

Month of January

THE 13TH DAY

AFTERFEAST OF THE HOLY THEOPHANY

Commemoration of **Our Fathers among the Saints**
Hilarius, Bishop of Poitiers,

& Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, Enlightener of the Franks

Note: Though the commemoration of St. Hilarius is assigned in the West to the 14th of January, in the East we transfer it to this day, so as to avoid its falling on the Leave-taking of the Holy Theophany.

At Vespers

On "Lord, I have cried...", 6 stichera: 3 of the holy Hilarius, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Thou hast given a sign..."—

Thou didst seek the Truth with zeal, O Hilarius, for thy reason, enlightened by grace, taught thee that the worship of many gods is most foolish, and that God is one, eternal, immutable, almighty, the Creator of all. Wherefore, with yearning thou didst long for divine understanding.

Studying the Scriptures of the old covenant, O saint, thou didst accept Him Who Is as the one true God; and when thou didst read the Gospels, thou didst recognize in Christ the Word of God, the equal of the Father. Wherefore, thou didst receive baptism in the name of the Trinity.

Full of valor, O holy one, with the holy Ambrose and Martin thou didst rise up to defend Holy Orthodoxy, denouncing the minions of Arius and reproofing the ungodly emperor; and, exiled to a far land for thy bold witness, thou didst enlighten all with thy divine theology.

And 3 of the holy Remigius, in the same tone : Spec. Mel.: "As one valiant among the martyrs..."—

Raised in piety, and having mastered human knowledge, O most blessed Remigius, notwithstanding thy youthful age thou wast chosen by the faithful to be their archpastor and hierarch; and full of fervor and zeal, thou didst teach thy flock to restrain the passions of the flesh and spirit, and with love to embrace the Christian virtues.

Seeing the heathen Franks lost within the gloom of pagan darkness, O holy hierarch Remigius, thou wast moved to pity for them; and filled with apostolic zeal, thou didst employ all thy learning and eloquence to persuade them of the errors of their belief in many gods and to bring them willingly to faith in Christ, the Savior of mankind.

As a token of His favor, the Most High gave thee the grace of miracles and signs to convert the heathen to the true Faith, O wondrous father Remigius; and thou didst likewise address thyself to the Arian heretics, and bearing witness most boldly to the Holy Trinity, didst refute their manifest errors and proclaim Orthodox theology.

Glory...: Idiomelon of the Holy Hilarius, in Tone V—

The ungodly Saturninus, the feeble-minded Ursacius and the foolish Valens, who mindlessly followed Arius, the accursed namesake of rage, fearing to confront thy manifest learning and the divine wisdom that shone forth from thee, fled the disputation thou didst seek with them; but Auxentius, who was of like mind with them, met thee in debate, O holy Hilarius, and was persuaded by thine eloquence to forsake his error and to

profess that Christ is equal and consubstantial with the Father; wherefore, we all glorify thee as a godly champion and defender of the Faith.

Now & ever...: Doxasticon of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

Aposticha stichera of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion); and Glory...: Idiomelon of the Holy Remigius, in Tone VI—

When the ruler of the Franks waged war upon his heathen foe, and his army fell back in disarray, then was he mindful of the words of his Christian spouse: "If thou wouldst prevail, call upon the true God with faith, and none will withstand thee"; wherefore, he cried out in hope: "O Christ, Son of the living God, I beseech Thine aid! My gods are manifestly impotent; for which cause I entreat Thee: Grant me victory, and I will ever confess Thy name!" And when he had triumphed by the power of the Most High, he sought out the holy Remigius, who confirmed his pious resolve, saying: "Humble thyself, O king! Worship now what thou hadst burned, and burn what thou hadst worshipped!" And the holy hierarch rejoiced exceedingly to bring thousands of the heathen to Christ in the laver of regeneration.

Now & ever...: Doxasticon of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

Troparion of the holy hierarchs, in Tone IV—

Resplendent with the light of the Gospel, and radiant with true theology, O holy hierarchs, ye were shown to be vanquishers of ungodliness and heresies, enriching Gaul and the lands of the Franks with grace from on high; and, having greatly adorned the whole Church of Christ, ye have received wondrous spiritual rewards from your Lord and God, Who at your entreaties granteth us great mercy.

