

July 13th

Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas Monastery*

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

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

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources



1) O Fa - ther Ste - phen, God - bear - ing Saint, by for - ti -
- fy - ing thy mind with di - vine knowl - edge
bril - liant - ly, curb - ing wrath with man - li - ness,
and de - sire with so - bri - e - ty, thou didst di -
- rect all the pow - ers of thy soul
by means of right - eous - ness wrought through god - ly deeds,
and didst de - vise a fair char - i - ot of vir - tues,
where - on thou didst mount and as - cend on high in
joy, O thou most glo - ri - ous.

*According to some, there are two Saint Stephens of Mar Sabbas Monastery: one celebrated on July 13th being the nephew of St. John of Damascus; and that on October 28th being a bishop.

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2) O Fa - ther Ste - phen of god - ly speech, thou didst il -
 - lu - mine thy mind with the light of thē -
 - ol - o - gy, send - ing forth thy right - eous wrath
 as a spear - bear - ing war - ri - or a - gainst pro -
 - fane and blas - phem - ing her - e - sies;
 for thou didst long for di - vine de - light on high,
 which thou hast been vouch-safed to en - joy, O blest and
 right - eous man of God, stand - ing at the throne of
 thee Al - mighty King of all.

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3) O Fa - ther Ste - phen of god - ly speech, through zeal - ous
ab - sti - nence, thou didst in all ways con -
- strain thy mind, forc - ing it to mount on high
to the Pri - mal Cause, ē - ven God. When thou hadst
calmed ev - 'ry trou - bling from the world
and shak - en off its con - cerns and tur - bu - lence,
in thy mind's pu - ri - ty thou wast joined for ev - er
Un. to Him that in truth is the sum of all de -
- sires, O Saint of god - ly mind.