**JANUARY 21**

**Ven. Maximus the Confessor**

**Martyr Neophytus of Nicaea**

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

**Tone 4** *(for Ven. Maximus) (As one valiant among the martyrs)*

O blessed Maximus, thou didst proclaim to all

the One Who was well-pleased to become man in His compassion,

and is comprehended in two wills and energies.

Thou didst stop the gaping mouths of the most evil ones,

who, through the wantonness of the devil, the fabricator of all wickedness,//

wrongly proclaimed Christ as having only one will and one energy.

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.*

By the strength of thy doctrines, O Father Maximus,

thou didst choke the evil-minded Pyrrhus, who spoke vain and foolish things.

Thou didst undergo persecutions and sorrows, O blessed one:

thou wast badly beaten, and thy tongue was cut out;

thy divine hand, which thou didst raise to God, was cut off,//

yet with it thou hadst written the most sublime doctrines, O righteous one.

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

Thy tongue became as the pen of a ready scribe,

sharpened by the Spirit, O Father Maximus,

inscribing the writing of divine virtues with grace upon the tablets of our hearts,

and conveying the doctrine of the incarnation of Christ,//

Who willed to be made manifest to all mankind in two natures and one Person.

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 Martyr Neophytus) (Oh, most glorious wonder)*

Oh, most glorious wonder!

A dove descends from on high

and speaks in a human voice to Neophytus the Martyr,

illuminating him with an angel’s way of life,

and sending the youth to contend most mightily.

Oh, what godly deeds were done by the Martyr!

He excelled in every contest.//

By his prayers, save our souls, O Christ, since Thou art compassionate!

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

Oh, most glorious wonder!

From his youth the wise Neophytus performs miracles

by the strength of the Spirit.

By his prayers water pours out from a rock;

he raises his dead mother back to life.

Oh, what godly deeds were done by the Martyr!

He excelled in every contest.//

By his prayers, save our souls, O Christ, since Thou art compassionate!

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

Oh, most glorious wonder!

As Neophytus suffers bravely for Christ,

he amazes his enemies with astonishing miracles.

Thrown into the fire, he quenches it;

he causes savage beasts to cower in fear.

Oh, invincible might by which the athlete was made wondrous!//

By his prayers, O God, save us!

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

**Tone 6** *(for Ven. Maximus)*

The sound of thy teachings has gone out into all the earth,

O venerable Father Maximus.

Therefore thou hast found the reward of thy labors in the heavens.

Thou didst destroy the hosts of demons

and reached the ranks of Angels, whose life thou didst blamelessly follow.

Since thou hast boldness before Christ our God,//

entreat peace for our souls!

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

**Tone 6**  *(Theotokion)*

I lift up the eyes of my heart to thee, O Lady;

despise not my weak plea,

and in the hour when thy Son shall come to judge the world,//

be my helper and protector.

**Aposticha**

**Tone 7** *(from the Octoechos)*

O glorious apostles, you are the pillars of the Church,

and preachers of the Truth and brightly shining lamps of faith.

You have consumed every delusion with the fire of the Spirit

and enlightened man with divine knowledge.

Therefore, we beseech you to entreat our Savior and God,//

that He may give peace to the world and save our souls.

V. *To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps. 122:1-2)*

O apostles of Christ, you are faithful laborers of the Savior,

who bear your crosses upon your shoulders like plows;

you have cleansed the desolate land of idolatry’s barrenness

and have sown the Word of faith.//

All we faithful magnify you in thanksgiving.

V. *Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122:3-4)*

O martyrs, worthy of every praise,

living offerings and spiritual sheep,

acceptable sacrifices well-pleasing to God:

the earth did not cover you, but heaven received you.

You became companions of the Angels.

We entreat you to pray with them to God our Savior//

to grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls.

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

**Tone 8** *(for Ven. Maximus)*

We honor thee, O Maximus our father,

as the instructor of a multitude of monks.

We have indeed learned to walk rightly in thy footsteps.

Blessed art thou, for having labored for Christ,

thou didst denounce the power of the enemy.

Thou wast a converser with the Angels and a companion of

the venerable and righteous.//

Together with them, entreat the Lord that He grant mercy to our souls!

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

**Tone 8** *(Theotokion)*

I flee to thy protection,

O holy Virgin Mother of God,

for I know that I shall obtain salvation through thee;//

for thou art able to help me, O pure one.

***(at Vespers)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion** *(Ven. Maximus)*

O Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship,

the enlightener of the universe and the adornment of hierarchs;

all wise Father Maximus, thy teachings have gleamed with light

upon all things.//

Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

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

**Tone 4** **Troparion** *(Martyr Neophytus)*

Thy holy martyr Neophytus, O Lord,

through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.

For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,

and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//

Through his intercession, save our souls!

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

**Tone 4** **Dismissal Theotokion**

The Word of the Father, even Christ our God,

was truly incarnate of thee,

O Virgin Theotokos,

the only pure and blessed one.//

Therefore we ceaselessly magnify thee in song.

***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion** *(Ven. Maximus)*

O Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship,

the enlightener of the universe and the adornment of hierarchs;

all wise Father Maximus, thy teachings have gleamed with light

upon all things.//

Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

**Tone 4** **Troparion** *(Martyr Neophytus)*

Thy holy martyr Neophytus, O Lord,

through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.

For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,

and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//

Through his intercession, save our souls!

**Tone 6 Kontakion[[1]](#footnote-1)** *(Ven. Maximus)*

The Thrice-radiant Light took up abode in thy soul, O all-blissful father,

and displayed it as an elect vessel, manifest to the ends of the earth.

O blessed Maximus, thou didst explain hard-to-grasp doctrines with

brilliance and clarity,//

proclaiming the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity to all.

**Tone 4** **Kontakion** *(Martyr Neophytus)*

Thou didst shine forth from the mount like lightning,

glorifying Christ through thy struggles and death as a martyr.//

Therefore, thou hast received an unfading crown, O Great-martyr Neophytus.

**Tone 8** **Alternate** **Kontakion** *(Ven. Maximus)*

Let us the faithful fittingly praise the lover of the Trinity,

the great Maximus who taught the God-inspired faith,

that Christ is to be glorified in His two natures, wills, and energies;//

and let us cry to him: “Rejoice, herald of the faith!”

**Tone 8** **Prokeimenon** *(of the day)*

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends

of the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

V. *The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps. 18:1)*

**Tone 4** **Prokeimenon** *(Ven. Maximus)*

For His saints who are on earth, / the Lord has worked wonders. *(Ps. 15:3a)*

**Epistle**

(315) Hebrews 7:1-6

(330) Hebrews 11:33-12:2 *(Ven. Maximus)*

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *The heavens will praise Thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)*

V. *God is glorified in the council of the saints! (Ps. 88:7a)*

**Tone 4**

V. *The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps. 33:18)*

**Gospel**

(107) Luke 21:28-33

(64) Luke 12:8-12 *(Ven. Maximus)*

**Communion Hymn**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of

the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! *(Ps. 32:1)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.

1. An alternate Kontakion for Ven. Maximus is presented below the line break. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)