

# Month of October

## THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY

### Commemoration of Our Venerable Father Gall, Wonder-worker of Switzerland

*N.B.:* This service is designed to be combined with that of the holy martyr Longinus, the centurion who stood at the foot of the Cross of Christ during the Crucifixion.

#### At Vespers

*On "Lord, I have cried..."*, 6 stichera: 3 of the martyr (see in the Menaion), and 3 of the venerable one, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: "O all-glorious wonder..."—

Having lived a life of piety, and been truly deified by the radiance of God, thou dwellest now in the mansions on high, where the angels join chorus; and thou standest among the choir of ascetics, O venerable father Gall. Be thou ever mindful of those who on earth call thee blessed and celebrate thine ascent into the heavens.

O most honored father Gall, upon the virtues thou didst ascend unto God, upborne as on a chariot of fire, and for thine ascetic feats hast received a victor's crown. Wherefore, thy tomb shineth forth miracles, healing all the maladies of those who approach it with faith; for which cause we call thee blessed, O God-bearing father.

O venerable father Gall, thou givest sight unto the blind, hearing to the deaf, and speech unto the mute; and the demons are driven far away when the faithful call on thy holy name, for, blinded by the radiance that shineth forth from thee, O great favorite of Christ, they flee in terror from the grace which abideth in thee.

*Glory...: Idiomelon of the martyr (see in the Menaion).*

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or stavrotheotokion (see in the Menaion).*

*Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and Glory...: Idiomelon of the martyr (see in the Menaion).*

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or stavrotheotokion (see in the Menaion).*

*Troparion of the martyr (see in the Menaion); and, Glory..., that of the venerable one, in Tone IV—*

With the prophet didst thou proclaim, O Gall: I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help. Wherefore, the mountains of Helvetia resounded with thy prayers and hymns, sending down torrents of grace upon those who dwell in their midst. O venerable father, entreat Him Who formed the mountains and all the earth, that our souls be find mercy.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion.*

#### At Matins

*At "God is the Lord..."*, the troparion of the martyr, twice; *Glory...*, that of the venerable one; *Now & ever...: Theotokion.*

*One canon from the Octoechos, with 6 troparia, including the irmos; canon of the martyr, with 4 troparia; and canon of the venerable one, with 4 troparia, the acrostic whereof is "Gall is for us the sweet taste of heaven", in Tone I—*

#### Ode I

*Irmos:* Let us chant a hymn of victory unto God Who helped Moses in Egypt and by him destroyed Pharaoh and his whole army, for He hath been glorified.

God led Moses and the children of Israel across the Red Sea to the promised land; and He led Columbanus and his disciples across the sea to Gaul.

As the twelve apostles followed Christ, O Gall, so didst thou, with the eleven other disciples of Columbanus, follow your venerable father, to serve the Lord.

Let us chant hymns of praise unto Christ our God, Who hath glorified His holy one with great and mighty wonders, for He hath been glorified.

*Theotokion:* Languishing in the wilderness of sin, as did the Israelites of old, O ye people, let us yet sing unto her who conceived Him Who led us forth.

### Ode III

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

In Lake Constance are the stars reflected, O Gall, and therein also thy virtues shine with splendor, for by its shores thou didst ever chant: None is holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind!

Sanctified was Arbon by thy struggles, O father, for, unable in thine illness to travel with thy master, thou didst remain behind, singing: None is holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind!

Fleeing the tumult of life, the holy one withdrew to the valley of the Steinach, and there, in its dense forest, found solitude wherein to chant: None is holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind!

*Theotokion:* O thy surpassing purity, higher than all purity in creation, O Mother of Christ! And marveling thereat, with praise we glorify Him: There is none holy save Thee, Who lovest mankind!

*Kontakion of the venerable one, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: "As the first-fruits..."—*

Having ascended the mountain, O Gall, like a luminary of great radiance thou didst enlighten the world with thine ascetic labors, driving the gloom of delusion far from those who had recourse to thee. Wherefore, we pray fervently: Shine the light of grace upon the hearts of all who hymn thee, O venerable one.

*Ikos:* Who can offer thee songs fit to praise thy struggles, O father? For our mouths and minds are defiled by our sinfulness. But entreat the Lord, that He count me worthy to glorify thee as is meet and to extol the holiness of thy life, which filleth even the angelic hosts with awe; for thou shinest the light of grace upon the hearts of those who hymn thee, O venerable one.

*Sessional hymn of the martyr (see in the Menaion); and Glory..., that of the venerable one., in the same melody (Tone VIII : Spec. Mel.: "Of the Wisdom..."—*

Entreating the Savior with unceasing prayer, O venerable one, thou wast filled with the radiance of the splendor of His glory, and with the light of the true knowledge of the Trinity didst illumine the inhabitants of the alpine mountains, who languished in the darkness of ignorance. Wherefore, having lived in purity and virtue on earth, thou hast now joined the choirs of the venerable on high. With them lift up thy voice in supplication to Christ, O Gall, that He grant remission of sins and offenses unto all who honor thy holy memory.

*Glory..., Now & ever...: Theotokion, or stavrotheotokion (see in the Menaion).*

### Ode IV

*Irmos:* Thy grace hath shone forth upon the nations, and the ends of the earth

have beheld Thy glory, for by Thy Cross hast Thou saved the whole world.

