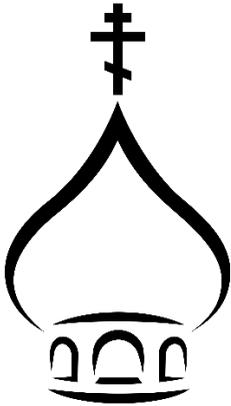


# Great Vespers

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

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



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



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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

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

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

### Lord, I Call

(Tone 1) 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 1**      *(for the Protection)*      *(Oh, the Marvelous Wonder)*

O pure Theotokos, fount of wisdom, and great help to those in distress, thou art a speedy aid, protectress, and support of the world. We the faithful sing in praise of her who is a sea of compassion, ineffably praising her radiant omophorion: "Rejoice, O Maiden, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, granting the world great mercy through thee!"

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

The wondrous Isaiah prophesied: "In the latter days," said he, "it will come to pass that the mountain of the Lord shall be revealed, and the house of the Lord shall be upon the summit of the mountain." And of this, O sovereign Lady, we have seen in thee the true fulfillment. For the mountains and hills are adorned with churches that bear the many names of thy festivals. Therefore, joyfully we sing to thee: "Rejoice, O highly favored Maiden, the Lord is with thee, granting the world great mercy through thee!"

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

Oh, how marvelous an adornment art thou to all the faithful! Thou art the true fulfillment of the prophecies, the glory of the Apostles and the beauty of the

Martyrs, the boast of virginity and the marvelous protection of the whole world. O sovereign Lady, protect with the omophorion of thy tender mercy all the people who cry out to thee: "Rejoice, O Virgin, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, granting the world great mercy through thee!"

*(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.*

**Tone 4**      *(for the Protection)*      *(As one valiant among the martyrs)*

Thou art like the divinely planted Paradise, O Theotokos, the place where the Tree of Life was watered by the Holy Spirit. We acknowledge that thou gavest birth to the Creator of all Who feeds the faithful with the Bread of Life. Together with the Forerunner, entreat Him on our behalf; and by thy precious omophorion protect thy people from all attacks!

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

Heaven and earth are sanctified; the Church is radiant, and all the people celebrate, for behold, the Mother of God enters invisibly with the armies of the Angels, the Forerunner, and the Theologian, the Prophets, and the Apostles! She prays to Christ for Christians and entreats Him to have mercy on this land and its people, who glorify the feast of her Protection.

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

**Tone 1**      *(for St. Romanus)*      *(Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

The melodious harp of the Divine Spirit, the flute of the Church, the nightingale, the cicada, chanting the hymns of God, places his melodious compositions before us all, gladdening those who are wise in God.

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

The most radiant and shining lamp-stand, the sweetly-sounding harp whose strings are the words of the Spirit, true in meaning, sings and teaches to the ends of the earth, glorifying the brightness of God with never-ceasing hymns.

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

Now thou standest with boldness, O Father, before the Master of all.  
Pray that we who celebrate thy memory and thy splendid feast  
may be delivered from misfortunes and dangers, //  
O divinely blessed Romanus!

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

**Tone 6**      *(for St. Romanus)*

O Romanus, our father, thou hast shown thyself to be the first-fruits of good works, a starting point of salvation; for, composing angelic songs, thou hast shown thy life to be divine. Entreat Christ God that He may deliver from dangers and tribulations those who sing praises to thee!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Protection)*

Today the Powers of Heaven rejoice with us, and the souls of the just are spiritually assembled to behold the Queen and Mother glorified by the faithful. They witness the vision of the Mother of God: her arms outstretched upon the clouds in prayer, entreating peace for the world, strength for Orthodox Christians, and salvation for our souls.

**Aposticha**

**Tone 2**      *(for the Protection)*

Since thou art higher than all in heaven and on earth, more glorious than the Cherubim and most honored of all creation, Christ has given thee to Christians

as defender and protectress. Therefore we sing to thee, O Lady and refuge of all, and we celebrate with joy the holy feast of thy Protection. Pray to Christ that He may grant us great mercy!

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

### **Tone 5**

O people, let us joyfully sing a song of David to the Handmaiden and Bride of God, the Mother of Christ, the King of all: "Master, at Thy right hand stood the Queen, decked in robes of gold and adorned in divine apparel." When she, the chosen among women, had been made more beautiful than all the world, Thou wast pleased to be born of her in Thy great mercy. Thou hast given her, the only blessed one, to Thy people as a helper, to guide and protect them from all tribulation.

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

### **Tone 7**

Thou art a mountain greater and more glorious than Sinai, O Theotokos. Sinai could not bear the descent of God's glory in images and figures. It caught fire, and there was thunder and lightning, but at the command of Him Who encompasses all thou didst bear in thy womb the divine Fire Himself without being consumed, the Word of God, Who holds all in the palm of His hand. As His Mother, thou hast boldness to approach Him; therefore, O Lady, help those who keep thy holy feast in faith! In thy mercy, do not forget to visit us, for thou didst receive the gift from God of guiding and protecting thy servants, the Christian flock.

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

### **Tone 6**      *(for St. Romanus)*

O Romanus, our father, thou hast shown thyself to be the first-fruits of good works, a starting point of salvation; for, composing angelic songs, thou hast

shown thy life to be divine. Entreat Christ God that He may deliver from dangers and tribulations those who sing praises to thee!

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

**Tone 2**      *(for the Protection)*

The Church of God is adorned as with a shining crown by thy precious veil, O Theotokos. Today she shines with joy, celebrating mystically and crying to thee: "Rejoice, precious raiment and crown of the glory of God! Rejoice, only fulfillment of glory and eternal joy! Rejoice, haven of those who run to thee, our deliverance and our salvation!"

**Troparia**

**Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(St. Romanus)*

Thou didst gladden Christ's Church by thy melodies like an inspired heavenly trumpet. Thou wast enlightened by the Mother of God and didst shine on the world as God's poet. We lovingly honor thee, O righteous Romanus.

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

**Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(Protection)*

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy, illumined by thy coming, O Mother of God. Beholding thy pure image, we fervently cry to thee: "Encompass us beneath the precious veil of thy protection; deliver us from every form of evil by entreating Christ, thy Son and our God, that He may 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:**

### **Metropolitan Theodosios**

**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, Helen Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, David Gowarty, Patricia Grammes, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, 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 Witaneck

**Child of God:** Emily Estrin

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