, //
and put to death Arius and his profane fellow-la-bor-ers.

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Christ the Savior's gar-ment,
which had been sun-dered,
rent apart by dogs shameless in their bark-ing,
ye wisely have mended, O ye venerable Fa-thers,
in no wise bearing to behold the nakedness of your Mas-ter,
as Shem and Japheth hid their father's nakedness once a-fore-time.
Thus ye shamed that slayer of his fa-ther,
the wretched A-ri-us,
the namesake of fren-zied-ness, //
and those of like mind and thought with him.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Each and every Eutyches and Sa-bel-li-us,
Apollinarius and Nes-tor-i-us,
Dioscorus, lawless Macedonius, and Sev-er-us,
all who were shown forth to be wolves in sheep's cloth-ing,
ye as true shepherds drove far off from the flock of Christ the Sav-ior,
when ye stripped them naked of their sheep-skins
and nobly overcame those thrice-wretched her-e-tics; //
wherefore we rightfully call you blest.

DOXASTICON FOR THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE SIX
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Let us extol today those mystical trumpets of the Spi-rit,
namely the God-mantled Fa-thers,
who, speaking of di-vine things,
sang in the midst of the Church
a hymn of u-ni-fied tones,
teaching that the Trin-i-ty is One,
not differing in Substance or God-head,
refuting A-ri-us
and contending for Orth-o-dox-y, //
who ever pray to the Lord to have mer-cy on our souls.