Proto-martyr Thekla, Equal-to-the-Apostles
Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers

Byzantine Chant Tone 1
Special Melody: Thou art the joy

Verse: Her sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and her words unto the ends of the world.

1) As the all - laud ed First Martyr and the apostles' peer, O comely virgin Thekla, glory of martyred women, I cry to thee: Do thou, by thy<br>God-pleasing prayers, heal my soul of its bitter wounds and grievous passions, and swiftly deliver me from the fire that never shall be quenched.

2) Christ God's almighty divine power with a cloud of rain put out the flame, O Thekla, but be<br>dewd thee as faithful; and justly did it burn un -
lievers with fire; and deliv'ring thee wondrously
from being rended by bulls and by savage beasts,
it then glorified thee openly.

Verse: That we might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.

3) Loving the Bridegroom most comely in beauty
undeciled, thou didst renounce, O Thekla, thy betrothed and didst follow the words of Paul, the bridesman escorting the Church; and when thou hadst been slain like him
to gain the lot which is nothing but all delight,
thou wast wed to Christ, Whom thou didst love.