

October 28th

# Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas Monastery in Palestine

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih  
from various sources

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

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,  
Un. where - on thou didst mount and as - cend on high in  
joy, O thou most right - eous one.

\*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.

October 28th - Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas - Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried" - 2

2) O Fa - ther Ste - phen of god - ly speech, thou didst il -  
 - lu - mine thy mind with the light of the -  
 - ol - o - gy, send - ing forth thy right - eous wrath  
 as a spear - bear - ing war - ri - or a - gainst pro -  
 - fan - e 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  
 the Al - mighty King of all.

October 28th - Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas - Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried" - 3



3) O Fa - ther Ste - phen of god - ly speech, through zeal - ous  
ab - sti - nence, thou didst in all ways en -  
- rich thy mind, mak - ing it to mount on high  
to the Pri - mal Cause, ē - ven God. Calm - ing the  
trou - bling of pas - sions per - fect - ly  
and shak - ing off all con - cerns and tur - bu - lence,  
in thy mind's pu - ri - ty thou wast joined for ev - er  
to Him that in truth is the sum of all de -  
- sires, O wise and god - ly Saint.