September 9th
The Holy & Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim & Anna
Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers

Byzantine Chant Tone 1
Special Melody: Thou art the joy

Verse: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear; and forget thine own people and thy father's house and the King shall greatly desire thy beauty.

1) Joachim joineth with Anna in keeping festival, having brought forth the first-fruit of our common salvation, the only Theotokos; and as we today keep the feast with them faithfully, we bless the undefiled Virgin, who hath sprung forth from that root of Jesse as foretold.

2) The Theotokos, the pure Maiden in whom God was contained, the Prophets' boast and glory, and the daughter of David, from Joachim and Anna the

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prudent and chaste now is born on this holy day

and by her birth overturneth the ancient curse which through Adam came upon our race.

Verse: The rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.

3) The land that once had been barren bringeth forth fruitful earth; a holy fruit is now born from a womb that was fruitless. O marvel great and fearful! With milk is she fed, she the nourisher of our life; she that received in her womb the celestial Bread now is suckled at her mother's breast.