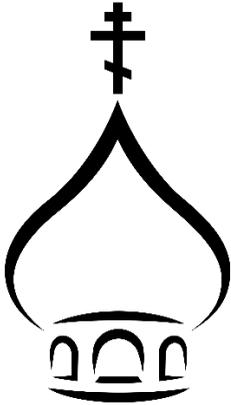


**Readers Vespers**  
Wednesday, July 15, 2020  
**Hieromartyr Athenogenes**



**SAINT NICHOLAS**  
**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**



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Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant  
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**Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:**

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

*(Please note - Information to be included in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)*

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# Readers Vespers

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

## Hieromartyr Athenogenes

At the appointed time we begin:

O God cleanse me a sinner and have mercy on me (3).

Blessed is our God, always now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Heavenly King, the comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, treasury of blessings and giver of life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3)

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. (Amen.)

Lord have mercy (12) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King! (metania)

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God! (metania)

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself our King and our God! (metania)

## **Psalm 104**

Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you have become exceedingly glorious; you are clothed with majesty and honor. You clothe yourself with light as with a garment, and spread out the heavens like a curtain. You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters, and make the clouds your chariot, and walk upon the wings of the wind. You make winds your messengers, and flames of fire your ministers. You laid the foundations of the earth, that it never should move at any time. You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stand above the hills. At your rebuke they fled; at the voice of your thunder they hastened away. They went up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath, even to the place you had appointed for them. You have set bounds for them which they shall not pass; neither shall they again cover the earth. You send the springs into the rivers, which run among the hills. All beasts of the field drink thereof, and the wild donkeys quench their thirst. Beside them shall the birds of the air have their habitation and sing among the branches. You water the hills from above; the earth is filled with the fruit of your works. You bring forth grass for the cattle, and plants for the service of mankind, That they may bring food out of the earth, and wine that makes glad the heart, and oil to make a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen the heart. The trees of the LORD also are full of sap, even the cedars of Lebanon which he planted, Wherein the birds make their nests, and the fir trees are a dwelling for the stork. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats, and so are the stony cliffs for the rock badgers. You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows its going down. You make darkness that it may be night, in which all the beasts of the forest move. The lions, roaring after their prey, seek their meat from God. The

sun arises, and they go away together, and lay themselves down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work, and to his labor until the evening. O LORD, how manifold are your works; in wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. So is the great and wide sea also, in which are things creeping innumerable, creatures both small and great. There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan, whom you made to take its pleasure therein. These all wait upon you, that you may give them food in due season. When you give it to them, they gather it, and when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are troubled; when you take away their breath, they die, and are turned again to their dust. When you let your breath go forth, they shall be made, and you shall renew the face of the earth. The glorious majesty of the LORD shall endure for ever; the LORD shall rejoice in his works. He looks at the earth and it trembles; if he even touches the hills, they shall smoke. I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being, And so shall my words please him; my joy shall be in the LORD. As for sinners, they shall perish from the earth, and the ungodly shall come to an end. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God! (3)

## **Great Litany**

*The regular petitions are not intoned, instead:*

Lord, have mercy! (12) Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. (Amen.)

## **Lord, I Call**

(Tone 4) Lord I call upon Thee, hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee, hear me O Lord! Let my prayer arise, in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands, be an evening sacrifice, hear me O Lord!

*(6) If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee.*

O ye glorious ones, who waged war with most mighty understanding, ye arrayed your-selves against the wicked foe, having valiantly armed yourselves with the weaponry of the Spirit, destroying all the might of the demons, and seizing men's souls like plunder; where-fore, we honour you forever, O apostles.

*(5) For thy name's sake have I patiently waited for thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for thy word: My soul hath hoped in the Lord*

Spreading out the net of the Faith in the form of the Cross, Thy twelve divine apostles dragged all the nations to the knowledge of Thee, O Christ, and dried up the salty sea of the passions; wherefore, I beseech Thee: at their wholly well-pleasing entreaties, call me up from the depths of transgressions.

*(4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch: Let Israel hope in the Lord.*

With hymns divine, let the divinely chosen and most honourable twelve apostles be praised: Peter, Paul and James, Luke and John, Matthew and Thomas, Mark, Simon and Philip, the all-glorious Andrew and Matthias, with the godly and all-wise Bartholomew, and the seventy others.

*(3) For, with the Lord, there is mercy; and, with Him, is plenteous redemption: And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

(Tone 8) The glorious Athenogenes, vested in the splendid raiment of the priesthood, shewed it to be yet more pure when dyed in his blood: entering the holy temple therewith, appearing before Him that seeth all things, and ministering to Him with the immaterial ranks, he is illumined with divine communion: we call him blessed.

