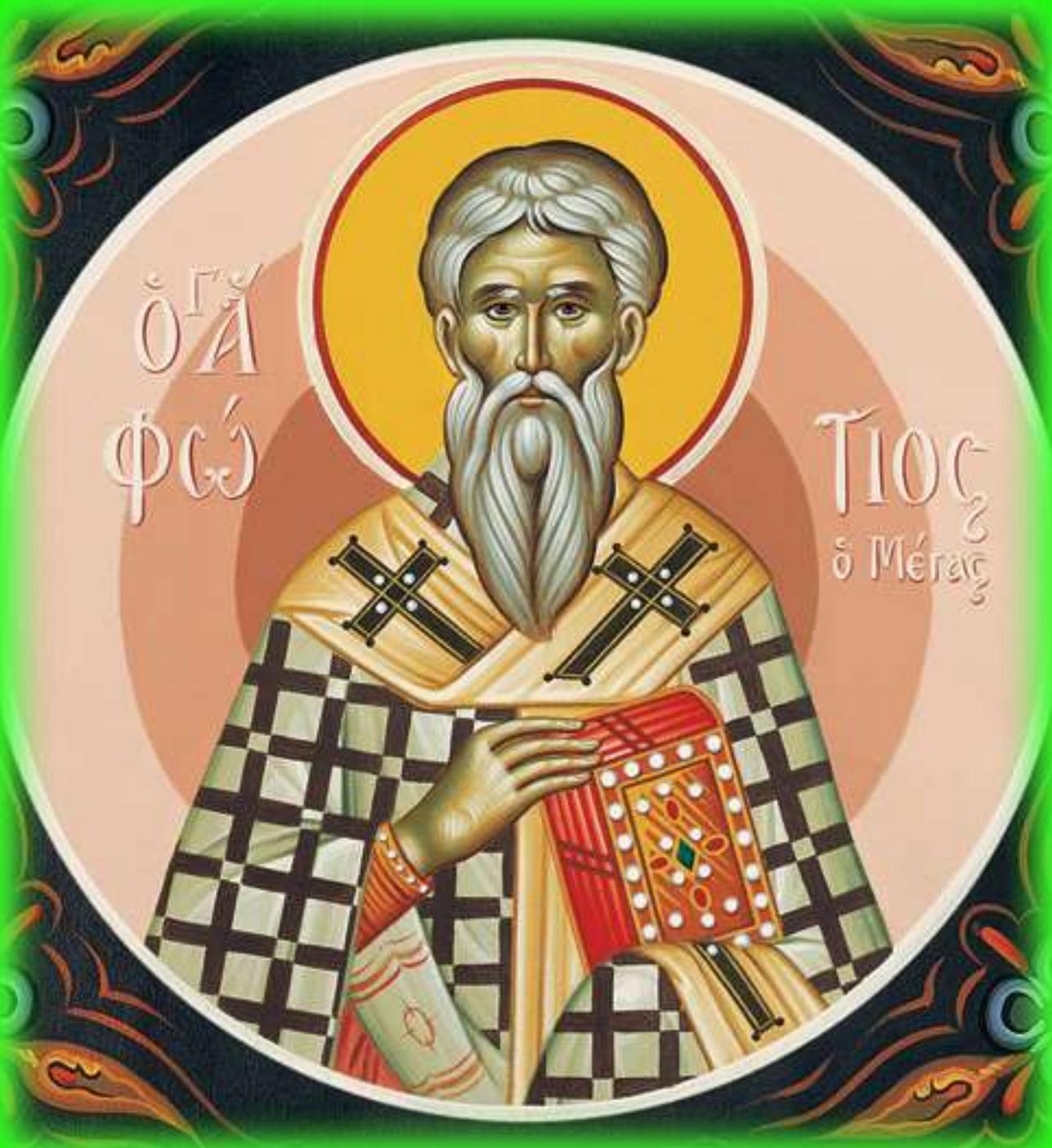


**06 FEBRUARIE**

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MĂRTURISITOR  
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CEL MARE,  
PATRIARHUL  
CONSTANTINOPOLULUI**



**MINEIUL PE FEBRUARIE-EG**





## FEBRUARY 6

Our Father Among the Saints Photius  
the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople  
Our Righteous Fathers Barsanuphius the Great  
and John the Prophet

### VESPERS

*If it be not Lent, we chant Blessed is the man. For Lord, I have cried, we allow for six verses and chant the following Stichera. But in Lent, we say the usual Reading from the Psalter, and the Service of the Saints is chanted with the Triodion.*

*Of the Hierarch. Fourth Tone. As one valiant*

**W**ITH divine songs, let us extol \* the great Photius of holy fame, \* that most comely instrument of the grace of God, \* the golden harp of the Comforter, the firm and immovable \* pillar of the sacred Faith, \* the brave warrior and champion \* of the Orthodox, \* the great teacher, the mainstay of the Church, the famous hierarch, the triumphant \* victor who fought in the Lord's behalf.

**T**O the fire-breathing orator, \* to the teacher of all the world, \* let all us, the Orthodox, sing with one accord, \* praising with fair and most sacred hymns the beacon of piety, \* that true namesake of the light, \* the wise shepherd and great high priest \* of the Church of Christ, \* the illustrious Photius blest of God, Constantinople's godly pastor, \* the first in rank among patriarchs.

