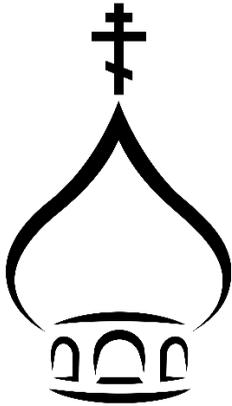


# Readers Vespers

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

**Leavetaking of the Transfiguration**

**St. Tikhon, Bishop of Vorónezh, Wonderworker of Zadónsk and All Russia**



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



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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, August 12, 2020

## Leavetaking of the Transfiguration

**St. Tikhon, Bishop of Vorónezh, Wonderworker of Zadónsk and All Russia**

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!

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

**Tone 4**      *Idiomela*      *(for the Feast, by Cosmas the Monk)*

Before Thy Crucifixion, O Lord, the mountain became as heaven, and like a tabernacle the cloud spread itself out, when Thou wast transfigured, and the Father bore witness to Thee. Peter was present with James and John, since they were to be with Thee at the time of Thy betrayal, that, having seen Thy wondrous works, they might not be afraid of Thy sufferings. Grant us to venerate Thy sufferings in peace, through Thy mercy!

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

(Repeat: "Before Thy Crucifixion, O Lord, the mountain...")

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

Before Thy Crucifixion, O Lord, Thou didst take Thy Disciples to a high mountain and wast transfigured before them, illumining them with bright rays of Thy pow'r. From love of man and in Thy sovereign might, it was Thy desire to show them the splendor of Thy Resurrection. In peace count us also worthy of this splendor, O God, in Thy mercy and Thy love for mankind!

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

(Repeat: "Before Thy Crucifixion, O Lord, Thou didst take...")

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

The mountain that once was veiled in gloom and smoke, is now holy and revered, since Thy feet, O Lord, have stood upon it. For by Thy dread Transfiguration, the mystery hidden before the ages has been made manifest in the last times to Peter, James, and John. Unable to endure the shining of Thy face and the brilliance of Thy garments, they fell to the ground upon their faces. Seized with wonder and amazement, they saw Moses and Elijah talking with Thee about the things that would befall Thee; and a voice came in testimony from the Father saying: "This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased; listen to Him!" It is He Who grants the world great mercy!

*(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.*

When Thou wast transfigured upon a high mountain, O Savior, having with Thee the chief Disciples, Thou didst shine forth in glorious majesty, proving that those who excel in the height of their virtues shall be made worthy of divine glory. Moses and Elijah, talking with Christ, showed that He is Lord of both the living and the dead, the God Who spoke of old through the Law and the Prophets. The voice of the Father testified to Him from the cloud of light, saying: "Listen to Him, Who through the Cross has despoiled hell and has given the dead eternal life!"

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

**Tone 8**      *(for St. Tikhon)*

Come, all Orthodox people, let us praise with divine hymns the Hierarch and Wonderworker Tikhon: the lamp shining with the divine light of Christ, who shone in his dark age, instructor of Orthodox dogmas, denouncer of false teachings, eloquent preacher of repentance, true teacher of the commandments of Christ who himself fulfilled and taught them. Falling down at the shrine of his holy relics, which grant many healings, let us with compunction cry out to him: "Enlighten us, our Father, with the light of thy understanding of God, lifting us up from the sleep of sins by the fear of the awesome punishment and judgment of God. Make firm our footsteps on the path of Christ's commandments, and pray that our souls may be saved!"

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

O divinely-wise God-bearer Tikhon, elect vessel of blessings, pure abode of the Trinity, precious house of virtues, from thy youth thou hast followed after Christ and hast completed the course very well, preserving the Faith until the very end. Therefore thou didst receive a crown of righteousness from Christ God. Entreat Him ceaselessly that our souls may be saved!

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

O most noble shepherd, pillar and beauty of the Church, bright praise of Orthodoxy, the Holy Spirit ordained thee to shepherd the flock of Christ. Thou didst tend it well, perfecting priests and instructing the people, and correcting those who had lost their way. Thou didst become the protection of the affronted, the refuge of widows and orphans, and thou didst nourish the needy as well. Now, as thou standest before the Chief Shepherd, pray that our souls may be saved!

