

# Readers Vespers

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

John the Alms-giver and Venerable Nilus



**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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# Readers Vespers

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John the Alms-giver and Venerable Nilus

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!

*6. If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee.*

In mercy, O wondrous John, thou hast followed the most-merciful Master; thou castest forth thy bread, O venerable one, distributing it to them in need; wherefore, O holy one, thy memory is truly eternal; we celebrate it with faith and love; by thy supplications, save us from temptations and tribulations, O most-wealthy bishop.

*5. For thy name's sake have I patiently waited for thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for thy word: My soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

He that seeth what is hidden elevated thee to a most-magnificent throne; He foresaw thy purity, the rightness of thy mind, and thy godly presence; He anointed and perfected thee with chrism, O wise one, openly appointing thee to be the shepherd of His flock, which thou hast guided to the heaven of divine desire, O godly-eloquent John.

*4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch: Let Israel hope in the Lord.*

O truly wondrous one, the Lord granted all the requests thou madest in thy heart: for thou hast observed all the laws of salvation; thou hast loved, without limit, God and neighbour as thy very self, O divinely blessed one, and hast satisfied them in need: wherefore, O John, we honour thee today.

*3. For with the Lord, there is mercy; and, with Him, is plenteous redemption: And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

(Tone 8 - Venerable Nilus) What shall we, now, call thee, O holy one? a river gushing forth from the spiritual Eden, a torrent of gifts bestowed by God, a flood of the grace of teaching, a cup of wisdom and knowledge, a most-mighty intercessor, a most-active teacher; pray for the salvation of our souls.

*2. O praise the Lord, all ye nations: Praise Him, all ye people.*

What shall we name thee, O venerable one? cultivator of the eternal gardens, O blessed one, husbandman of the spiritual vineyard of the faithful, one most skilled in God-given laws, knower of God-inspired teaching, poet of the goodness of creation, instructor of peace; pray for the salvation of our souls.

*1. For His merciful kindness is great towards us: And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

What shall I, now, call thee, O wondrous one? keeper of the holiness of marriage, protector of chastity, instructor of monastics, guide of virginity, one that balanced both estates, having, by experience, lived through both; thy divine deeds were many, and great, thy fasting for God: pray for the salvation of our souls.

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

(Tone 2) John, the great pastor and beacon of Alexandria, the follower of Christ, the wellspring of mercy, increaseth his true sympathy, overflowing with compassion for them that are in need; come; let us that are poor in spirit drink our fill, practising his serenity; for, with a truly compassionate presence, having shewn hospitality to Christ in the person of the poor, like Abraham in days of old, he was counted worthy of blessedness, and prayeth, with boldness, that our souls find mercy.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The Word, Who is equal in honour with the Father and the Spirit, and Who, in latter times, shone forth upon the earth through the divine Virgin Maiden, like a great Sun, emitted you, O glorious apostles, as rays illumining, with the light of Faith, all men who languish in the darkness of deception. With divine teachings, lead them unto Him.

Wisdom! Let us attend!

## **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 5) O disciples, as eyewitnesses to the mysteries of the Saviour, ye preached the Invisible One, Who hath no beginning, saying: In the beginning was the Word. Ye were not created before the angels, nor were ye taught of men, but by the wisdom of the Most High. Wherefore, as ye have boldness, pray ye on behalf of our souls.

*Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden*



*unto the hand of her mistress; even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God: Until He have mercy upon us.*

Together, let us praise the apostles of the Lord with hymns, for, having arrayed themselves in the armour of the Cross, they abolished the deception of the demons, and were shown to be crowned victors. By the supplications of them and all the saints, O God, have mercy upon us.

*Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we are exceedingly filled with contempt. Our soul is exceedingly filled with humiliation; let reproach come upon the wealthy: abasement on the proud.*

Your souls filled with insatiable love, O holy martyrs, ye denied not Christ; and, enduring the diverse wounds of sufferings, ye cast down the audacity of the tormentors; and, having preserved the Faith intact and unharmed, ye were translated to the heavens. Wherefore, as ye have boldness before Him, ask that He grant us great mercy.

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

(Tone 8) We honour thee, O Nilus our Father, the instructor of a multitude of monks: we have, indeed, learned to walk rightly in thy footsteps; blessed art thou, who, having laboured for Christ, hast denounced the power of the enemy, O converser with the angels, and companion of the venerable and the righteous: together with them, pray to the Lord, that our souls find mercy.

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

I, O holy Virgin Theotokos, flee to thy protection: for I know that, through thee, I shall obtain salvation; for thou art able, O pure one, to help me.

### **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) By endurance, thou hast gained thy reward, O venerable father, who perseveredst in prayer unceasingly, lovedst the poor, and providedst for them in all things: pray to Christ God, O blessed John the merciful, for the salvation of our souls.

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

(Tone 8) With the streams of thy tears, thou hast cultivated the barren desert; and, with sighs from the depths of thy soul, thou hast rendered thy labours fruitful an hundred-fold; and thou hast become a beacon for the whole world resplendent with miracles, O Nilus, our father: pray to Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

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

Pure Theotokos and gate of eternal life: save from danger those that run to thee with faith to glorify thy holy childbearing for the salvation of our souls.

## **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 John the Alms-giver and Venerable Nilus**, 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:**

**Metropolitan Herman**

**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.**