**B**Y a lawless decree, O Saint, \* wast thou torn from thy faithful flock, \* and didst suffer grievously for the blameless Faith, \* O radiant Hierarch, divinely steadfast Photius of great renown, \* firm foundation of the Church, \* steadfast pillar of piety. \* Hence, we honour thee \* with all zeal, O initiate and teacher, wise in Orthodoxy's doctrines, \* and far-famed herald of grace and truth.

*Of the Righteous Ones. Second Tone. When he took Thee*

**T**HOU wast a wise husbandman of grace; \* for the sacred seed didst thou water with tears of thy love for God; \* wondrously it multiplied, bearing most fragrant fruit, \* which thou gavest as great delight \* to all thy disciples \* filling them with godliness and certain hope of life; \* hence, great Barsanuphius, do thou \* till with thine instructions my soul's

earth \* which hath brought forth tares sown by the enemy.

**M**OSES and great Aaron once of old \* guided fleeing Israel to the land promised them of the Lord; \* so ye, Barsanuphius and John, are guides most sure \* leading all unto Paradise \* and endless rejoicing, \* since ye are the Spirit's tongues declaring mysteries \* hidden from the ages in men's hearts. \* Wherefore o'er the sea of the passions \* bring them that with love and faith chant unto you.

**H**ELMSMEN, skilled in passing o'er the black \* depths of passion's sea and dark currents which all who seek life traverse, \* ye did save from floundering the many souls of men \* by your words blest with grace divine, \* the wind of the Spirit, \* O great Barsanuphius and John the Prophet of God. \* Wherefore, fill the sails of our soul's craft \* with the godly zeal of salvation \* bringing us to havens of eternal life.

*Glory. Plagal of Fourth Tone*

**C**OME, all ye faithful, let us piously acclaim most wondrous Photius, the hierarch and friend of the Lord. For, being filled with apostolic teaching, and proving to be a dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit through his virtuous life, he drove the wolves far from the fold of the Catholic Church by his doctrine, while commissioning Cyril and Methodius as shepherds to the Slavs. Setting forth most clearly the Orthodox Faith, he was shown to be a pillar and champion of godliness; and since, after death, he standeth even more nigh unto Christ, he intercedeth unceasingly for our souls.

*Both now. Of the Feast. Same Tone  
By Andrew of Crete*

**H**E that rideth on the Cherubim and is hymned by the Seraphim, hath today been brought into the divine Temple according to the Law, and is enthroned in elderly arms. As befitteth God, He receiveth gifts from Joseph, even a pair of turtle-doves, a figure of the spotless Church and the newly chosen people of the nations; and two young pigeons, since He is the Author of the Old and New Covenants. And Symeon, receiving the fulfilment of the oracle given him, blessed the Virgin, the Theotokos Mary, foretelling the symbols of the Passion of Him Who was born of her; and of Him he asked release, crying: Now lettest Thou me depart, O Master, as Thou didst promise me; for I have seen Thee, the Light be-

fore the ages, and the Lord and Saviour of the people that bear the Name of Christ.

*Then the Entrance, O Joyous Light, the Prokeimenon of the day, and the following Readings:*

*The Reading is from the Book of Proverbs  
(10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 32, 35, 4, 12, 14, 17, 5, 6-9;  
22:21, 19; 15:4)*

THE memory of the righteous man calleth forth for praises, and the blessing of the Lord is upon his head. Blessed is the man that findeth wisdom, and the mortal that knoweth prudence. For it is better to traffic for her than for treasures of gold and silver. She is more precious than costly stones; everything that is honoured cannot be compared unto her. For out of her mouth righteousness proceedeth, and law and mercy she carrieth on her tongue. Hear me, then, O children, for I will speak of honourable things; and blessed is the man that will keep unto my ways, for my paths are the paths of life, and the desire is fashioned of the Lord. Wherefore I entreat you and put forth my voice before the sons of men, for I, Wisdom, established counsel; and I have called forth knowledge and understanding. Counsel and certainty are mine, mine is understanding and strength is mine. I love them that love me; and those that seek me shall find grace. Understand cunning, then, O ye simple, and ye uninstructed, lay this up in your heart. Harken unto me yet again, for I will speak of honourable things, and the opening of my lips shall be of right things, for my mouth shall meditate truth, and lying lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge. For I will teach you the truth, that your hope may be in the Lord and ye may be filled with the Spirit.

