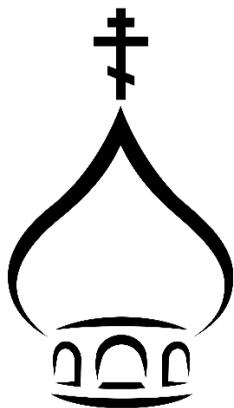


Great Vespers

Friday, August 28, 2020

**The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner, and Baptist John**



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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Great Vespers

Friday, August 28, 2020

The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John

Lord, I Call

(Tone 6) 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!

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

Tone 6 *Idiomela* (by John the Monk)

During the celebration of shameless Herod's birthday, the terms of the oath to the wanton dancer were fulfilled, for the Baptist's head was cut off and carried like food on a platter in the presence of those reclining at the loathsome banquet. Truly they feasted on wickedness and murder. But let us bless the Forerunner as is his due, and honor him as the greatest born of women!

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

(Repeat: "During the celebration of shameless Herod's birthday...")

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

The dance of the devil's disciple was rewarded with thy head, O Forerunner. Oh, banquet of blood! Would that thou hadst never sworn, deceitful Herod! Better that thou lie than shed righteous blood! But let us bless the Baptist as is his due, and honor him as the greatest born of women!

(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.

(Repeat: "The dance of the devil's disciple...")

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

In demonic love and fiery passion, O Herod, thou didst condemn him who reproved thine adultery. For the sake of an oath to a dancing girl, thou didst deliver his holy head to that Jezebel. Woe to thee! How hast thou dared such murder? Why was the wanton dancer not consumed by fire? But let us bless the Baptist as is his due, and honor him as the greatest born of women!

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

(Repeat: "In demonic love and fiery passion...")

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

Again Herodias raves with raging lust. Oh, dance of deceit and feast of murder! The Baptist is beheaded, and Herod is troubled. Through the prayers of Thy Forerunner, O Lord, grant peace to our souls!

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

(Repeat: "Again Herodias raves with raging lust...")

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

Tone 6

During the celebration of shameless Herod's birthday, the terms of the oath to the wanton dancer were fulfilled, for the Baptist's head was cut off and carried like food on a platter in the presence of those reclining at the loathsome banquet. Truly they feasted on wickedness and murder. But let us bless the Forerunner as is his due, and honor him as the greatest born of women!

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

Tone 2 *(Theotokion - Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came; as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed, so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin. The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame. Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

Aposticha

Tone 2

O Baptist John, preacher of repentance, when thy head was cut off, thou didst sanctify the earth; for thou didst make clear God's Law to the faithful destroying lawlessness. As thou standest before the throne of the heavenly King, entreat Him to have mercy on our souls!

*The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
(Ps 91/92:12)*

O most holy John, thou wast beheaded for the sake of the Law of the Lord. Filled with boldness of speech, thou didst rebuke the evil king for his transgression of the Law. The host of Angels marvel at thy strength; the choir of Apostles and Martyrs praise thee. We also celebrate thy yearly commemoration, glorifying the Holy Trinity Who crowned thee, O most blessed Forerunner.

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and shall hope in Him! (Ps 63/64:10)

The Prophet from among the Prophets, and greater than all the Prophets, sanctified from his mother's womb to the Lord's service, today has been beheaded by a lawless king; and openly rebuking the woman who danced immodestly, both before and after his beheading, he put shame upon that sinful gathering. Thus, we cry out: "O Baptist John, as thou hast boldness to speak, intercede on behalf of our souls!"

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

Tone 8

O Forerunner of the Savior, thou didst rebuke kings so that they would not work iniquity; but the frolicking of a lawless woman persuaded Herod to cut off thy head. Therefore we bless thy name from the rising to the setting of the sun. Since thou standest with boldness before the Lord, earnestly entreat Him to save our souls!

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 2 Troparion

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou wast shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets, for thou wast deemed worthy to baptize in the steams of the Jordan Him Whom they foretold. Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy, thou didst proclaim to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh, Who takes away the sin of the world, and grants us great mercy.

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

Tone 2 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

All beyond thought, all most glorious, are thy mysteries, O Theotokos. Sealed in purity, preserved in virginity, thou wast revealed to be the true Mother who gavest birth to the True God. Entreat Him to save our souls.

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.