November 5: Martyrs Galacteon & Epistemi
Stichera on "Lord I have cried"
Tone 8, Special Melody "O most glorious wonder..."
Optina Hermitage

(3) Reader: In the 8th Tone, Special Melody: "O Most Glorious Wonder"
For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;

And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Nur-tured on the milk of faith, thou didst attain maturity in Christ because of thy many torments and tribulations, O Galacteon, having become an acceptable sacrifice and a perfect immolation.

English translation by Isaac E. Lambertyn, ©1998, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. III, St. John of Kronstadt Press. The complete service text may be purchased through: sjkp.org
through thy voluntary hastening to martyrdom, O thou who art most rich.

O thy firm and steadfast faith, whereby thou didst receive God,

O thou who art now deified most perfectly.

(2) Reader: O Praise the Lord, all ye nations;

Well spring of good things most earnestly desired,
and with the splendors thereof thou didst illuminate soul and mind,

O thou who art blessed of God; and with mighty opposition thou didst cast down

the ancient tyrant of great craft, O much suffering martyr

Epistemi, thou divine adornment of monasticities.

(1) Reader: For He hath made his mercy to prevail over us,

And the truth of the Lord abideth forever.
The two all-radiant luminaries of the noetic East shine forth with grace and piously illumine all creation with the transcendent splendors of their sufferings and the divine flames of healings. And honoring their most splendid feast, we glorify Christ who illumineth all for their sake.