*The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon  
(Prov. 29:2; Wis. 4:1, 14; 6:11, 17-18, 21-22; 7:15-16,  
21-22, 26, 27-30; 10:9-12; 7:30; 1:8; 2:1, 10-17, 19-22;  
2:22; Pt. 85:9; Wis. 16:13; 2:11; 16:18; 2:11; Prov. 3:34)*

WHEN the righteous man is praised the people rejoice, for his memory is undying, since he is acknowledged both of God and man, and his soul pleased the Lord. Desire wisdom, therefore, O ye men, and long for her, and ye shall be instructed; for the beginning of her is love and the keeping of the law. Honour wisdom, that ye may reign for evermore. I will tell you and will not hide God's mysteries from you, for He it is that leadeth unto wisdom and correcteth the wise; in His hand is all understanding and knowledge of workmanship; wisdom, which is the artificer of all things, taught me, for in her is a spirit understanding and holy, the effulgence of everlasting light, and the image of the goodness of God. She maketh men friends of God and prophets, she is more magnificent than the sun, and above all order of stars; being compared with the light, she is found before it. She hath freed from toils those that served her, and hath set them in the right paths; she hath given unto them a holy knowledge, and preserved them from those lying in wait, and granted them a mighty contest, that all may understand

that the most powerful of all is piety, and that wickedness shall never prevail against wisdom, nor judgment pass away without convicting the evil. But they, reasoning with themselves not aright, said: Let us oppress the righteous man, let us not spare his holiness, neither need we be ashamed of the ancient gray hairs of the aged. Let our strength be the law, and let us lie in wait for the righteous, because he is not of our turn, and he is clean contrary to our doings; he forbodeth evil to us for the transgressings of our education; he professeth to have the knowledge of God, and he calleth himself the child of the Lord. He was made to reprove our thoughts; he is grievous unto us even to behold, for his life is not like other men's, his ways are of another fashion; we are esteemed of him as counterfeits, he abstaineth from our ways as from filthiness, he pronounceth the end of the just to be blessed. Let us see if his words be true, let us prove what shall happen in the end of him. Let us examine him with despitefulness and torture, that we may know his meekness and prove his forbearance; let us condemn him unto a shameful death, for by his own saying he shall prevail. Such things did they imagine and were deceived, for their own wickedness hath blinded them. As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not, neither did they discern that Thou art the only God, that hast the power of life and death, that savest in the time of tribulation and deliverest from every evil, that Thou art compassionate and merciful, granting grace unto Thy Saints, and setting Thine arm against the haughty.

*The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon  
(Prov. 10:31; 11:2; 10:2; 11:7, 19; 13:2, 9; Sir. 3:18;  
Prov. 26:11; 15:2; 14:33; 22:11; Eccl. 8:1; Prov. 17:24;  
Wis. 6:13, 12, 14-16; 7:30; 8:2-3, 7-9, 17-18; 8:21-  
9:5; 9:10-11, 14)*

THE mouth of the righteous distilleth wisdom, and the lips of men know graces. The mouth of the wise meditateth wisdom, and righteousness delivereth them from death. If a righteous man happeneth to die, hope is not lost, for a righteous son is born unto life, and in his good things shall he reap the fruit of righteousness. There is ever light unto the righteous, and of the Lord they obtain both grace and glory; the tongue of the wise acknowledgeth the good, and in their hearts shall wisdom find rest. The Lord loveth righteous hearts, and acceptable unto Him are all undefiled in the way. The wisdom of the Lord doth illumine the countenance of the wise man. For she goeth before them that desire her, in making herself first known unto them. She is easily seen of them that love her. Whoso seeketh her early shall have no great travail; and whoso watcheth for her shall quickly be without care. For she goeth about seeking such as are worthy of her, showing herself favourably unto them in the ways. Wickedness shall never prevail against wisdom. Wherefore I was a lover of her beauty; and I loved her, and sought her out from my youth. I desired to make her my bride, for the Lord of all things Himself loved her. For she is privy to the mysteries of the knowledge of God and a lover of His works. Her labours are virtues, for she teacheth temperance and prudence, justice and fortitude; which are such things, as men can have nothing more profitable in their life. If a man desire much experience, she knoweth things of old,

and conjectureth aright what is to come. She knoweth the subtleties of speeches and can expound dark sentences; she foreseeeth signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times; unto all she is a good counsellor, since there is immortality in her, and good fame in communing with her counsels. Wherefore I prayed unto the Lord, and besought Him, and with my whole heart I said: O God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, Who hast made all things with Thy word, and fashioned man in Thy wisdom that he should have dominion over the creatures which Thou hast made, and order the world in holiness and righteousness: Give me wisdom that sitteth by Thy throne, and reject me not from among Thy children, for I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaid. O send her out of Thy holy habitations, and from the throne of Thy glory, that being present with me she may teach me what is pleasing unto Thee. And she shall lead me in knowledge and preserve me in her glory. For all the thoughts of mortal men are miserable, and their devices are but uncertain.

*For the Entreaty. First Tone*

**R**EJOICE in the Lord, O city of Constantine, and every city, island and land, on this the august memory of our common shepherd, the teacher and luminary of the Catholic Church, the thrice-blessed Photius; for in this life he struggled greatly for the Faith of the Gospel, casting down the haughtiness of heresy, refuting every error, and convicting the lawless addition to the Creed. Wherefore, in the Heavens, he now enjoyeth the precious rewards of his labours, and intercedeth unceasingly with Christ God in behalf of our souls.

*Same Tone*

**O** SUBLIME Fathers Barsanuphius and John, ye delighted the hearts of your disciples with the ever-flowing new wine of the Spirit, making them drunk with spiritual joy and granting them an antidote for the serpent's poison. Wherefore, fill our hearts this day with the heavenly gladness which ye enjoy.