Glory..., Now & ever...: Troparion of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

At Matins

At "God is the Lord...", the troparion of the Holy Theophany, twice; Glory..., that of the holy hierarchs; Now & ever..., that of the Holy Theophany, once.

Canon I of Holy Theophany, the composition of St. Cosmas of Maiüma, with 6 troparia, including the irmos; then, the canon of St. Hilarius, with 4 troparia, and the canon of St. Remigius, with 4 troparia.

Ode I

Canon of the Holy Hierarch Hilarius of Poitiers, the acrostic whereof is "The joyous Hilarius is glad in the Lord", in Tone VIII—

Irmos: O Lord Who didst fashion an all-glorious path for the people in the sea, make Thou the journey to heaven passable for us, that we may sing a new song unto Thee.

Thou didst embrace the Lord, Who is the Way, the Truth and the Light, O Hilarius; wherefore, filled with gladness, thou didst joyously sing a new song unto Him.

Hilarius, persuaded by the truth of things, forsook the sophistries of the ancients and cleaved with faith unto the one Lord and God, to Whom he ever sang a new song.

Edified by the Scriptures, the holy one sought the true God; and spurning the false belief in many gods, he rejoiced to find the pearl of great price, the Christian Faith.

Theotokion: Jesus, the incarnate Word of God, Who passed through thine all-pure womb, O Lady, hath led us, His fallen people, unto life, across the sundering sea of sin and death.

Canon of the Holy Hierarch Remigius of Rheims, the acrostic whereof is "Remigius

brought the heathen unto God", in Tone I—

Irmos: Christ drowned Pharaoh and his chariots in the sea and guided the people, who chant, saying: Let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath been glorified!

Rejoice today, O Christians, in Remigius, who led the Franks to the promised land of heaven, crying: Let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath been glorified!

Eloquence and learning filled thy soul, O saint, and therewith thou didst guide thy people, saying: Let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath been glorified!

More than earthly knowledge thou wast filled with grace divine, O holy hierarch, and didst cry: Let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath been glorified!

Theotokion: In the Jordan the Son of the Virgin drowned the serpent, the author of sin, and led forth all who cry: Let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath been glorified!

Ode III

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: My soul hath been established in the Lord my God. Let it boast, saying: There is none holy, none righteous save Thee, O Lord!

O the gladness that filled the soul of Hilarius when he found Christ, crying: There is none holy, none righteous save Thee, O Lord!

Ye Orthodox, be glad that your souls are established in the true knowledge of the Lord our God by the writings of the great Hilarius.

One God of creation didst thou worship, O saint, when thou wast able to cry: There is none holy, none righteous save Thee, O Lord!

Theotokion: Unto thee, the boast of our race, do we cry out most earnestly, O Mary: There is none holy, none righteous save thy Son, our Lord!

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: Let my heart be made firm by the hope of Thy good things, O Christ, that I may unceasingly cry out with hymnody to Thee in song; for none is holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind.

Good things came to pass for the Frankish peoples; for when Christ gave them a great victory, they were taught by Remigius to sing: None is holy save Him Who loveth mankind!

Instilling in Clovis the desire for the good things of salvation, O holy one, in triumph thou didst lead him to the holy font, chanting: None is holy save Him Who loveth mankind!

Unto the rude Frankish barbarians didst thou manifest signs and wonders, O holy hierarch, moving them to chant in astonishment: None is holy save Him Who loveth mankind!

Theotokion: Singing to Him Whom thou didst conceive without seed, O most immaculate one, we give voice to hymns of praise, crying aloud: None is holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind!

Kontakion of the holy hierarchs, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Thou hast appeared today..."—

Today Thy holy hierarchs show themselves to us, clothed with heavenly glory, O Lord; wherefore, we hymn their virtues and pious works, for they are true servants of Thee, the Light unapproachable.

