January 17th

Venerable and God-bearing Father Anthony the Great

Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers

Byzantine Chant Tone 5
Special Melody: Rejoice

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

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Christ God's divine and most honored appearance unto us in the flesh. To Him, righteous Father,

make entreaty that He grant His Great Mercy to our souls.

2) Thou wast a shining pillar of light raised up in virtues and a cloud overshadowing all them that were in the wilderness, and thou wentest before,

leading seers of God from earth to Heaven's heights.

By parting the passions' sea with the rod of the Savior's Cross and overcoming the invisible Amalek,
thou didst find a clear passage leading up Heaven-wards;

there hast thou gained thine ever-lasting portion, O blest of God,

as with the bodiless Angels, thou now dost stand at the throne of Christ in great joy and gladness.

Intercede with Him to grant His Great Mercy to our souls.

3) Rejoice, thou who abidest on high with the Angelic choirs, O famed Father Anthony;

for practicing every virtue through thine ascetic travails,

thou didst truly live the Angels' life on earth,
revealed as a looking-glass free of spot and exceeding clear,

ever receiving the bright lightnings and flashing beams

of the worshipful Holy Spirit, O blessed one.

foretelling all things, since thou wast taught by the

shinings of light divine which Christ shone upon thee.

Intercede with Him to grant His Great Mercy to our souls.