*Same Tone*

**H**AVING become gods in this life by the grace of Christ, ye forgave sins, prolonged life, opened the gates of death, cast out demons, caused wars to cease, held nature subservient, and changed men's hearts. O ye summits of the Fathers, ye fashioned spiritual men after your own image and created a paradise in the desert wasteland. Wherefore, save us by your prayers.

*Second Tone*

**W**HILE acclaiming thee, the great high priest and guileless and righteous shepherd, the her-

ald of godliness, the fiery mouth of the Spirit, we entreat thee with longing: Grant us a portion of thine intercessions, O Photius our Father, unto our souls' benefit.

*Glory. Plagal of Second Tone*

**O** MAN of God, faithful servant, minister of the Lord, man of desires, chosen vessel, pillar and foundation of the Church, heir of the Kingdom, peer of the Apostles, confessor and defender of Orthodox doctrine, refuter of soul-destroying heresy, O great Photius, cease not to cry out to the Lord in our behalf.

*Both now. Of the Feast. Same Tone*

**O** THOU Who hast been well pleased to recline today in venerable old arms as on the chariot of Cherubim, O Christ God: call us back also, who sing Thy praise, and deliver us from the tyranny of the passions, and save our souls.

*For the Aposticha, the following Stichera:*

*Plagal of First Tone. Rejoice*

**R**EJOICE, all-lauded Hierarch of Christ; \* rejoice, fair splendour of the Fathers and Patriarchs. \* Both action and contemplation adorned thy soul with their light, \* for thou wast a dwelling of unceasing prayer, \* a temple of gentleness, and divine virtue's treasury, \* a gem of wisdom everlasting and most profound, \* a far-shining sun of discernment in things of God, \* mansion of peace and grace divine, abode of that twofold love \* for both thy God and thy neighbour, delightful palace of lowliness. \* Entreat Christ the Saviour \* that great mercy and forgiveness be granted to our souls.

*Verse: My mouth shall speak wisdom and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.*

**R**EJOICE, canon of hierarchs and priests, \* the foremost teacher and instructor most glorious, \* the mouth of the Theologians of Christ God's One Holy Church; \* thou, in word and doctrine, wast illustrious. \* O shepherd most marvellous, the Apostles' true peer in life, \* eloquent preacher cutting heresy's webs in twain \* like a two-edged sword sharp with truth and the grace of God, \* instrument of sweet melody, and mind truly heavenly, \* the Church's unshaken pillar, the strength and boast of the pious flock. \* Entreat Christ the Saviour \* that great mercy and forgiveness descend upon our souls.

*Versè:* The mouth of the righteous man poureth forth wisdom, and the lips of righteous men know graces.

**R**EJOICE, ven'erable glory of priests; \* rejoice, fair ornament of bishops and patriarchs, \* the Church's unmoving pillar and firm foundation and rock, \* hallowed spring of doctrine filling all with truth, \* exact rule of holy faith, wise expounder of mysteries, \* Photius our Father, blessed staff and support of truth, \* man of excellence, bright with splendour most glorious, \* mortal attaining Heaven's heights and Angel that dwelt on earth, \* light of the Orthodox faithful, axe hewing down grievous heresy. \* Cease not to entreat Christ \* in behalf of them that honour and praise thy memory.

*Glory. Of Saints Barsanuphius and John  
Plagal of First Tone*

**O** GREAT Barsanuphius, even as thou didst teach concerning the Holy Fathers, thou too art become entirely mind, entirely eye, entirely radiant, entirely perfect, entirely God, together with thy glorious disciple John the Prophet. Because ye died to all things, ye were made great, were glorified, were enlightened and brought to life. And now ye rejoice as ye behold the indivisible Trinity, and ye are a cause of rejoicing for the heavenly hosts. Wherefore, beseech the Lord unceasingly that our souls be saved.

*Both now. Of the Feast. Same Tone*

**T**HE Ancient of Days, having become a babe in the flesh, is brought to the Temple by a Virgin Mother, thus fulfilling the statute of His own Law. Receiving Him, Symeon said: Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, O Lord.

**DISMISSAL HYMNS**  
*Of the Feast. First Tone*

**R**EJOICE, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

*Of Saint Photius. Fourth Tone*

**S**INCE thou wast of like ways with the Apostles, and a teacher of the world, O Photius, entreat the Master of all, that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls.

*Another of Saint Photius. Plagal of First Tone  
Let us worship the Word*

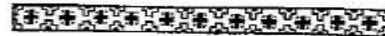
**A**s a radiant beacon of wisdom hid in God, \* and a defender of Orthodoxy revealed from on high, \* O great Photius, blest adornment of the patriarchs, \* thou didst refute the innovations of boastful heresy, O light of the holy churches, \* which do thou keep from all error, O luminary of the Dayspring on high.

*Glory. Of Saints Barsanuphius and John. First Tone  
While Gabriel was saying*

**D**IVINE and tuneful harps of the Holy Spirit's myst'ries, \* sounding forth sweet hymns of discernment which soothe all those in sorrows: \* ye moved men to cast off passion's yoke \* and trample upon Satan's loathsome head. \* Wherefore, Godlike Barsanuphius and wise John, \* deliver us who now cry out: \* Glory to Him that hath given you grace. \* Glory to Him that hath blessed you. \* Glory to Him that hath saved many through your sacred words of counsel.

