

The 19th Day of April

Commemoration of our Venerable Father John of the Ancient Caves in Palestine.

Evening Service

At “**Lord, I call...**” 3 stikhera, in **Tone 5**: *Special melody: “Rejoice, O venerable father...”*

Aroused by the divine desire to follow after Christ God, /
Who willingly clothed Himself in the flesh of the Virgin, /
And for thy sake became a wanderer here on earth, /
O venerable and wondrous father John, /
Thou didst come into a foreign land, /
And didst estrangle thyself from all *the* sweetness of this world, /
And didst live as a pilgrim, acquiring the virtues, /
In contemplation of death, /
By keeping vigil all night and standing *in* constant prayer /
Thou didst restrain the passions by thine abstinence, /
In likeness of them that have followed the way of fasting before thee ///
And with them thou hast attained glory.

O venerable and most glorious father John, /
Having been trained as a disciple of blessed Chariton /
Thou didst eagerly learn by his example; /
And emulated his divine ways /
Thou didst live a life of silence [and prayer] /
And wast found worthy of the honored priesthood; /
Ever offering the Blameless Sacrifice /
Thou was swathed in glory and enlightened in wisdom ///
And uplifted in mind to mystical visions and indescribable bliss.

O venerable and all-blessèd father John /
Being strengthened by the power of the Trinity /
Thou didst escape the harm *of* heresies /
And didst cleave to the Truth, O wise one /
And through foresight and action didst truly attain divine glory, /
The ultimate of all desires, at thy repose, O blessèd one. /
And standing now together with the angelic host, /
Resplendent in glory before the Throne of God ///
Pray for those who worthily celebrate thy memory with faith, O truly wondrous one.

Glory... now and ever..., Theotokion: Same Tone and melody:

To whom hast thou likened thyself, O my soul? /
Why dost thou run after the most terrible of things, /
Mindlessly adding painful lashes to thine already festering wounds? /
With no heed to what will become with the rest of thee, /
Nor that the Judge is already approaching. /
Before Whom, thou shalt stand and receive the just reward of thy deeds. /
But turn back, and fall down before the Virgin crying out: /
Do not despise me, O Lady! /
For I have angered the Just and Merciful God Who *was* born of thee ///
And was crucified in the flesh for our salvation.

Or the Stavrotheotokion: Same Tone and melody:

When she beheld Him suspended on the Tree /
The unplanted Cluster of grapes,
Which had put forth from within her womb, /
His divine side pierced by a spear,
The all pure one cried aloud: /
“What is this, O my Son and God? /
How is it that Thou acceptest suffering, /
Who hast healed all infirmities and passions, /
Being in Thy divinity dispassionate *by* nature? /
What have these ungrateful people done to Thee,
Their Benefactor, for all the good Thou hast done to them?” /
But entreat thou Him unceasingly, O Lady, /
That He deliver me from my passions by His sufferings, ///
That I may ever glorify thee.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service;

[No Troparion is given for the saint in the Menaion]

Morning Service

[The Canon for the Saint]

... incomplete as of 3/2013

[No Kontakion is given for the saint in the Menaion]