Ikos: Arrayed in the vesture of grace from on high, with boldness ye proclaimed Christ to be One of the Trinity, equally enthroned and of the same Essence with the Father and the Spirit, O holy hierarchs Hilarius and Remigius, thereby putting the vain-

minded Arians utterly to shame. And by your virtues ye have attained unto the ranks of the angels, and for your labors ye have received recompense in the habitations of the saints, where, worshiping the Triune God with gladsome voices, ye stand among the true servants of the Light unapproachable.

Sessional hymn of St. Hilarius, in Tone I: Spec. Mel.: "Thy womb, O Savior..."—

Blessed art thou, O holy Hilarius, thou namesake of gladness, for loving Christ God above all else, thou didst spare no pangs in the pursuit of His Truth, nor wast thou daunted by any perils in the defense thereof, but didst proclaim God to the world with heart and mind, moving all men to love Him.

Glory...: Sessional hymn of St. Remigius, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Go thou quickly before..."—

Make haste with zeal, O ye faithful, that together we may celebrate the holy memory of the glorious hierarch Remigius, who, full of the knowledge of God and virtue, showed himself to be an imitator of the apostles and a champion of the Orthodox Faith.

Now & ever...: Sessional hymn of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

Ode IV

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: Mystically foreseeing Thee incarnate of the Virgin, O Word, the prophet cried out in song: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Seeing the Word, the only-begotten Son of the Father, blasphemed, Hilarius cried aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

How do the Arians dare to call the Word of God a creature?" Hilarius cried; "But Glory to Thy power, O Lord!"

In defending the holy hierarch Athanasius, Hilarius endured bitter exile, crying: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Theotokion: Lightly didst thou descend into the womb of Thine ever-virgin Mother, O Word, ineffably making Thine abode in her.

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: I have heard report of Thee, O Lord, and I was afraid; I understood Thy works, and was filled with fear. For God Who hath existed from before the beginning of time, hath become man, born of the Virgin.

Battling the hordes of the demons, who ever seek to bring about the ruin of men, Remigius taught them to put away their primal fears and to understand that Christ God is love, Who was born of the Virgin.

Reigning not like Nebuchadnezzar or Belshazzar, who hoarded the precious ornaments of the temple of God, Clovis returned the vessels of the Church of Soissons to Remigius, for which he was led to salvation.

O the glory of the wondrous Remigius! For he wrought great signs and many wonders in the sight of the Franks, and everywhere destroyed the temples and graven images of the heathen, leading them to salvation.

Theotokion: Unto thee do we offer praises, O Queen of heaven, for God the Word, Who is from everlasting, took flesh of thee for our salvation; wherefore, in awe we magnify thee as the only Virgin Mother of God.

Ode V

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: My spirit riseth early unto Thee, O God, Who wast ineffably begotten of

the Father and hast lifted up for us the horn of salvation.

Athanasius defended the Lord, Who was begotten of the Father; and Hilarius defended Athanasius, the champion of the Word.

Rising up to protest the persecution of the Orthodox and to denounce those who oppressed them, Hilarius defended them most fervently.

In Gaul, the apostate Julian took great delight in thine exile, O saint; but thou didst treat the country of thy banishment as it were a safe haven.

Theotokion: Unto the dawning of grace do we wake, our hearts full of praise; for the only-begotten Son of Mary hath lifted up for us the horn of salvation.

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: Once, the seraph, taking up tongs, took up a burning coal and touched it to Isaiah's lips; and, purified, he proclaimed unto all: Learn ye righteousness!

Great was the grace that poured forth from thy lips like a river of fire, O holy hierarch, when thou didst proclaim to the Franks: Learn ye righteousness!

Having brought Clovis and the chieftains of his people to the font of enlightenment, O Remigius, thou didst lead them up from its waters, purified.

The incense of sweet savor didst thou ever offer up in purity upon the altar of the living God with true love for all, O holy one, praising Him like the seraphim.

Theotokion: The six-winged seraphim and many-eyed cherubim, around the awesome throne of God, cry to us: Exalt the righteousness of the Queen of the angels, O men!