*Both now. Repeat the Dismissal Hymn of the Feast.*

*And the Dismissal.*



## MATINS

*After the First Reading from the Psalter, the following Sessional Hymns:*

*Of Saint Photius. First Tone  
The soldiers standing guard*

**T**HE springtime of the soul hath shone forth, full of splendour; \* the shining feast of Photius the high priest hath dawned forth, \* illumining all with rays of sound doctrine and saving truth. \* Let us keep the festival with spiritual gladness, \* honouring the bulwark of the Faith who hath triumphed, \* made strong by the Spirit's might.

*Glory; both now. Of the Feast  
Same Melody*

**L**ET Angels' holy choirs be amazed at the wonder; \* and let us mortals cry out a hymn with our voices, \* beholding God's marvellous condescension transcending speech; \* He at Whom the powers of the Heavens do tremble, \* Him do aged arms take in their tender embrace now, \* the only true Friend of man.

*After the Second Reading from the Psalter, the following Sessional Hymns:*

*Of Saint Photius. First Tone  
The soldiers standing guard*

**A**LIGHTHOUSE raised aloft by the Spirit's splendence, \* O Photius, thou hast guided the Church through the darkness \* and tempest of heresy with thy bright beams of saving light. \* We whom thou hast rescued from the shipwreck of error \* sing thy praise with longing as our shepherd and father, \* while asking thy mighty prayers.

*Glory; both now. Of the Feast. Same Melody*

**W**HILE on the holy throne with His Heavenly Father, \* He cometh on the earth, being born of a Virgin, \* becoming an infant, He Who is uncircumscribed by time. \* Symeon with joy took Him in arms and he cried out: \* Thou dost let Thy servant now depart filled with gladness, \* O Thou Who art merciful.

*We say the Canon of the Feast and the following of Saint Photius. Before the Troparia, we say, O Hierarch of Christ, intercede in our behalf.*

*Fourth Tone  
ODE ONE  
Heirmos*

**I** SHALL open my mouth to chant and with the Spirit shall I be filled, \* and words shall I now pour forth unto the Mother and Queen; \* and I shall be seen \* in joyous jubilation, \* acclaiming exultantly all of her wondrous deeds.

*Troparia*

**O** GODLY-BRIGHT luminary, saintly namesake of light itself, \* O Photius, drive off the bitter darkness shrouding my mind \* and make me to shine \* with beamings of divine light, \* that I might extol thine achievements with joy of heart.

**W**E know thee to be a teacher of the Church, a bright light of grace, \* an unshaken pillar of confession grounded in truth, \* an immovable \* support of the divine Faith, \* O ven'erable Photius, thou mouth breathing forth with fire.

**T**HOU lawfully strovest in the contest, hazarding all thy life, \* defending the saving preaching as a faithful high priest, \* choking as a beast \* vain Nicholas the erring, \* by wielding the cords of thy doctrines inspired of God.

*Theotokion*

**C**OME, let us all praise all-holy Mary, who hath alone adorned \* the race of us men with grace

and truth and beauty and joy; \* for she hath conceived \* the very God incarnate, \* remaining a virgin inviolate as before.

*ODE THREE  
Heirmos*

**M**AKE steadfast, O holy Theotokos, thou living and never-failing spring, \* all them that form a company \* and gather for to praise thy name; \* and by thy grace divine, O Maid, deem them all worthy of glory's crowns.

*Troparia*

**T**O catch in thy nets the Slavic peoples, thou sentest them fishermen of grace, \* great Cyril and Methodius, \* thy ven'erable ambassadors, \* on whose great apostolic toils thou didst bestow thine unceasing care.

**T**HE serpent of heresy is smitten with death by thy doctrines wise in God; \* for striking on them as a stone, \* he fell back with a broken head. \* Wherefore, the holy Church of Christ doth sing thy praise, as thy rightful due.

**W**ITH excellent proofs from Holy Scripture didst thou clearly demonstrate to all \* that God the Spirit doth proceed \* from God the Father singularly, \* and that the Holy Trinity is perfect in His equality.

*Theotokion*

**T**HE Father's eternal Word and Wisdom, beyond all beginning and divine, \* received beginning in thy womb; \* and He that is beyond all time \* becometh subject unto time, from thee incarnate, O Full of Grace.

*KONTAKION OF THE RIGHTEOUS ONES  
Third Tone. On this day the Virgin*

**O** GREAT Barsanuphius, \* and John, thou marvellous Prophet, \* all the hidden secrets of \* men and of God's dispensation \* brightly shone in the clear mirrors \* of your most pure hearts; \* and with beams of grace divine, ye cast out sin's shadows \* from the souls of men; O Fathers, \* lights of discernment, \* entreat the Lord for us all.

