

Month of July

THE 8TH DAY

Commemoration of the Holy & Right-believing Edgar I,

Know as "The Peaceable"

King of the English

AT VESPERS

On "Lord, I have cried...", these stichera, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "As one valiant among the martyrs..."—

As the offspring of a holy mother, O godly Edgar, thou wast nurtured with the milk of piety at her breast; and, instructed by the holy Ethelwold, taught by him to reverence the Church of Christ, throughout thy life thou didst battle the passions of the flesh, meekly doing the penances which the great Dunstan set for thy salvation.

All the monasteries of thy realm stood in ruins, having long since been destroyed by the heathen, their fields perforce lying fallow, all their monastics having been slaughtered; but, moved by love for God, Edgar the devout labored mightily to rebuild them: wherefore, we cry unto him: Glory to thy piety, O holy king!

Ever assailed by the temptations of the flesh, O Edgar, thou didst humbly repent of thine iniquitous deeds when thou wast rebuked by the holy Dunstan, like as David the king truly grieved over his sin when Nathan reproached him; and fulfilling thy penance without murmuring, thou hast provided us an example of true penitence, O saint.

Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone VIII—

When the body of the holy Edith, the daughter of Edgar the king, was found untouched by corruption, and was set forth for the veneration of the faithful, with mockery the mighty Canute questioned the miracle, saying: "Can such a sinner as Edgar have given birth to holy offspring?" But by the movement of her hallowed limbs the wondrous Edith gainsaid his unbelief, clearly bearing witness to her own sanctity and to that of her blessed father.

Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel.: "O all-glorious wonder..."—

"What is this sight which mine eyes behold, O Master? Lifted up upon a tree, Thou Who sustaineth all creation dost die, granting life unto all," weeping, the Theotokos said when she saw the God and Man Who ineffably shone forth from her suspended upon the Cross.

Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and this sticheron of the saint, idiomelon, in Tone VI—

Stichos: : I have raised up one chosen out of My people; I have found David My servant.

When the holy Dunstan judged the fullness of time to be come, he assembled all the nobles and the clergy in the divinely preserved city of Bath, and there anointed thee, O Edgar, to be king over all England, setting on thy head the royal crown. Wherefore, rejoice exceedingly, O Christian people, celebrating the memory of your holy sovereign, who spreadeth his robe of royal purple over his realm, protecting it from the onslaughts of the demonic foe, and wieldeth his scepter like a shepherd's staff, driving away the ravening wolves of error and treachery, and leading his flock to drink of the still waters of the grace of God.

Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone II—

Come, all ye Orthodox Christians! Come, let us venerate the sacred memory of the right-believing Edgar, who, bringing unity to the English lands, established peace throughout his realm, that, untroubled by wars and rebellions, his people might grow strong in the Faith and flourish in piety and devotion to God. Come, therefore, and lift up your voices in praise! For even in these latter days we who hunger for spiritual food partake of the fruits of the sacred harvest which Edgar laid up in the granaries of Christ on high.

Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel.: "When from the Tree..."—

Beholding Thee nailed to the Tree of the Cross, O Jesus, she that tasted not of wedlock said, weeping: "O my sweet Child, wherefore hast Thou abandoned me who alone gave Thee birth? O unapproachable Light of the all-unoriginate Father, haste Thou and be glorified, that they that glorify Thy divine sufferings may receive divine glory!"

Troparion of the saint, in Tone VIII—

Look down from heaven upon us, thy children, O right-believing Edgar, thou king who reignest no longer over England, but dwellest in the mansions of heaven; and accepting our prayerful entreaties, establish the Holy Orthodox Faith throughout thy land, and protect it by thine intercession on high, that it may triumph at last over the manifold errors of this age.

AT MATINS

At "God is the Lord...", the troparion of the saint, twice; Glory..., Now & ever...: Theotokion.

Both canons from the Octoechos, and this canon of the saint, with 4 troparia, the acrostic whereof is "The peaceable king brought peace to all", in Tone VIII—

Ode I

Irmos: Let us offer mighty works unto our wondrous God! Let the earth chant with us in majesty, and let heaven clearly hymn His glory!

The pious works of the right-believing Edgar move us all to glorify our wondrous God, Who endowed him with majesty.

Hymns let us chant unto Edgar the king, who, having occupied a throne on earth, now standeth before the throne on high.

Everlasting glory hath Edgar attained, for he repaired the ravages of the heathen and built again the monasteries of his realm.

Theotokion: Pure and all-immaculate is the all-holy Mother of Christ our God, who standeth now at the right hand of her Son in majesty.