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

O Teacher of golden words, divine organ of the Holy Spirit, O herald of the truth of Christ, preacher of repentance, leading the unworthy and making them honorable, thou wast the mouth of the Lord, pouring out to all the words of eternal life. Pray now that our souls may be saved!

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

## **Tone 8**      *(for St. Tikhon)*

Come, O faithful, let us glorify the blessed hierarch Tikhon, who abides in the heavens with the angelic choirs, rejoicing with the Prophets and Apostles, the Hierarchs and Martyrs, and who makes glad with the venerable and righteous ones, gazing on Christ God, not as in a mirror or in riddles but face to face. On earth his precious body is adorned with incorruption, pouring out streams of healings to those who hasten to it with faith and love. Therefore we beseech thee, O Hierarch: be an ardent intercessor for us before the throne of God, as thou hast great confidence to approach Him!

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

## **Tone 6**      *(for the Feast, by Anatolius)*

Prefiguring Thy Resurrection, O Christ our God, Thou didst take with Thee in Thine ascent of Mount Tabor Thy three Disciples, Peter, James and John. When Thou wast transfigured, O Savior, Mount Tabor was covered with light. Thy Disciples, O Word, threw themselves down upon the ground, unable to gaze upon the form that none may see. The Angels ministered in fear and trembling; the heavens shook and the earth quaked, as they beheld on earth the Lord of Glory.

## **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**

**Tone 1**      *Idiomela*      (for the Feast)

He Who of old spoke through symbols to Moses on Mount Sinai saying: "I am He Who is," was transfigured today upon Mount Tabor before the Disciples. In His own person He showed them the nature of man arrayed in the original beauty of the Image. Calling Moses and Elijah to be witnesses of this surpassing grace, He made them partakers of the gladness, foretelling His death on the Cross and His saving Resurrection.

*The heavens art Thine, the earth also is Thine; the world and all that is in it, Thou hast founded them! (Ps 88/89:11)*

David, the ancestor of God, foresaw in the Spirit the sojourn with men of the only-begotten Son in the flesh, and from afar, called the creation together to rejoice with him, prophetically lifting up his voice to cry: "Tabor and Hermon

shall rejoice in Thy name!" For Thou didst go up to this mountain with Thy Disciples and wast transfigured, O Christ, making the image that had grown dark in Adam to shine once again like lightning, and transforming it into the glory and splendor of Thine own Divinity. Therefore we cry aloud to Thee: "O Lord and Creator of all things, glory to Thee!"

*Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in Thy name! (Ps 88/89:12)*

When the chosen Apostles beheld upon the mountain of the Transfiguration the overwhelming flood of Thy light, O Christ who hast no beginning, and Thine unapproachable Divinity, they were caught up in a divine trance. The cloud of light shone around them on every side, and they heard the voice of the Father confirming the mystery of Thine incarnation, that even after taking flesh, Thou remainest the only-begotten Son and the Savior of the world! *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

**Tone 8**      *(for St. Tikhon)*

What shall we call thee, O Hierarch Tikhon: Good shepherd, since thou wast prepared to lay down thine own soul for thy flock? Successor to the Apostles, since by thy writings thou didst instruct all? Praise of the ascetics and adornment of monks, since thou didst take up vigils, labors, and monastic fasting? Earthly angel and heavenly man, since thou didst live on earth in a truly peaceful way? Son of God, for thou didst love peacemaking more than all else? Pray now to Christ God to bring peace to the world and to establish firmly the Holy Church!

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

**Tone 6**      *(for the Feast)*

Today on Mount Tabor, O Lord, Thou hast shown the glory of Thy divine form to Thy chosen Disciples, Peter, James and John. For they looked upon Thy garments that gleamed like the light and at Thy face that shone more than the sun. Unable to endure the vision of Thy brightness that none can bear, they fell to the earth, powerless to gaze at the sight, for they heard a voice that bore witness from above: "This is My beloved Son Who has come into the world to save mankind!"

## **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 8      Troparion      (St. Tikhon)**

From thy youth thou didst love Christ, O blessed one. Thou hast been an example for all by word, life, love, faith, purity, and humility. Therefore, thou

dost now abide in the heavenly mansions, where thou standest before the throne of the All-holy Trinity. Holy Hierarch Tikhon, pray for the salvation of our souls!

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

**Tone 7      Troparion    (Feast)**

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos! O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

**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 St. Tikhon, Bishop of Vorónezh, Wonderworker of Zadónsk and All Russia** 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.**