*SESSIONAL HYMNS  
Of the Hierarch. Plagal of Fourth Tone  
By conceiving the Wisdom*

**E**MULATING Elias in fiery zeal \* and that earth-dwelling Angel, the Baptist John, \* thou manfully didst rebuke \* haughty kings who transgressed

the law; \* while divinely adorning the throne of thy bishopric, \* thou didst make the world rich with thy teachings of godliness. \* Wherefore, O wise Father, making use of Divine Writ, \* thou madest the faithful firm, \* while correcting the infidels, \* Hierarch Photius most marvellous. \* Intercede with Christ our God \* that forgiveness of all their transgressions be \* granted to them that with longing \* keep thy holy memory.

*Glory; both now. Of the Feast. Fourth Tone  
Joseph was amazed*

**G**OD most pure partaketh of \* purifications of the Law \* to confirm to me that He \* hath from a Virgin taken flesh: \* for lo, the Ancient of Days is a babe for my sake. \* And Symeon, who was \* instructed in these things, \* recognized in Him \* God revealed in the flesh; \* as very Life he then embraced Him, \* and in his old age cried out with joy: \* Let me depart now, for I have seen Thee, \* O Thou Life of all creatures.

*ODE FOUR  
Heirmos*

**S**EATED in His holy glory on the Throne of Divinity, \* Jesus, God transcendent, cometh on a light cloud as King of all; \* and He hath saved by His pure and undefiled hand \* them that cry to Him: \* Glory, O Christ, to Thy sovereign might.

*Troparia*

**T**HOU in youth wast sober-minded, and in old age, exceeding wise, \* being all thy life long noble, persevering, long-suffering, \* and filled with fervent affection for all them that cry \* unto thy Belov'd: \* Glory, O Christ, to Thy sovereign might.

**S**HINING with transcendent splendour, thine august and unspotted life \* is a rule of virtue, glorified through fasting and ceaseless prayer \* and valiant courage in sorrows and adversities, \* whereby thou wast sealed \* with the bright wounds of the Crucified.

**G**RUDGING slumber to thine eyelids till thou madest thyself a house \* filled with grace and beauty for the Sovereign King, the All-seeing Lord, \* thou undertookest great labours as a man of God, \* to Whom thou didst cry: \* Glory, O Christ, to Thy sovereign might.

*Theotokion*

**T**HOU hast marvellously quickened all mankind, which was put to death, \* raising us from ruin,

when thou gavest birth inexpressibly \* unto the Giver of Life, O Lady, Who doth save \* them that cry with faith: \* Glory, O Christ, to Thy sovereign might.

*ODE FIVE  
Heirmos*

**A**LL creatures were sore amazed at thy divine and great glory, Maid, \* O pure Virgin, who hast not known wedlock; \* for thou didst hold in thy womb the God of all, \* and gavest birth to the timeless Son, \* Who doth grant salvation unto all them that acclaim thy name.

*Troparia*

**R**ECEIVING the grace of God, thou wast revealed as a sanctified \* friend and habitation of the Spirit, \* divinely teaching the saving knowledge of God, \* Whose myst'ries were made known unto thee, \* that thou mightest take up arms in defence of the blameless Faith.

**T**HINE eloquent tongue became the reed and pen of the Comforter, \* Who doth swiftly give divine deliv'rance \* to those acknowledging His full sovereignty \* and breatheth the knowledge from above \* into their believing souls, O wise Photius inspired of God.

**C**HRISt showed thee to all the world, O Photius, flashing forth lightning-like \* with the grace of speech and sacred doctrine, \* driving away the assaults of heretics, \* enlight'ning the souls of faithful men, \* who extol thee joyously, the divine preacher of the Faith.

*Theotokion*

**A** VIRGIN hath brought forth Him Who was before all eternity, \* born her Son and clothed with human nature, \* saving the nature of man from death and decay \* by means of His willing Cross and death, \* as the hierarch Photius taught, as the Virgin's initiate.

*ODE SIX  
Heirmos*

**O**N this divine and most honoured feast \* of God's all-holy Mother, let all of godly mind now celebrate; \* come, let us faithful now clap our hands, \* and send up glory unto the God Whom she hath borne.

*Troparia*

**T**HE great stentorian trumpet who \* hath clearly preached the Spirit's procession from \* the

Father timelessly, \* the Son of Thunder's new sounding-forth, \* let apostolic Photius be fittingly extolled.

**T**HE wanton pride of all heresy \* is broken into pieces beyond repair \* by thy most holy words, \* O saintly Photius of sacred fame; \* wherefore the faithful splendidly keep thy festival.

**T**HE whole assembly of Orthodox \* doth leap with joy, beholding a ven'erable \* successor to the grace \* of Basil, Greg'ry, and Chrysostom, \* O apostolic Photius, thou champion of truth.

*Theotokion*

**T**HY pure conception I praise with hymns; \* I sing of thine ineffable bringing-forth, \* O Virgin graced of God; \* and thy protection I magnify, \* whereby I am kept safe, fleeing to thy peaceful calm.

KONTAKION OF SAINT PHOTIUS

*Plagal of Fourth Tone. To thee, the Champion Leader*

**L**ET that resplendent and far-shining star of Christ God's Church, \* let that divinely-given guide of all the Orthodox, \* be now crowned with comely garlands of songs and praises; \* the Good Comforter's divinely-sounding harp of truth \* and the steadfast adversary of all heresy: \* Let us cry to him: \* Rejoice, O Photius most ven'erable.

