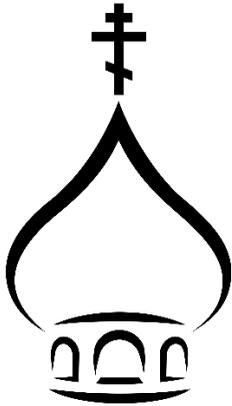


Great Vespers

Saturday, August 1, 2020

Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen



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)

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stnicholasoca.org

Great Vespers

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Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen

Lord, I Call

(Tone 7) 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!

(10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

Tone 7 *(for the Resurrection)*

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, Who destroyed the dominion of death! Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts, for He enlightened the race of man! O our Maker and Savior, glory to Thee!

(9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake. By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God. We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Savior, glory to Thee!

(8) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker, they were amazed and sang the angelic praise. This is the glory of the Church. This is the richness of the Kingdom. O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee!

(7) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ, but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed. Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee. Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it, for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life. O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

(6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Fulfilling the prophecy of David, Christ manifested His greatness in Zion to the disciples. He is praised and always glorified, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit. At first as the Word, He was bodiless, but then He took flesh and was slain for our sake. He rose in power as the Lover of man!

(5) For Thy name's sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Thou didst descend into hell as thou didst will, O Christ, overthrowing death as God and rising on the third day as Master! With Thyself Thou didst raise Adam from the bonds of hell and from corruption! Glory to Thy Resurrection, O only Lover of man!

(4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 8 *(for Protomartyr Stephen)* *(O most glorious wonder)*

O Stephen, chosen by the Apostles, the first among the martyrs to suffer and the foundation of those who serve as deacons: thou dost enlighten with unfading light those who celebrate thy radiant feast with splendor, giving grace and mercy to thy servants. By thy prayers, O martyr, guide them to everlasting life!

(3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O Stephen, thou martyr of Christ, thou didst receive a crown of grace on thy head in accordance with thy name. Thou didst adorn thy neck with a chain of virtues as with gold and becamest an all-wise dwelling of the Wisdom cherished

by thee, keeping it as thy beloved. Therefore thou hast been honored with grace and glory.

(2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

O most honored Stephen, first of the martyrs to suffer, thou art crowned with grace and glory, O Apostle. When thou wast stoned, thou didst offer a crown to our King and God, spiritual and more valued than gold and precious stones. Thy deeds and name are beautiful. Keep us all in remembrance!

(1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Tone 2 *(for Protomartyr Stephen, by Anatolius)*

O most holy Stephen, thou didst appear as first among deacons and first among martyrs, for thy path was to holy things, and thou didst lead many martyrs to the Lord. Thus, heaven was opened, and God appeared to thee. Entreat Him that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 6 *(for Protomartyr Stephen, by Anatolius)*

O Apostle Stephen, thou wast shown to be first among martyrs and deacons; the adornment of athletes, the strength of the faithful, and the glory of the righteous. As thou standest before the throne of Christ, the King of all, ask that those who celebrate thine honored memory may be counted worthy to be cleansed of their sins and to inherit the Kingdom of heaven!

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

Tone 7 *(Theotokion - Dogmatikon)*

No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing, for the order of nature was overruled by God. Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature, for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding. Thy conception was

most glorious, O Theotokos! The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin! Knowing thee to be the Mother of God, devoutly we pray to thee: "Beseech Him to save our souls!"

Aposticha

Tone 7 *(for the Resurrection)*

As the Savior of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb. As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh. O Lord, glory to Thee!

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead, and enlightened all creation! By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell. By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ. In three days Thou didst rise again, resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection, O Lord and Lover of man.

Holiness befitteth Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep, the sight was great and awesome. But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God, Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself. Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

Tone 8 *(for Protomartyr Stephen, by Cyprian)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O crown-bearing Stephen, for thou didst follow thy Master, and wast the first martyr of Christ our King! Thou hast abolished the deception of the Enemy, and dost pray to the Lord on our behalf.

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

Tone 8 *(Theotokion)*

O unwedded Virgin, who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh, O Mother of God most high, accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one! Grant cleansing of transgressions to all! Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

Troparia

Tone 7 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

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

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(Protomartyr Stephen)*

Thy relics have risen from the depths of the earth, like a treasury for the immortal life of all creation. The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them, duteously honors thee, O Protomartyr Stephen. Preserve us from error and heresy by thy intercession!

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

Tone 4 **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

The mystery of all eternity, unknown even by Angels, through thee, O Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth: God incarnate by union without confusion. He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us, by which He resurrected the first-created man, saving our souls from death.

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 Pfeiffer, 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.