

Dismissal Hymn. First Tone

THOU didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Sisoës, our God-bearing-Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

Kontakion. Fourth Tone

IN thy struggles, thou wast as * an earthly Angel,* shining light upon the minds * of all the faithful ceaselessly * with thy divine signs; and for this cause, * righteous Sisoës, we honour thee faithfully.

SELECTED HYMNS
FROM
THE MENAION

VESPERS

SESSIONAL HYMN

First Tone. The soldiers standing guard

THROUGH unremitting temp'rance and care for the virtues, * O Father, thou didst slay carnal lusts and the pleasures; * and thou in divine ascents didst increase in all excellence. * Having found the way that leadeth up to the heavens, * thou dost ever stand before Christ God with the Angels, * our Father, Sisoës most wise.

Glory; both now. *Theotokion*

THE great preacher of grace, by his mother's tongue, called thee * the nourisher and Mother of God, O pure Virgin, * when he, by the Spirit, knew that the Lord God was in thy womb; * after he was born, he pointed out with his finger * Christ the Lamb Who by assuming what was inferior * doth take the world's sins away.

SYNAXARION

✠ On the sixth of this month we commemorate our righteous Father Sisoës the Great of Egypt.

Verses

When he died, this was written upon the tablet:
Sisoës, the tablet of the Divine Spirit.

On the sixth Sisoës went blameless from earth to heaven.

✠ On this day we commemorate the contest of the holy Martyr Lucia the Virgin, Rex the Imperial Vicar, and many others who suffered in Campania.

Verses

Lucia rejoiced at Rex the Vicar's beheading,
But was not content with vicarious gladness.

✠ On this day the holy Twenty-four Martyrs who bare witness with Saints Lucia and Rex were perfected in martyrdom by the sword.

Verses

Lucia's four and twenty Campanian companions
For Thy sake, O saviour, gave the sword much labour.

✠ On this day we commemorate the holy Hieromartyr Astius, Bishop of Dyrrhachium, who suffered under Trajan.

Verses

Hanged from the city walls, Astius ended urbanely,
Being made food for the bees when he was smeared with honey.

✠ On this day we commemorate the holy Apostles Archippus, Philemon, and Onesimus.

Verses

Though a cold kiss crucified Christ, O Philemon,
Thy warm love for Him brought thee to crucifixion.

O Archippus, against the boldness of horses,
Manifest the sovereign power of thy spirit.

From the sword hath Onesimus found great profit,
Having laid hold on the shining crown of contest.

- ✠ On this day we commemorate the holy Martyrs Apollonius, Alexandron, and Epimachus.

Verses

This Apollonius hath a twofold battle:
Against both sea and flame is his contention.

Alexandron, though borne rapidly downwards,
Unto God the Word hath rapidly ascended.

Fain of the sword would I have more greatly suffered:
So spake Epimarchus when by the sword suff'ring.

- ✠ On this day we commemorate our righteous Mother Sexburga, Abbess of Ely, sister and successor of Saint Etheldreda.
- ✠ On this day we commemorate our righteous Father Sisoës of the Kiev Caves.
- ✠ On this day we commemorate the recovery of the holy relics of Saint Juliana the Virgin, Princess of Olshank, which repose in the Kiev Caves.
- ✠ On this day we commemorate new Hieromartyr Simon, Bishop of Ufa, slain by the atheists in the year 1921.

ODE NINE

Terror filled every ear

A FEARFUL wonder was shown at the very hour of thy falling-asleep, O Father, when thy countenance shown like lightning more brightly than the sun, and the choirs of Saints stood by to receive thy spirit and to bear it unto God the Creator.

A S thou delightest in the divine beauty, O blessed Sisoës, deified by adoption and illumined with the exceedingly bright rays that proceed from yonder, by thine entreaties deliver from the murky filth of passions them that faithfully honour thy luminous memorial.

JUST and blameless, and eschewing every evil, O Father, Thou becamest saintly and free of guile, serving God in holiness. Wherefore, the Trinity took up His rest in thy heart; and now, with a far-shining splendor, thou dost delight in Him more clearly, O admirable Sisoës.

Theotokion

BECAUSE of my deeds, there is no salvation in me at all, O all-blameless Virgin; for I, Walking that path of the adversary, am filled with darkness; but since Thou hast shined upon us the Light that is from Light, enlighten and save me; disdain me not who am grievously perishing.

Heirmos

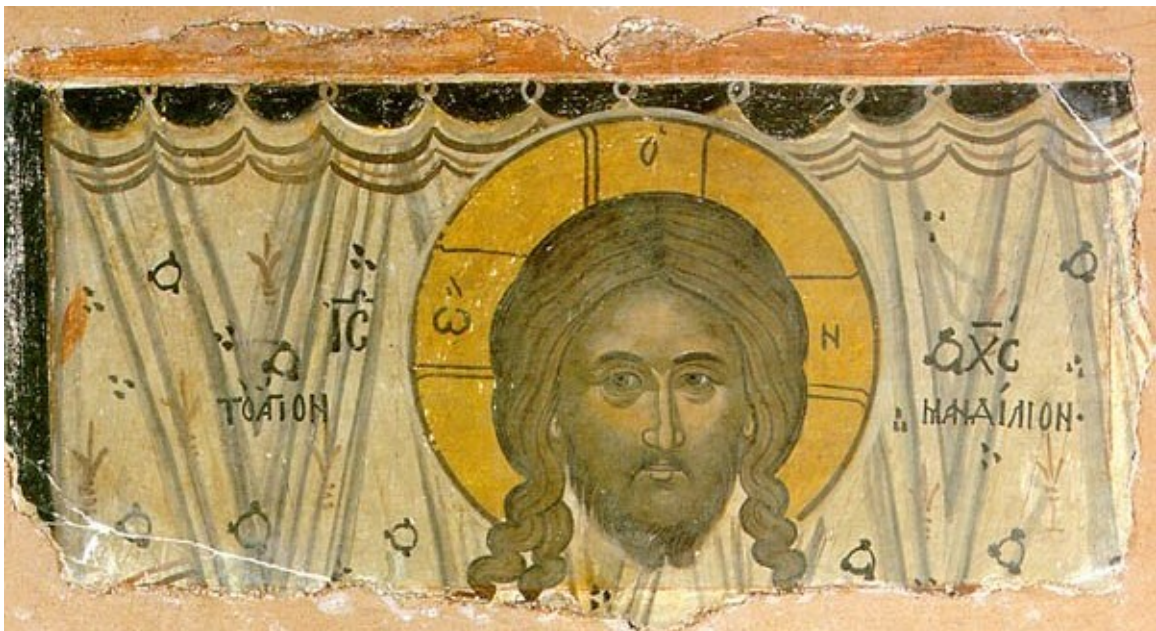
TERROR filled every ear that learned the unheard of condescension of God the word: how of His own good will the Lord Most High came down to such lowliness as from a virgin's womb to take a body becoming man; hence, we the faithful flock magnify the undefiled Mother of our God.



From the text of the Icon on the first page.

St. Sisoës the Great

Sisoës, the Great among Ascetics, stood before the tomb of Alexander, Emperor of the Greeks, who shone with glory; and horrified by the inevitable passage of time and the vanity of this transient world, "Lo!" he cried aloud, "Beholding thee, O Grave, I fear the Judgment of God and I weep, for the common destiny of all mankind comes to mind!...O Death, who can escape thee?"



The Icon of Our Saviour Not-Made-by-Hands