

May 21st

Equals-to-the-Apostles Constantine & Helen

Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
Special melody: *O strange wonder*

Adapted by Rassem El Massih
from various sources

1) Re-joyce, O great and all-wise Con-stantine, thou fount of
Or-thodox Faith, that dost wa-ter con-
-tin-ual-ly all the lands be-neath the sun
with thy sweet and de-light-ful streams. Re-joyce, O
root from the which there sprout-ed forth
the fruit that nour-ish-eth Christ's most ho-ly Church.
Re-joyce, thou most glo-ri-ous boast and fame of all the
Un. farth-est ends of earth, first of Chris-tian kings. Re-
-joyce, thou joy of faith-ful men.

May 21st - Constantine & Helen - Stichera at the Praises - 2

2) Since the King of all cre - at - ed things fore - saw thy
 good - ness of heart and thy read - y o -
 - be - di - ence, He through rea - son cap - tured thee
 when un - rea - son ruled o - ver thee; and hav - ing
 made thee to shine in heart and mind
 with cer - tain knowl - edge of god - ly pi - e - ty,
 He showed thee to the world as a shin - ing sun that
 send - eth forth the beams of all god - ly deeds, O
 wise and glo - rious Con - stan - tine.

3) When like choic - est earth thou hadst re - ceived the doc - trines
 taught of the Lord, O all - wise Hel - en
 praised of all, thou didst sprout a - bun - dant fruit
 of right vir - tu - ous life and works, there - by pro -
 vid - ing our minds with nour - ish - ment
 through thē ex - am - ple of thy good way of life.
 Where fore, we cel - e - brate thy me - mo - ri - al to -
 day with great de - light, keep - ing sol - emn fes - ti -
 val with ex - al - ta - tion and joy.

4) With the oil of glad - ness Thou, O Christ, in a most
 mar - vel - lous way didst a - noint Thy com -
 - mu - ni - cants, Con - stan - tine and Hel - en, who,
 hat - ing ev - 'ry de - ceit and lie, yearned for Thy
 beau - ty; and Thou didst free - ly grant
 Thy prom - ised King - dom of Heav - en un - to them
 who at Thine own be - hest first had ruled on earth in
 god - ly pi - e - ty and in true re - li - gion,
 O All - ho - ly Word of God.