Ode VI

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: Like the waters of the sea am I tossed about by the waves of life, O Thou Who lovest mankind. Wherefore, like Jonah I cry to Thee: Lead up my life from corruption, O compassionate Lord!

Sent into far exile across the seas, seeing the Church battered by the tumults of heresy, O holy hierarch of Christ, thou didst cry: Lead up my life from corruption, O compassionate Lord!

In Isauria certain heretics sought help in condemning worse heresies, O Hilarius; but thou didst defend the true Faith of Nicæa, crying: Lead up my life from corruption, O compassionate Lord!

Studying the writings of the fathers, O most blessed one, in thine own writings thou didst put the Arians to shame, crying out to Christ: Lead up my life from corruption, O compassionate Lord!

Theotokion: Great is our peril, O Theotokos! Extend to us a helping hand, as thy Son did to Peter, O Lady, lest we sink beneath the waves of life; and lead us up out of corruption, in thy loving-kindness.

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: Abiding in the uttermost depths of the sea, Jonah prayed: Come Thou and still the tempest! And, pierced by the dart of the tyrant, I call upon Christ, the Destroyer of evils, to hasten quickly unto my slothfulness!

Hurled to and fro by the winds of delusion and the waves of false belief, the Frankish peoples were drowning in the depths of a sea of ignorance; but Christ, Who loveth mankind, sent His servant Remigius to save them.

Ever tempest-tossed by dire temptations, we call upon Christ for help amid our

distress: Spare us, O Savior, lest we sink in a sea of slothfulness, and send us godly teachers, like Remigius, to deliver us.

Having been pierced through by the darts of the enemy of our race, the Frankish people, calling upon Christ, Who redeemed them from bondage to sin, cried: Hasten to our aid, at the entreaties of Remigius, O God!

Theotokion: Every one of my many sins is like a perilous rock within the depths of the sea, threatening to pierce the ship of my soul and bring about its destruction, O Mother of God; but haste thou and save me, I pray.

Kontakion & ikos of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

Ode VII

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: In Babylon, the pious youths did not worship the golden image, but, bedewed in the midst of the fiery furnace, they chanted a hymn, saying: O supremely exalted God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Learning wisdom from thee, thy pious flock fled heretics as cruel hirelings, and they sought true sustenance in thy words, chanting the hymn: O supremely exalted God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Arriving in Milan, O Hilarius, thou didst find it a new Babylon, ruled over by a cruel tyrant who held the New Israel in captivity; but thou didst chant: O supremely exalted God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Defending the truths proclaimed by the God-bearing fathers of Nicæa, O blessed one, thou didst fill with dismay all who would not say of Christ: O supremely exalted God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Theotokion: In thy pure womb the fire of the Godhead burned without consuming thee, O Maiden, as the furnace did not consume the youths, who cried: O supremely exalted God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: The fire neither touched nor vexed Thy children in the furnace, O Savior; for then, as with one mouth, the three hymned and blessed Thee, saying: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Afire with the love of God, O Remigius, thou didst touch the souls of the Franks, and like tinder they were consumed with flames of zeal, crying: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

The heresy of Arius neither touched nor vexed thy soul, O holy one, for thou didst never cease to preach that the Savior is One of the Trinity, crying: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Having adorned thy mouth with human eloquence, O saint, the Holy Spirit adorned thy soul all the more with His wisdom; and thou didst cry: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Theotokion: Every element wrought by the Creator singeth thy praises, O all-pure one, for in manner past all understanding thou gavest birth to the blessed God of our fathers!

Ode VIII

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: O ye angels and heavens, bless, hymn and exalt supremely Him Who sitteth upon the throne of glory and as God is glorified unceasingly forever!

Now let all Christians bless, hymn and supremely exalt Hilarius, who standeth boldly before the throne of God Who is glorified unceasingly forever.

The angels of God escorted the soul of the blessed Hilarius into the abodes of glory, and there, with them, he glorifieth God unceasingly forever.

Hymn ye now our blessed father Hilarius, who by his wisdom and learning hath taught us to worship and glorify the All-holy Trinity forever.