Retiring to the stillness of the wilderness, Gall found there tranquility of soul, and was filled with the glory of Him Who saveth the whole world.

Upon all the alpine nations did Gall shine the light of the Holy Faith, mediating for them with Him Who died upon the Cross for the whole world.

Save us, the sinful and wretched, O Thou Who savest the whole world, at the entreaties of our venerable father Gall, who ever intercedeth for us.

*Theotokion:* Thou art truly blessed who art, as the angel said, full of grace, O all-immaculate one; for thou gavest birth to Him Who saved us on the Cross.

#### Ode V

*Irmos:* Illumine our minds with the light of Thy commandments and with the splendor of Thy grace, O God, granting us Thy mercy, for Thy precepts are light and peace, O Good One.

Hewing wood wherewith to fashion a solitary hermitage for thyself in the wilderness, O Gall, by the radiant grace of God thou didst have a bear helping thee, O saint.

Enlighten our minds with the splendors of that grace which shone forth from thy pure soul, O holy one, that like thee we may ever keep the commandments and precepts of God.

Struggling zealously in ascetic toil, O venerable Gall, thou didst dispel all the gloom of despair and drive away every illusion of the demons by the splendor of divine grace.

*Theotokion:* With earnest entreaties, O most merciful Mother, ask thy Son and our God to illumine us with the splendor of His knowledge, that we may keep His precepts of light and peace.

#### Ode VI

*Irmos:* Out of the deep the Prophet Jonah cried out in distress unto Thee, Who lovest mankind: Lead up my life from corruption!

Exorcizing the demon that assailed Fridiburga, the betrothed of the king, forthwith thou didst send it back to the depths of hell.

Escaping the deep of despondency and every demonic delusion, O Gall, thou didst cry to God: Lead up my life from corruption!

Through fasting and abstinence thou didst reach the summit of holiness, O holy one, crying: Lead up my life from corruption!

*Theotokion:* Thou, who art wholly pure, dost mercifully regard us who are fallen into the depths of despair, leading us out of corruption.

*Kontakion & ikos of the martyr (see in the Menaion).*

#### Ode VII

*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!

Amid the furnace of temptations, O Gall, unscathed, thou didst chant unto the Word Who of old saved the three youths in Babylon, saying: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Saved by Christ, the Angel of Great Counsel, Who descended unto the children in the fiery furnace, O venerable one, thou didst cry aloud: Blessed is the God of our

fathers!

The land of Hibernia boasteth in thy birth, O Gall, and Helvetia rejoiceth in thee, for it hath seen the wonders wherewith thou hast been glorified by the blessed God of our fathers!

*Theotokion:* Extolling thy sublime purity, O Mother of the Savior, with heart and mind we utter hymns of praise to thee who gavest birth without seed to the blessed God of our fathers.

#### Ode VIII

*Irmos:* Him of Whom the angels and all the hosts of heaven stand in awe as their Creator and Lord, hymn, ye priests; glorify, ye children; bless, ye people, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Offering praise unto Gall, of whom even the angels of heaven stand in awe, let us cry unto God: Sing, ye priests; give glory, ye children; ye people, bless and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Forsaking the world and disdaining all its beauties, Gall cleaved to his Creator, and Lord, saying: Sing, ye priests; give glory, ye children; ye people, bless and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Hosts of angels ministered to thee in the wilderness, O holy one, marveling at thy patience, and crying: Sing, ye priests; give glory, ye children; ye people, bless and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

*Theotokion:* Enthroned nigh to thy preëternal Son, O Theotokos, thou art looked upon with awe by the angelic beings, who cry: Ye priests, hymn; ye children, bless; ye people exalt her supremely for all ages!

#### Ode IX

*Irmos:* With hymns do we magnify Thee, the God and man, Who wast first begotten without mother, and then wast born without father.

As a solitary thou didst ascend from glory to glory, and as the founder of a house of monks thou didst guide many to salvation, O Gall.

Venerable and worthy of all honor was thy repose, O saint; wherefore, we beg thee: Be thou ever mindful of us who keep thy memory.

Even in these times the Orthodox sing thy praises, O wise Gall, and earnestly ask a share of thy supplications unto Christ, the God-man.

*Theotokion:* Now let us magnify her who bore Christ, the incarnate Word, Who with the Father and the Spirit is equally without beginning.

*Exapostilarion of the martyr; Glory..., that of the venerable one—*

Having lived a virtuous life of ascetic toil, in heaven thou now beholdest Him Who toucheth the mountains and maketh them smoke; and, having wrought marvelous wonders on earth, O Gall, thou dwellest in the mansions of thy Father's house, where thou sharest forever in His glory.

*Now & ever..., theotokion (see in the Menaion).*

*Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and Glory...: Idiomelon of the venerable one, in Tone V—*

Having ascended the mountain, as of old the stylites mounted their pillars, through fasting and abstinence thou didst mortify thy flesh and carnal-mindedness, O Gall our venerable father; and having thus become a receptacle of the All-holy Spirit, full of grace in abundance, O divinely wise one, thou didst bring many to the saving

knowledge of God. Wherefore, dispel every ailment and infirmity, O saint, from all who faithfully honor thy holy memory.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone—*

Of old, the Virgin Mother, the most blessed Maiden, beholding the Lamb, her Son, lifted up upon the Cross, cried out, weeping: "Woe is me, O my Son! How is it that Thou diest, Who art in essence God immortal?"