

Vesper Propers, November 11, 2007

The holy martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincent. Menas was a soldier from Egypt, who could not bear to look upon the food offering made in sacrifice to idols. Because of this, he left the army and went into the desert to live with wild beasts. Menas was arrested by a pagan governor and tortured and martyred with his companions Victor and Vincent. (304) **The holy martyr Stephanis** volunteered to die with Vincent. (304)

Our venerable father and confessor Theodore the Studite was hegumen of that monastery in Constantinople who suffered greatly for his defense of the cult of the holy icons. He was a wise organizer of monastic life, an inspired teacher of the Orthodox faith, and a great ascetic. He died in Constantinople at the age of 68. (826)

The holy priest-martyr Vincent Eugene Bossilkov. A member of the Passionist community, he admirably shepherded the flock of the Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church, and, when the Communists took control of the country, he refused to renounce the Union with Rome and was put to death in a most cruel manner. (1952)

*Supplement for **The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006***

Tone of the Week: Tone 7 (begins on page 92), stichera 10 - 7.

Cantor: (Tone 4) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Tone 4 samohlasn

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Pierced by count-less cuts, struck with a lash and burned by fire over your
whole bod-y, you did not deny the sav-ing name of Christ, nor yield
to the blan-dish-ments, nor sacrifice to the i-dols. But, be-com-ing a pure and
per-fect sac-ri-fice by your mar-tyr-dom, O Me-nas, you of-fered

your - self as a vic - tim to the Lord.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

A cruel judge ordered you blind - ed and hung on a tree, then burned your

whole bod - y with flames, cut off your limbs and be - head - ed you.

But in joy, O athlete of the Sav - ior, il - lus - tri - ous Vic - tor,

you were vic - to - rious over the En - e - my with the aid of the

Spir - - - it.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak,
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

O Stephanis, the Lord has crowned you with a crown of grace as a martyr

of man - y strug - gles; for you courageously handed yourself o - ver to tor - ments

ho - ly deeds; through them, you have received the recompense of your la - bors
 in Heav - en. You de-destroyed hordes of de - mons and have been united to the
 choirs of an - gels, whose pure lives you im - i - tat - ed. By your bold-ness
 with Christ our God, ask peace for our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion, Tone 6, p. 90

Troparion and Festal Theotokion, Tone 7, p. 101

and were torn a - part, tied to two palm trees.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of Theodore the Studite - Tone 8 samohlasen

In keep-ing with the name you bore, O The - o - dore, you re-ceived gifts from
 Heav - en sur - pass-ing all un-der-stand - ing, then shared them with
 your friends. Af - ter mul - tipling the talent giv - en you by the Lord,
 you heard his di-vine voice call - ing you to the joy of the heav-en - ly
 ban - quet. You now share forev-er in glo - ry be-fore the throne
 of Christ, the King of All.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
 (on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

O ex-cel-lent Fa - ther, you led a whole multi-tude of monks to Christ.

In be - com - ing the cause of their sal - va - tion, you im - i - tat - ed the
 Sav - - - ior. You shone by your teach - - - ings: in you,
 souls have found their pro - tec - tor; and, by your prophecies, you were the
 mouth-piece of the Lord. For-ev - er in his pres - ence, now in - ter - cede
 be - fore him and be mind - - - ful of us all.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

The grace of the Spir - it was clear - ly poured out on your lips in abundance, O
 di - vine preach - er, and caused streams of teachings to flow forth,
 O The - o - dore, cham - pion of the Faith, un - shak - able pillar supporting
 Or - tho - dox - - - y, en - er - get - ic defend - er of the truth,

ex - act rule for the mo - nas - tic life, O bless - ed fa - ther!

Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

Once a - gain the yearly festival of those lights of the u - ni - verse. Me - nas, Vic - tor
 and Vin - cent, has shone upon the hearts of be - liev - ers,
 en - light - ened by the struggles they waged for love of Christ as they took up
 their cross. Thus we wish to praise Christ our God who has crowned
 them with glo - ry and hon - - - or.

Cantor: *(Tone 7)* Now and ever...

Dogmatikon, Tone 7, p. 98

Aposticha, Tone 7, p. 99

Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

Ven - er - a - ble fa - ther The - o - dore, the whole world is filled with the fame of your