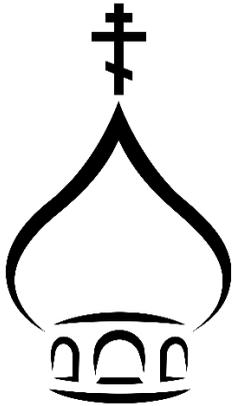


Great Vespers

Monday, September 7, 2020

The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary



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

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The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

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 Patriarch Sergius)*

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones, has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth. He Who in wisdom established the heavens has fashioned a living heaven in His love for mankind; for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch spring up for us, even His Mother. O God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless, O Lord, glory to Thee!

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

This is the day of the Lord! Rejoice, O peoples, for, behold, the bridal chamber of the Light, the book of the Word of Life, has come forth from the womb! The gate that faces the East is born and awaits the entry of the Great Priest. She alone admits Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls.

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

Although by God's will other barren women have brought forth famous offspring, yet, of all those children Mary shines most brightly, as is fitting to God. For she herself was born wondrously of a barren mother, and gave birth in the flesh to the God of all, in a manner surpassing nature, from a womb without seed. She is the only gateway of the only-begotten Son of God, Who passed

through this gate yet kept it closed, and, having ordered all things in His own wisdom, has wrought salvation for all mankind.

(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: "Although by God's will...")

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

Tone 6 (by Stephen of Jerusalem)

Today the gates of barrenness are opened, and the virgin gate of God comes forth. Today grace begins to bear its first fruit, revealing to the world the Mother of God. Through her things on earth are joined with the heavens for the salvation of our souls.

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

(Repeat: "Today the gates of barrenness are opened...")

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

Today is the prelude of universal joy; today the winds blow that herald salvation, and the barrenness of our nature is dispelled; for the barren woman is revealed as the mother of her who remained a virgin after giving birth to the Creator. From her the One Who is God by nature takes what is foreign to Him and makes it His own; and works salvation through the flesh for those who have gone astray. He is Christ, the Lover of man and the Redeemer of our souls.

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

Today barren Anna gives birth to the handmaid of God, who was chosen from all generations to become the abode of the King and Creator of all, Christ our

God in fulfillment of the divine plan. Through her we earth-born have been fashioned anew and restored from corruption to life eternal.

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

Tone 6 *Idiomelon* (by Patriarch Sergius)

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones, has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth. He Who in wisdom established the heavens has fashioned a living heaven in His love for mankind; for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch spring up for us, even His Mother. O God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Aposticha

Tone 4 (by Patriarch Germanos)

The joy of all the world has dawned for us from the righteous ones; the all-praised Virgin who springs from Joachim and Anna. Through the abundance of goodness she becomes the living temple of God, and she alone is acknowledged as truly the Theotokos. Through her prayers, O Christ God, send peace to the world and to our souls great mercy!

Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear! (Ps 44/45:10)

As foretold by the Angel's prophecy, thou hast come forth today, O Virgin, the most sacred fruit of righteous Joachim and Anna. Thou art the heaven and throne of God, the vessel of purity, heralding joy to all the world, thou that bringest us our life; thou dost destroy the curse and givest blessing in its stead. Wherefore on this feast of thy birth, O Maiden called by God, entreat peace for the world and for our souls great mercy!

Even the rich among the people shall pray before thy face. (Ps 44/45:12)

Let the barren and childless Anna today clap her hands with gladness! Let those on earth be decked in splendor; let rulers leap for joy; let priests be glad in

blessing; let the whole world keep the feast! For behold the Queen and immaculate bride of the Father has sprung forth from the root of Jesse. No longer will women bear children in sorrow, for joy has blossomed forth, and the Life of mankind now dwells in the world. No longer are the offerings of Joachim be turned away, for the lamentation of Anna has been changed to joy. She cries: "Rejoice with me, all you chosen of Israel, for behold, the Lord has given me the living palace of His divine glory for our common gladness and joy and 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 8 *(by Sergius of the Holy City)*

Come, all you faithful, let us run to the Virgin! For, behold, today she is born, who was foreordained before the womb, as the Mother of our God, the treasure of virginity, the rod of Aaron that budded, springing from the root of Jesse, the preaching of the Prophets, the offspring of righteous Joachim and Anna. She is born and with her the world is renewed. She comes from the womb and the Church is adorned in her majesty. She is the holy temple, the vessel of the Godhead, the virgin instrument and bridal chamber of the King, in which has come to pass the strange mystery of the union of the natures that came together in Christ. Worshiping Him, we praise the birth of the all-pure Virgin.

Troparia

Tone 4 Troparion

Thy nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from thee, O Theotokos. By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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.