

**Vespers sung on Saturday 28th October 2023 for Sunday 29th October
21st Sunday after Pentecost
The Holy Venerable Martyr Anastasia the Roman
Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Abramius the Recluse**

“Lord I Call ...”

Tone 4

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Thy sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

V. (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

Tone 4 *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,
by always honoring Thy life-creating Cross;
by it, Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man,
O almighty One.
By it, Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven,//
for Thou art good and the Lover of man.

V. (9) *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Thou didst loose the Tree’s verdict of disobedience, O Saviour,
by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.
By descending to hell, O almighty God,
Thou didst break the bonds of death.
Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://
“Glory to Thee, O all-powerful Lord!”

V. (8) *Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord,
and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death.
Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption,//
granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

V. (7) *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Come, O people,
let us sing of the Saviour’s Resurrection on the third day!
By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.
By it, we have received life and incorruption.
Save us by Thy Resurrection!//
O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

V. (6) *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

Tone 4 *(for St. Anastasia)*

Thou didst bear the torturing of thy body with patience,
O greatly-suffering Anastasia.
Thou wast maimed and burned before thine unjust death,
receiving the crown of victory.//
Now thou dost dwell in the heavenly bridal-chambers.

V. (5) *For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Thou art manifested to those who celebrate thy memory as a treasure of virginity,
an enclosed paradise, a holy offering, and a sacred wall.
Thou art 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.

V. (4) *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

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!

V. (3) *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Tone 8 *(for Ven. Abramius)*

O godly-minded Father Abramius,
being an imitator of Abraham in the spirit,
thou didst become an exile in thy native land.
Denying thyself the desires of the flesh,
and shutting thy body within a tiny hut,
thou didst make thy mind take wing to Heaven,//
whose citizenship thou didst clearly gain.

V. (2) *Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

O venerable Father Abramius,
bearing his name, thou didst possess a soul like Abraham's;
strengthened by divine faith thou didst endure temptations;
through love thou wast united to God;
adorned with the brilliance of virtues thou didst inherit the Promised Land.//
Therefore we joyfully celebrate thy memory.

V. (1) *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

O venerable Father Abramius,
thou didst draw up and bring 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 to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 4 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord
through thee, O Virgin.
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in thee:
“At Thy right hand stood the Queen,”
Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life,
since God was freely born of her without a father.
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder
and brought it to His Father,
joining it to the heavenly pow’rs. //
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

APOSTICHA

Tone 4 *(for the Resurrection)*

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,
Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse.
By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners,
granting incorruption to the human race. //
Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,
Thou didst shake all of creation.
By being laid in the tomb Thou hast raised those who dwelt in the tombs,
granting life and incorruption to the human race. //
Therefore in songs we glorify Thy rising on the third day.

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

The lawless people, O Christ,
handed Thee over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,
thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.
But voluntarily Thou didst endure burial,
rising by Thine own power on the third day as God, //
granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

With tears the women reached Thy tomb,
searching for Thee, but not finding Thee.
They wept with wailing and lamented:
“Woe to us! Our Saviour, King of all,
how wast Thou stolen?
What place can hold Thy life-bearing body?”
An Angel replied to them:
“Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen, //
granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 4 *(Theotokion)*
Look on the entreaties of thy servants, O Blameless One!
Stop all the terrible attacks against us,
freeing us from every affliction,
for we have only thee as our sure and firm anchor!
Do not let us be put to shame, O Lady,
for we call on thee for our intercession!
Hasten to pray for those who call in faith:
“Rejoice, O Lady, Help of all: //
the Joy and Shelter and Salvation of our souls!”

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*
When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen, //
granting the world great mercy!”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(St. Anastasia)*
Thy lamb Anastasia calls out to Thee, O Jesus, in a loud voice:
“I love Thee, my Bridegroom, and in seeking Thee I endure suffering.
In baptism I was crucified so that I might reign in Thee,
and I died so that I might live with Thee.
Accept me as a pure sacrifice,
for I have offered myself in love.” //
Through her prayers save our souls, since Thou art merciful!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 4 **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**
The mystery hidden from before the ages
and unknown even to the angels,
through thee, O Theotokos,
hath been revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate in unconfused union,
Who willingly accepted the Cross for our sake,
and thereby raising up the first-formed man, //
hath saved our souls from death.