OIKOS

**T**HOU wast shown to be an Angel from among men, O Father, who from the earth didst attain unto Heaven. Wherefore, as I consider thee rivalling the incorporeal choirs, I am amazed, and with longing I reverently cry to thee such things as these:

*Rejoice*, thou through whom the Trinity is worshipped; *rejoice*, thou through whom God is hymned rightly.

*Rejoice*, most upright canon of the Orthodox; *rejoice*, most steadfast rebuker of the iniquitous.

*Rejoice*, height of humility hard to reach for many; *rejoice*, depth of discernment too deep for the eyes of mortals.

*Rejoice*, for thou becamest the divine sacrificer of God; *rejoice*, for thou bringest to God many of the saved.

*Rejoice*, who with God's Martyrs dwellest together; *rejoice*, who art the monastic Saints' companion.

*Rejoice*, thou by whom the profane are undone; *rejoice*, thou by whom the faithful are confirmed.

*Rejoice*, O Photius most ven'erable.

SYNAXARION

\* On the sixth of this month we commemorate our Father among the Saints Photius the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople, the Equal to the Apostles.

*Verses*

Praised be Photius, who with the sword of the Spirit  
Cut the poisoned adders to the Creed in pieces!

The sixth ended the exile of Photius.

\* On this day we commemorate our righteous Fathers Barsanuphius the Great and John the Prophet, his disciple.

*Verses*

Of earth was composed Barsanuphius' body;  
And it hath returned unto the earth, its mother.

It is right, O John, that thou be placed together  
Here at the side of thy most beloved teacher.

By their holy intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy and save us. Amen.

ODE SEVEN

*Heirmos*

**N**O created thing, \* but only the Creator would \* the godly-minded Youths \* adore and worship as God; \* but manfully trampling down threats of fire, they cried out: \* O supremely praised \* and all-acclaimed One, blest art Thou, O Thou Lord God of our Fathers.

*Troparia*

**A**POSTOLIC zeal \* enkindled thee to send the light \* of Christ unto the Slavs, \* for whom thou barest the pangs \* of painful travail till thou broughtest them forth to God, \* saved from heresy \* and every plot and subtle snare of the ministers of darkness.

**G**UIDED by thy words, \* we worship one Divinity \* in three Hypostases \* equal in nature and throne, \* unsevered, unmingled, all-perfect in every way, \* Who delivereth \* all those who worship Him with faith while acclaiming thee, O Photius.

**P**URIFIED like gold \* through arduous and endless toils \* and bitter banishment, \* thy bright confession of faith \* was pleasing to God and a pillar that stayed the Church \* in the day of trial; \* and thou art rightly glorified with the Saints in light, O Father.

*Theotokion*

**T**HOU who gavest birth \* to Him that is the Light of all, \* O Virgin quick to hear, \* break through the night of my soul \* with life-giving rays of the Sun that shone forth from thee, \* that with joy of heart \* I might revere thee worthily, O all-holy Theotokos.

## ODE EIGHT

*Heirmos*

**T**HREE guiltless Youths cast in the furnace \* were saved by the Offspring which the Theotokos bare, \* then in figure and in type, \* now in very truth and deed; \* and He hath gathered all the world, \* which crieth out in chant: \* Ye works of His, O sing the Lord's praises, \* and exalt Him greatly for ages and all ages.

*Troparia*

**M**IGHTILY the fountains of thy doctrines \* have poured forth with limpid streams and watered all the Church, \* quickening the plants of faith, \* choking tares of heresy, \* and making glad the Orthodox, \* who keep thy festival \* with gratitude, O marvellous Photius, \* praising thee while worshipping Christ to all the ages.

**T**HOU hast found that high and tranquil haven, \* escaping the fury of the swelling waves of life; \* for thou hadst Almighty God \* steering thy whole course on high. \* And now thou sendest beams of light \* to guide the mariners \* who sail the storm and look to that country \* where thou now dost dwell and dost pray that we attain to.

**H**E that doth proceed from God the Father \* destroyed the deception that proceeded forth from Rome, \* when He raised thee to the height \* of thy sacred bishopric; \* for He foresaw the diligence \* and godly piety \* and gentleness with which thou wouldst battle \* for the truth that dwelleth with love, O Father Photius.

*Theotokion*

**A**s a fragrant flower in the valleys, \* a spotless and sparkling lily free of any stain, \* as a rose amidst the thorns \* and a bloom of Paradise, \* thy Bridegroom took delight in thee \* and came to dwell in thee \* and made the world, once noisome with passions, \* fragrant with the Godhead, O Mother of our Maker.

## ODE NINE

*Heirmos*

**L**ET every earthborn man \* upleap in the spirit, and now hold his torch on high; \* and let all the bodiless, \* noetic hosts now celebrate joyously \* the Theotokos's sublime and sacred festival, \* as they cry out: \* Rejoice, O thou all-blessed one, ever-virgin and pure Mother of our God.

*Troparia*

**I**BRING my whole self \* to thy strong protection and paternal care for souls; \* for with apostolic grace, \* thou hast received authority from the Lord \* to loose transgressions and to break the cords of all my sins \* and to bind me \* to the quick'ning love of Christ, through thine earnest entreaties, O friend of God.