Ode III

Irmos: Plant Thou the fear of Thee in the hearts of Thy servants, O Lord, and be Thou the confirmation of us who call upon Thee in truth.

Edgar drove from the hearts of his people the terror of the heathen, and filled them instead with the fear of our almighty God.

Attending to the wise counsel of the holy hierarch Dunstan, the pious Edgar reigned with justice, ever upholding the truth.

Celebrating the hallowed memory of the glorious King Edgar, let us entreat him to make us steadfast in righteousness and truth.

Edgar gained the rule over all the English, Welsh and Scots, but greater yet was his struggle to master the passions of the flesh.

Theotokion: Angelic voices hymn thee without ceasing, O most blessed Theotokos, and even the cherubim and seraphim sing thy praises.

Sessional hymn, in Tone IV: Spec. Mel.: "Having been lifted up..."—

Taught by godly hierarchs, and treating the monastic ranks with fitting reverence, O Edgar, thou didst govern thy land with goodly order, bringing prosperity to all thy people and seeking the profit of their souls, that they might achieve victory over spiritual adversaries by the power of the Cross of Christ.

Glory..., Now & ever...: Theotokion—

He Who sitteth upon the throne of the cherubim and abideth in the bosom of the Father sitteth in thy womb as upon His holy throne, O Mistress; for, as God truly incarnate, He reigneth over all nations; and we now hymn Him with understanding. Him do thou entreat, that thy servants be saved.

Stavrotheotokion—

She who gave birth in the flesh unto Thee Who wast begotten in the beginning by the unoriginate Father, O Christ, when she saw Thee hanging upon the Cross, cried out: "Woe is me, O Jesus most beloved! How art Thou, O my Son, Who art glorified as God by the angels, now crucified by iniquitous men? I hymn Thee, O Long-suffering One!"

Ode IV

Irmos: I have heard Thy report, O Lord, and I was afraid. I have considered Thy works and glorified Thy dominion, O Lord.

Borne in the hallowed womb of a holy mother, Edgar drew the milk of Christian piety and reverence from her breast.

Like David, who sinned but repented of his iniquity, Edgar bowed his neck beneath the reproaches of his saintly guide.

Endowed with the blessings of unity, England increased in power and piety under the dominion of its mighty king and lord.

Theotokion: Kings and princes praise the all-exalted Mother of the almighty King of kings, Who hath dominion over all that existeth.

Ode V

Irmos: Grant us peace, O Lord our God. O Lord our God, take us for Thy possession. O Lord, we know none other than Thee; we call upon Thy name.

In his birth, the holy Edgar inherited the nobility of his sire and the holiness of his mother; and to Edward and Edith, his offspring, he bequeathed both.

No earthly possessions were more precious to the godly king than those of the spirit, and he restored the houses where monks called upon the Lord.

Glastonbury, of sacred renown, profited greatly from thy charity, O holy one, and after thy repose it rejoiced to receive thine incorrupt remains.

Theotokion: Betimes we lift up our voices to magnify our all-pure Mistress and Lady, the Virgin Theotokos; and we entreat her to intercede for us all.

Ode VI

Irmos: Out of the depths of sin I cried out to the Lord Who is able to save me, and He led my life up from corruption, in that He loveth mankind

Rejoicing filled the Monastery of Glastonbury, O holy one, when thy grave was opened and thy body was found untouched by corruption.

Out of the depths of depravity didst thou cry out in repentance to the Lord, O king, and in His abiding love He led thee up from corruption.

Unending warfare didst thou wage against the sins of the flesh, O saint, striving by fasting and prayer to defeat the passions of lust and fornication.

Theotokion: Great is thy love, O Lady, for us, thy sinful children, whose care thou didst receive at the foot of the Cross, whereon thy Son died for our sake.

Kontakion, in Tone VI: Spec. Mel.: "The angelic hosts..."—

They who were clothed in the angelic habit long guarded thy sacred tomb, and when it was opened they found thy body whole and incorrupt. For, striving mightily against pride and lust, at the last thou didst win thy hard-fought struggle. Wherefore, the Judge of the contest hath set a heavenly crown upon thy brow.

Ikos: O how glorious it is for Christians to witness the struggles of the saints! For, beholding the spiritual combat of those who fight the good fight against the passions of the flesh and of the spirit, we are filled with hope, and our faith is duly strengthened. For this cause we venerate the memory of the holy King Edgar, who reigned in glory over the English, the Welsh and the Scots, but who achieved greater glory in his victory over vainglory and lust, for which Christ, the Judge of the contest, hath set a heavenly crown upon his brow.

