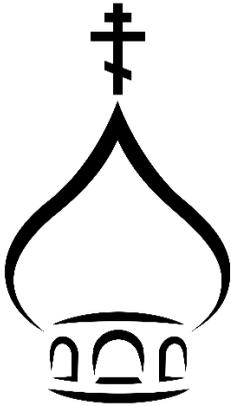


Readers Vespers

Wednesday, July 29, 2020

**Commemoration of Holy Apostles Silas,
Silouan (Silvanus) and those with them**



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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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)

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402
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Readers Vespers

Wednesday, July 29, 2020

Commemoration of Holy Apostles Silas, Silouan (Silvanus) and those with them

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 1) 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!

Verse: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? * For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Ye became ministers of the great mysteries of God, O theologians and disciples who beheld God, and have received the grace of healings; curing the diseases of all.

Verse: 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.

Ye are the great refuge and protection of our souls and the expulsion of evil spirits, O apostles of the Lord who beheld God; wherefore, we ever honor you.

Verse: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch * let Israel hope in the Lord.

From every evil circumstance, from harm wrought by the demons, from transgressions and wretched captivity, deliver those who honor you with faith, O divine and blessed apostles.

Verse: For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him there is plenteous redemption; * and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

O blessed Nicholas, have pity on me who fall prostrate, I beseech thee, and enlighten the eyes of my soul, that I may gaze with purity upon the compassionate Bestower of light.

Verse: O praise the Lord, all ye nations; * praise Him, all ye peoples.

As thou hast boldness before God, O holy one, deliver me from the enemy who seeks to oppress me. O blessed hierarch Nicholas, save me from harm and deliver me from men of blood.

Verse: For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, * and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

We, the faithful, have now acquired thee as a calm haven, an unassailable rampart, a pillar of strength, a door to repentance, and the guide and bulwark of our souls, O holy hierarch.

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

Theotokion

Envyng thy flock, O most pure one, the wicked adversary ever striveth to make it his food; but do thou, O Theotokos, deliver us from his harm.

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 5th 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

Once, the apostles trolled the depths of the sea with nets, O Lord, and likewise the heights of the kingdom for the sake of their doctrines. In the first, they skillfully tested the unfathomable depths; and in the other they attained through faith Thine infinite bosom, and they proclaimed Thy timeless Son to the world. By their supplications and those of all the saints, have mercy on us.

Verse: Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, * until He take pity on us.

Once, when Thy disciples were tempest-tossed in a boat, O Christ, they cried out: "O Master, save us! For we are perishing!" And we now cry aloud: We pray Thee O our Savior and Lover of mankind, deliver us from our tribulations!

Verse: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, * and abasement on the proud.

Martyricon

Thy Cross was the invincible weapon of the martyrs, O Lord; for they looked upon imminent death, foreseeing the life which is to come, and they were strengthened by hope in Thee. By their prayers have mercy upon us!

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

Theotokion

The eye of my heart longingly seeketh thee, * O Lady; disdain not my feeble sigh. * At the hour when thy Son shall judge the world, ** be thou my protection and helper.

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

As He was putting to death the great deceiver, The most-pure Lády cried bitterly before Him who came forth from her womb, And marveling at His longsuffering, she cried aloud: O my most-beloved Child, forget me not, Thy servant! Do not delay my consolation, O Lover of mankind!

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

The Troparion of the Apostles, in Tone 3:

O holy apostles Silas and Sílouan, Intercede with our merciful God, That He may grant to our souls The remission of our transgressions.

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

Thy ewe-lamb Febronia, O Jesus, crieth out to Thee with a loud voice: "I love Thee, O my bridegroom; and, seeking Thee, I pass through many struggles; I am crucified and buried with Thee in Thy baptism, and suffer, for Thy sake, that I might reign with Thee; I die for Thee, that I might live with Thee; as an unblemished sacrifice, accept me, which sacrifice myself with love for Thee"; at her prayers, in that Thou art merciful, save our souls.

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

The Word of the Father, even Christ our God, which was truly in-car-nate of thee, have we come to know, O Virgin Theo-to - kos, which alone art pure, which alone art bles-sed; wherefore, we unceasingly mag-ni-fy 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 corruption 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 Holy Apostles Silas, Silouan (Silvanus) and those with them** 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, Kylie Pinho, 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 Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

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