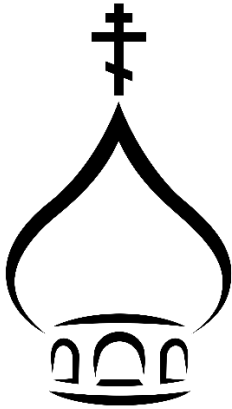


Great Vespers

Sunday, September 13, 2020

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross



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

Sunday, September 13, 2020

The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

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 *(Having placed all their hope)*

As the Cross is lifted on high, it urges all of creation to praise the undefiled Passion of Christ, Who was lifted up on it. For by the Cross He killed the one who killed us, and brought us back to life when we were dead. He adorned us in beauty, and in His compassion made us worthy to live in heaven. Therefore we rejoice and exalt His name, and magnify His infinite condescension.

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

(Repeat: "As the Cross is lifted on high...")

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

(Repeat: "As the Cross is lifted on high...")

(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.

Moses prefigured thee, O precious Cross, when he stretched out his hands on high, and put the tyrant Amalek to flight. Thou art the boast of the faithful, the support of those who suffer, the glory of the Apostles, the champion of the

Righteous, and the preservation of all the Saints. Therefore, beholding thee raised on high, creation rejoices and celebrates, glorifying Christ Who has joined together through thee that which was divided in His infinite goodness.

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

(Repeat: "Moses prefigured thee, O precious Cross...")

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

(Repeat: "Moses prefigured thee, O precious Cross...")

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

O most venerable Cross, attended by ranks of rejoicing angels, as thou art exalted today at the divine command, thou dost lift up again all those who through the stolen food had been cast out and were sunk in death. Therefore, as we venerate thee in faith with heart and lips, we draw sanctification from thee and cry aloud: "Exalt Christ, the God transcendent in goodness, and venerate His divine footstool!"

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

(Repeat: "O most venerable Cross...")

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

Tone 2

Come, all you nations, let us fall down in worship before the blessed Tree, by which eternal justice has come to pass! For he who deceived Adam by a Tree is caught by the lure of the Cross; and he who held under his tyranny the creature endowed by God with royal dignity is brought down in a headlong fall. The

serpent's venom is washed away by the blood of God, and the curse of just condemnation is undone when the Just One is condemned by an unjust judgment. For it was fitting that the Tree should be healed by a Tree, and that by the Passion of the passionless God what was wrought on the Tree should destroy the passions of man, who was condemned. But glory to Thy dread dispensation for our sakes, O Christ the King, through which Thou hast saved us all since Thou art good and the Lover of man!

Aposticha

Tone 5 *Automelon*

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross: invincible triumph of godliness, gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful! The Cross is the might of the Church, through which corruption is abolished, through which the power of death is crushed and we are raised from earth to heaven. O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons, the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of ven'erable saints, and the haven of salvation, which grants the world great mercy.

Extol the Lord our God: and worship at His footstool for He is holy! (Ps 98/99:5)

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord, through which mankind has been delivered from the curse! Thou art a sign of true joy, shattering our enemies by thine Exaltation. O Cross, worthy of all honor, thou art our help, thou art the strength of kings. Thou art the power of the righteous. Thou art the majesty of priests. All who sign themselves with thee are freed from danger. O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended, thou art a weapon of peace round which the angels stand in fear. Thou art the divine glory of Christ, Who grants the world great mercy.

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps 73/74:12)

Rejoice, O guide of the blind, physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead; thou hast raised us up when we were fallen into mortality, O precious Cross! Through thee corruption has been destroyed, and incorruption has blossomed forth. We mortals are made divine, and the devil is completely

overthrown. Today, as we see thee exalted by the hands of bishops, we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon thee, and we fall down in worship before thee, drawing rich streams of 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 8 *(by John the Monk)*

Thy precious Cross, O Christ God, which Moses of old prefigured in his own person when he overthrew Amalek and put him to flight; which David commanded to be worshipped, calling it Thy footstool: this same Cross we sinners worship today with unworthy lips. We praise Thee Who wast pleased to be nailed upon it, and we cry to Thee: "With the thief, make us worthy of Thy Kingdom, O Lord!"

Troparia

Tone 1 Troparion

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation!

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 Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

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