August 31st

Placing of the Sash of the Theotokos in Halkoprateia
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Mode 4
Special Melody: *As one valiant*

Adapted by Fr. John El Massih

1) For thy ser-vants, the hal-lowed shrine that con-tain-eth thy

spot-less sash dai-ly is made known__ as an

ark of ho-li-ness, a sa-cred for-tress a-

-round us__ and our glo - ry, our joy, and boast,

and a spring of end-less cures, O all-pure__ Moth-er

of our God. Where-at, on this day, we have sa - cred-ly

gath-ered here to praise in hymns thy might-y deeds un-

-num - bered and the great sea__ of thy mir-a-cles.

2) We all keep as a fes - ti - val the di - vine dep - o -

- si - tion of thine all - sa - cred sash,___ and we

might - i - ly re - joice. For on this day, thou hast

deigned to___ give it un - to thy cho - sen flock

as a sa - cred cov - er - ing, as a safe - guard in -

- vin - ci - ble, as a pre - cious gift, a se - cure___ wealth of

heal - ings, a great riv - er of the Ho - ly Spir - it's

grac - es, O The - o - to - kos and Bride of God.

3) Lo, the place pass - ing glo - ri - ous, lo, that house ev - er full of light, where - in grace hath treas - ured the pure and hon - ored sash of the most pure Child of God. Free - ly ap - proach,__ O ye sons of men, o - pen - ly draw forth to - day par - don, grace,__ and en - light - en - ment, and cry out to her with a heart__ full of grat - i - tude: We bless thee, O su - preme - ly ho - ly Vir - gin, we whom thy child - birth hath tru - ly saved.