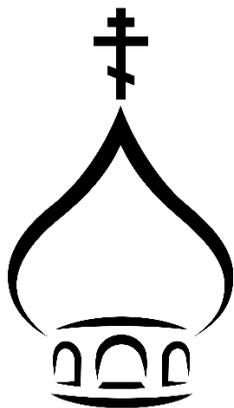


# Great Vespers

Saturday, November 21, 2020

**Afterfeast of the Entrance into the Temple**

**Apostles of the Seventy Philemon and Archippus, Martyr Apphia, wife of Philemon and Equal-to-the-Apostles, and Onesimus, disciple of St. Paul**



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



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Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

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Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

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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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### Lord, I Call

(Tone 7) 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!

(10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

### **Tone 7**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, Who destroyed the dominion of death! Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts, for He enlightened the race of man! O our Maker and Savior, glory to Thee!

(9) *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake. By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God. We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Savior, glory to Thee!

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

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker, they were amazed and sang the angelic praise. This is the glory of the Church. This is the richness of the Kingdom. O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee!

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ, but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed. Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee. Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it, for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life. O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Feast)*      *(Oh, most glorious wonder)*

Oh, most glorious wonder! The ineffable that is come to pass is now this day prefigured beforehand. That which is apprehended spiritually is seen in visible figures, for she who will shine the divine Light to the world is led as a bride to the Temple where God dwells. Let us praise her as the ever-shining temple of the Godhead of Christ, the Giver of Light!

*(5) For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

The wise Joachim, together with Anna, have brought the godly maiden, the Virgin Mary, as a truly acceptable first fruit to Him Who had given her to them as a divine fruit, through Whom the debt of grief has been driven away. Let us praise her in songs and devoutly rejoice, for she is become the provider of joy to all the world!

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

Come, let us now mystically gather together and, enlightened by the lamps of faith, begin the song of the Virgin's procession! She enters the Temple of God in glory, having been betrothed in advance by the Spirit. Let us all celebrate her joyous festival in a godly manner, rejoicing in her entrance into the Temple!

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

**Tone 2**      *(for the Apostles) (Joseph of Arimathea)*

As a branch of the Vine of Life, O glorious Philemon, thou hast distilled a wine of perfect divine knowledge to souls in distress, and hast gladdened the hearts made sullen by the darkness of error, and enshrouded by the gloomy madness of idolatry. We joyfully celebrate the feast of thy divinely-radiant memory.

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

Gaza honors thee, O blessed Apostle, having seen the light of perfect knowledge through thee, and the city of the Colossians, having thy divine body as a treasure, harvests the healings and the grace that always pours forth abundantly. Therefore, it keeps thy commemoration, as it is preserved from dangers by thine intercession, O glorious Philemon.

*(1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

In faith let us praise the wise hierarch Archippus, together with the modest Apphia! Let us sing hymns honoring the sacred heralds of God, Philemon and Onesimus, the venerable teachers who, by their teaching, condemned the falsehood of polytheism and planted the knowledge of Truth! Let us devoutly celebrate their memory!

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

**Tone 1**      *(for the Feast, by George of Nicomedia)*

Today, let heaven above rejoice, and let the clouds rain down gladness at the mighty and exceeding marvelous works of our God. For behold, the Gate that looks towards the east, who was born from a barren and childless woman according to the promise and dedicated to God as His dwelling place, is today brought to the Temple as an offering without blemish. Let David be glad, striking his harp. For he says: "Virgins shall be brought to the King after her, her companions will be brought to Him"; that she may be raised within God's tabernacle, His place of atonement, to become the dwelling of Him Who was begotten of the Father without change before the ages for the salvation of our souls.

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

**Tone 7**      *(Theotokion - Dogmatikon)*

No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing, for the order of nature was overruled by God. Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature, for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding. Thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos! The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin! Knowing thee to be the Mother of God, devoutly we pray to thee: "Beseech Him to save our souls!"

## **Aposticha**

**Tone 7**      *(for the Resurrection)*

As the Savior of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb. As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh. O Lord, glory to Thee!

*The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead, and enlightened all creation! By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell. By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

*For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ. In three days Thou didst rise again, resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection, O Lord and Lover of man.

*Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep, the sight was great and awesome. But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God, Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself. Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

**Tone 2**      *(for the Feast)*

Today the immaculate Virgin is brought to the Temple to be the dwelling place of God, the Lord of all, Who sustains our whole life. Today the most pure Sanctuary is brought into the Holy of Holies, like a heifer three years old. To her let us cry out like the angel: "Rejoice, thou who alone art blessed among women!"

**Troparia**

**Tone 7**      **Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

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

**Tone 3**      **Troparion**      *(Apostles)*

Holy Apostles Philemon, Archipus, Apphia, and Onesimus, entreat the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

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

**Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(Feast)*

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: "Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation!"

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, Irene Witaneck

**Child of God:** Emily Estrin

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