**S**UNDERED and released \* from all earthly things, O Photius, thou art taken up \* to the never-setting light \* and standest with the Angels before the throne \* of the almighty and eternal light of Three Great Suns, \* while delighting \* in the brightness sent from thence, which thou sheddest on us as we sing thy praise.

**J**OINING truth and love, \* thou meekly didst reason with thy hardened enemies \* then with holy bravery \* didst bear their blows and billows with mind unmoved, \* a lamb, a fearless shepherd, and a Martyr all at once, \* Father Photius; \* now be our ambassador, and beseech God to save us who sing thy praise.

*Theotokion*

**G**OD, since He hath willed \* to deify me, is now united unto thee; \* and He doth inaugurate \* a dread incomprehensible mystery: \* thou as a virgin givest birth and God is born a man \* to save mankind. \* Praising Him, we call thee blest, as of old thou, O Mary, didst prophesy.

## EXAPOSTILARIA

*Of the Hierarch. Second Tone**Hearken, ye women*

**S**INCE all the Church possesseth thee \* as a most ardent champion \* and an illustrious teacher, \* she celebrateth thy mem'ry \* with joy while crying out to thee: \* Ever protect this flock of thine, \* and from the harm of heresy \* keep it in safety, O Photius, \* thou great high priest of the Lord God.

*Of the Feast. Same Tone. Upon that mount in Galilee*

**T**HE Word is born and made a babe \* in His exceeding goodness \* from a pure Virgin, yet doth not \* forsake His Father's bosom \* in an ineffable manner; \* and Symeon the Elder \* receiveth Him in his embrace \* as with Anna the aged \* he giveth praise; \* and they render thanks unto Him as Master, \* as they declare this Child to be \* all mortal men's salvation.

*For the Praises we allow for four verses and chant the following Stichera:*

*Of the Hierarch. First Tone  
Thou art the joy*

LET us extol that divine and wise hierarch of the Church, \* her truly great instructor and the peer of Apostles, \* the very wondrous Photius, the preacher of truth, \* the destroyer of heresies; \* for his all-glorious feast-day is come again, \* bringing joy and gladness unto all.

WE rightly call thee a pillar of chaste sobriety, \* the friend of peace, the teacher of true love and its doer, \* the vessel of the virtues, the safe and secure \* habitation of ceaseless prayer, \* the store of healings, O Photius, and the divine \* intercessor for those praising thee.

THOU art united unto the Apostles as their peer; \* for as the godly preacher of Bulgaria's people \* and all the Slavic lands, thou didst bring them to Christ, \* having given them second birth \* through holy Baptism; wherefore, O man of God, \* do thou ever keep them Orthodox.

AN earthly Lucifer, puffed up with pride exceedingly, \* presumed to set up his throne high above the stars of Heav'n; \* then wast thou the first, like great Michael, to cry \* with great zeal: Let us stand aright \* in the traditions the Fathers have given us; \* let us stand with fear and reverence.

*Glory. Of the Hierarch  
Plagal of First Tone*

WHEREVER thy name is called upon, O name-sake of light, there also is the power of the devil driven away; for fallen Lucifer cannot bear to look upon thy light. Wherefore, we implore thee to extinguish his fiery darts that are cast against us, and by thy mediation deliver us from his stumbling-blocks, O praiseworthy Hierarch Photius.

*Both now. Of the Feast. Same Tone*

THE Ancient of Days, having become a babe in the flesh, is brought to the Temple by a Virgin Mother, thus fulfilling the statute of His own Law. Receiving Him, Symeon said: Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, O Lord.

*The Great Doxology, and the remainder of Matins.*



## THE LITURGY

*The Typica, and for the Beatitudes, hymns from the third Ode of the Canon of the Feast and the sixth Ode of that of Saint Photius.*

*The Prokeimenon of the Epistle. First Tone*

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

*Verses:* Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world.

*The Epistle of Saint Paul to the Hebrews (7:26-8:2)*

Brethren, such a high priest befitted us . . .

*Alleluia. Second Tone*

The mouth of the righteous man poureth forth wisdom; and the lips of righteous men know graces.

*Verses:* The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be tripped.

*The Holy Gospel according to Saint John (10:9-16)*

The Lord said: I am the door . . .

*The Communion Hymn*

In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be. Alleluia.



## FEBRUARY 13

Saint Symeon the Myrrh-streamer of Serbia

## VESPERS

*For Lord, I have cried, we chant the following Stichera:*

*Fourth Tone. Unto them that fear Thee*

AS a prince inspired of God devoutly serving the King of Hosts \* with the labours of piety, \* O godly-wise Symeon, \* and a life most holy, \* thou didst make the robe of thy royal purple brighter still \* with the resplendence of thy most righteous ways, \* while offering thyself unto thy people as an example of \* the good works pleasing unto God; \* for this cause, thou art glorified.

THOU forsookest all the fame and regal honour of kingly courts, \* the renown that doth swiftly fade, \* the splendour and joy of life, \* and all empty glory; \* and, O godly Symeon, thou didst follow after Christ \* with boundless longing and deep humility, \* in poverty, with ceaseless tears, and with the pains of