Theotokion: Every rank of the angelic hosts bless, hymn and supremely exalt Him Who sitteth upon the throne of glory, to Whom the Theotokos gave birth.

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: Christ God, Who saved the chanting children in the furnace and transformed the raging flames into dew, hymn ye and exalt supremely for all ages!

No longer worshiping stones or wood, the Franks forsook their worship of many gods; for Remigius cried: Hymn ye Christ, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Under the yoke of the Gospels did the Franks bow their necks, O saint, and, transformed in spirit, they cry: Hymn ye Christ, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Neither the pagan priests nor their ancestral errors hindered the Franks from crying: Hymn ye Christ, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Theotokion: The Savior of mankind, in His infinite mercy, gave us to His own all-pure Mother as children, as she stood before Him, weeping, at the foot of His Cross.

Ode IX

Canon of St. Hilarius

Irmos: Thou didst transcend the laws of nature, conceiving the Creator and Lord, and didst become a portal of salvation for the world. Wherefore, we magnify thee unceasingly, O Theotokos.

Let us praise the teacher who taught us that the preëternal Word, the Creator of all things, was begotten of the Father, but ineffably incarnate of the Virgin Theotokos, whom we magnify unceasingly.

Over all heresies let us, the Orthodox, triumph, armed by the holy writings of the godly Hilarius with the whole armor of faith; and with him let us magnify unceasingly the all-immaculate Theotokos.

Riding upon his virtues, as upon a chariot, Hilarius traversed the heavens and entered, rejoicing, the portal of paradise, where he standeth in glory with the Theotokos, whom we unceasingly magnify.

Theotokion: Descending into thy womb, O Theotokos, our Creator and Lord took flesh of thine all-pure blood, becoming man for the sake of our salvation. Wherefore, we magnify thee exceedingly.

Canon of St. Remigius

Irmos: The God of Israel hath wrought might with His arm; for He hath cast down the mighty from their thrones and exalted the lowly. Therein He, the Dayspring from on high, hath visited us and guided us to the path of peace.

O God of Israel, stretch forth the arm of Thy might over the land of the Franks, and cast down all the errors of this age of unbelief. Yea, at the entreaties of Remigius visit and guide all its Orthodox people to the path of peace

Great is the holy hierarch Remigius, at whose prayers the oil and chrism that was lacking for holy baptism was replaced by a miracle, and who prayeth with boldness to the Dayspring from on high, that He guide us all to the path of peace.

O Orthodox Christians, ye New Israel, lift up your arms in earnest entreaty, beseeching the God of all to fill us with His ineffable light and, by the intercession of His holy hierarch Remigius, guide us all to the path of peace.

Theotokion: Dealing justly with the wicked, the God of Israel will set them apart from the righteous and cast them like tares into the fires of Gehenna; but in the day of His wrath, O Lady, quench His anger and guide us to the way of peace.

Exapostilarion of the holy hierarchs: Spec. Mel.: "As the disciples watched..."—

To the immaterial eyes of our mind ye stand with the angels before the throne of the Trinity, O holy hierarchs, delighting in the splendor thereof, and crying out in supplication: Have mercy, O Light immutable!

Glory..., Now & ever...: Exapostilarion of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

Aposticha stichera of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion); and Glory...: Idiomelon of the holy hierarchs, in Tone VIII—

Let us, the faithful, exalt the wondrous Hilarius and Remigius as befitteth holy hierarchs, for they are our steadfast intercessors and advocates: for the one refuted heresies by the power of the Spirit of God, zealously expounding the ineffable mystery of the Trinity; and the other brought multitudes of the heathen into the Ark of salvation: and both planted piety firmly in Gaul and the lands of the Franks; wherefore, with gladsome voices we glorify Christ, Who hath set such wondrous luminaries in the firmament of the Holy Orthodox Church.

Now & ever...: Doxasticon of the Holy Theophany (see in the Menaion).

At Liturgy

On the Beatitudes: 8 troparia, from Ode VIII of both canons of the Holy Theophany.