*(2) O praise the Lord, all ye nations: Praise Him, all ye people.*

The most-wise Athenogenes hath, through faith, led to Christ a choir of athletes who suffered steadfastly, and finished the course: and, with them, having vanquished the one of great craft, he hath been received into the choir of martyrs, deified by communion, and always prayeth for us, who ever remember his sacred memory.

*(1) For His merciful kindness is great towards us: And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

The ten divinely-elect disciples suffered, bringing low the uprisings of the passions by feats of fasting, and slew the serpent, having acquired Athenogenes as a sacred instructor, through the power of God; by their supplications, save us, O compassionate One, who ever trust in Thee, the most-good One.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Save me, O all-pure Mistress, who ineffably gavest birth to Christ the Saviour; for thee have I acquired as mine only intercessor and invincible rampart, my protection and joy, and the divine consolation of my soul; wherefore, deliver me from the worm which sleepeth not, \* and from everlasting fire, O Mother of Christ God.

Wisdom! Let us attend!

### **Gladsome Light**

O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed, O Jesus Christ! Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit! For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise O Son of God, and Giver of Life. Therefore all the world doth glorify Thee!

### **Evening Prokeimenon**

Wisdom! Let us Attend! The Prokeimenon in the 5<sup>th</sup> tone: Save me, O God, by Thy name and judge me by Thy strength!

*Verse: Hear my prayer, O God, hearken to the words of my mouth!*

### **Vouchsafe, O Lord**

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes! Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understand Thy statutes! Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy statutes! Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

### **Litany of Supplication**

*The regular petitions are not intoned, instead:*

Lord, have mercy! (12) Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. (Amen.)

### **Aposticha**

Thou enlightenedst the choir of the apostles with the Holy Spirit, O Christ God. By them, wash away the defilement of our sin, and have mercy on us.

*Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God: Until he have mercy upon us.*

Thy Holy Spirit, being almighty, revealed the illiterate disciples to be tutors, O Christ God, and, with their greatly eloquent harmony, set at naught the deception of the pagans.

*Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we are exceedingly filled with contempt. Our soul is exceedingly filled with humiliation; let reproach come upon the wealthy: And abasement on the proud.*

O ye martyrs of the Lord, living oblations, spiritual burnt offerings, perfect victims offered unto God, sheep that know God, and are known by Him, whose

fold no wolf can enter: pray ye that we be led with you to feed also be-side the water of peace.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Deliver us from our necessities, O Mother of Christ God, who gavest birth to the Creator of all, that we may all cry out to thee: 'Rejoice, O only intercessor for our souls'.

### **St. Symeon's Prayer**

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to enlighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people, Israel.

### **Trisagion (Thrice Holy)**

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. (Amen.)

## **Troparia**

(Tone 3) O holy apostles, entreat the merciful God, that He may grant unto our souls remission of transgressions.

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

(Tone 4) In truth, thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility, and a teacher of abstinence: thy humility exalted thee; and thy poverty enriched thee; O hierarch, Father Nicholas, entreat Christ our God that our souls be saved.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Tone 4) The Word of the Father, even Christ our God, Who was truly incarnate of thee, have we come to know, O Virgin Theotokos, who alone art pure, who alone art blessed: wherefore, we unceasingly magnify thee in song.

## **Dismissal**

Wisdom! Blessed be He Who Is, Christ our God, always now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Preserve O God, the Holy Orthodox faith of Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

Most holy Theotokos, save us! More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim: without defilement thou gavest birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify thee!

Glory to Thee, O Christ our God, and our only sure hope, glory to Thee!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Lord have Mercy (3)

Lord Bless.

May Christ our True God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, of the glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, the patron of this holy house, of **the Hieromartyr Athenogenes** who we commemorate today, of all those Saints who have shone forth in this North American land, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for as much as He is good and loves mankind. Amen.

Heavenly Father...

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent Your only-begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit and heal us, Your Servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments, through the grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your Word to pray for each other that we may be healed. For You are the source of healing, and to You we give glory; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Prayers at the Divine Liturgy for the Health of the Servants of God:**

**Igumen David Lewis**

**Archbishop David Mahaffey**

**Archpriests:** Thomas Edwards, John Perich, Rodion Pfeifer, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic

**Priests:** Matthew Joyner, Ian Shipley, John Nightingale

**Matushki:** Ashley Joyner, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Maryann Oselinsky, Priscilla Shipley, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic

**Servants:** Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Jennifer Bzik, Helen Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, David Gowarty, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Greg Konsevitch, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Mary Orzolek, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Gordon Roberts, Clara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Robert Schainfeld, Cate Shea, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, John Uzick, Irene Witaneck

**Child of God:** Emily Estrin

**Please remember them and all our homebound and nursing home parishioners in your daily intercessory prayers.**