Ode VII

Irmos: Once, in Babylon, the fire stood in awe of the condescension of God; wherefore, the youths, dancing with joyous step in the furnace, as in a meadow, chanted: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Having established the foundation of faith and the love of God in the soul of the young Edgar, the holy Ethelwold taught him to worship Christ and to chant: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

The fire of the passions burned fiercely in thy breast, O Edgar, and might have destroyed thine immortal soul, had not the holy Dunstan moved thee to chant: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Poor and nobles alike mourned thy passing from this vale of tears, O saint, and they filled the royal city of Winchester with their lamentations; but we chant: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Theotokion: Ever-virgin art thou, O Queen of heaven, and thy glory surpasseth that of all the angels; wherefore, with joyous step they dance before thee, chanting to thy Son: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Ode VIII

Irmos: The King of glory Who is without beginning, before Whom the hosts of heaven tremble, hymn, ye priests, and exalt supremely for all ages!

All the saints of the English lands rejoiced to enroll in their choirs the pious King Edgar, who with them exalteth the King of glory for all ages.

Called to his heavenly reward by the King of glory, the wondrous Edgar doth join chorus with the saints, who exalt God supremely for all ages.

Edgar the glorious decreed that his earthly remains be buried in great Glastonbury, where the monks could pray that he find rest for all ages.

Theotokion: The King of glory, Who is without beginning, entered into thy pure womb, O Virgin, and issued forth, incarnate for us in His love for mankind.

Ode IX

Irmos: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, Who hath exalted the horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, wherein the Dayspring from on high hath visited us, and guided us into the way of peace.

O the boundless love of Christ our Savior for the English people! For He exalted the horn of his servant Edgar the king, who governed them with justice and piety, and guided them in the ways of peace

All Orthodox Christians rejoice exceedingly on the day of the memorial of Edgar, the servant of the Lord; for he hath bequeathed to us treasures beyond price: his offspring, the holy Edward and Edith.

Lord of the English, overlord of the Scots and Welsh, Edgar reigned gloriously, truly magnifying the God of Israel in his realm, that He, the Dayspring from on high, might shine salvation upon his people.

Theotokion: Let us praise Mary the Theotokos, the scion of the root of Jesse, the daughter of David the king, for through her hath Christ, the Dayspring from on high, visited us, His servants, and guided us in the way of peace.

Exapostilarion: Spec. Mel.: "As the disciples watched..."—

As the choirs of the saints watched, thy soul was borne up to the King of all, and the angels rejoiced and cried to those above: "Lift up your gates, for Edgar the king now entereth into the glory of Christ the Light!"

Theotokion—

The all-wicked and malicious enemy, who of old hated me in the godly and blessed life in paradise and drove me from Eden, is slain by thine Offspring, O Theotokos.

Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone VI—

Rejoice, O crownèd saint, thou boast of the English lands, adornment of Winchester, glory of Glastonbury, wall of defense for all the faithful of thy realm! For in thy great love for Christ the Lord over all, thou didst restore the monasteries made desolate by the heathen, that the peace of God might be established in thy land by the supplications of pious monks and nuns. Wherefore, as thou standest now before the throne of Christ our Master, amid the ineffable splendor and power of His glory, never cease to make entreaty for those who with faith celebrate thy most holy memory.

Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel. : "O the third day..."—

"Pondering Thy seedless conception and ineffable birthgiving, I marvel exceedingly: How is it that it is Thy will to die as a malefactor, O my Son?" the all-holy one cried out, weeping.

AT LITURGY

Prokimenon, in Tone III—

O chant unto our God, chant ye; chant unto our King, chant ye!

Stichos: Clap your hands, all ye nations; shout unto God with a voice of rejoicing.

Epistle to Timothy, §282

Timothy my child: I exhort that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all who are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty For this is good and

acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the gentiles in faith and verity.

Alleluia, in Tone IV—

Stichos: Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

Stichos: Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

Gospel according to Mark, §54

At that time, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews sent unto Jesus certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch Him in His words. And when they were come, they said unto Him: "Master, we know that Thou art true, and carest for no man: for Thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Cæsar, or not? Shall we give, or shall we not give?" But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them: "Why tempt ye Me? Bring Me a penny, that I may see it." And they brought it. And He said unto them: "Whose is this image and superscription?" And they said unto Him: "Cæsar's." And Jesus answering said unto them: "Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at Him.

Communion verse—

In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings.