

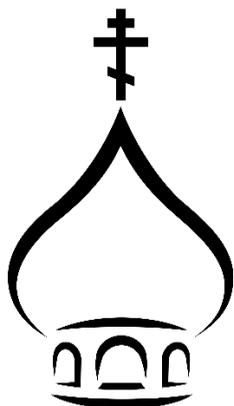
Great Vespers

Saturday, December 26, 2020

Sunday after the Nativity

**Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and
James the Brother of the Lord**

Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen



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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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!

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

Tone 4 *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God, by always honoring Thy life-creating Cross; by it Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man, O almighty One. By it Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven, for Thou art good and the Lover of man.

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

Thou didst loose the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Savior, by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross. By descending to hell, O almighty God, Thou didst break the bonds of death. Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy: "Glory to Thee, O all-powerful Lord!"

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

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord, and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death. Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption, granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

Tone 2 *(for the Feast, by Germanus)*

Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord, as we sing of this present mystery: the wall that divided God from man has been destroyed; the flaming sword withdraws from Eden's gate; the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life; and I, who had been cast out through my disobedience, now feast on the delights of Paradise: for today the Father's perfect Image, marked with the stamp of His eternity, has taken the form of a servant. Without undergoing change He is born from an unwedded mother; He was true God, and He remains the same, but through His love for mankind, He has become what He never was: true man. Come, O faithful, let us cry to Him: "O God, born of the Virgin, have mercy on us!"

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

(by Anatolius)

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Holy Virgin, the whole universe was filled with light. The shepherds watched in the fields. The Wise Men worshipped, and the Angels sang. But Herod was troubled, for God had appeared in the flesh. He is the Savior of our souls.

(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.

Thy Kingdom endures forever, O Christ our God. Thy rule is from age to age. Made flesh by the Holy Spirit, made man of the ever-virgin Mary, Thou hast filled all creation with joy. The light of Thy coming has shone on us; every living creature praises Thee, the Image of the Father's glory. Light of Light, the radiance of the Father, the same yesterday, today, and forever, Thou hast shone forth from the Virgin. O God, have mercy on us!

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

What shall we offer Thee, O Christ, Who for our sakes hast appeared on earth as a man? Every creature made by Thee offers Thee thanks: the Angels offer a hymn; the heavens, a star; the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder; the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a manger, and we offer Thee a virgin Mother! O Pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

(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 David) (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Let us all praise King David, the ancestor of God, for from him came the virgin stem; from this stem blossomed the Flower – Christ. Delivered from corruption, Adam and Eve cry out to Him, for He is compassionate.

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

Tone 1 *(for Joseph) (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

In his old age Joseph the Betrothed clearly saw the prophecies fulfilled. He was given a mysterious command, but he received enlightenment from the Angels who cried out: "Glory to God, for He has granted peace to the world!"

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

Tone 1 *(for James) (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Let us all praise the brother of the Lord! He is a bishop and also a courageous martyr. Therefore, O Jesus, God wrapped in swaddling clothes in the cave and manger, through his prayers save those who praise Thee!

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

Tone 6 *(for the Righteous Ones)*

Let us celebrate the memory of the God-fearing David and James: one was the Prophet King, and the other – an Apostle and the first bishop. Since we have

been saved from error by their teachings, let us glorify Christ, Who shone forth from the Virgin and took on flesh in order to save our souls!

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

Tone 4 *(Theotokion - Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord through thee, O Virgin. He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonders in thee: "At Thy right hand stood the Queen," Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life, since God was freely born of her without a father. He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion, so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder and brought it to His Father, joining it to the heavenly powers. Christ Who has great and rich mercy has saved the world, O Theotokos.

Aposticha

Tone 4 *(for the Resurrection)*

By ascending the Cross, O Lord, Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse. By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners, granting incorruption to the human race. Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord, Thou didst shake all of creation. By being laid in the tomb Thou hast raised those who dwelt in the tombs, granting life and incorruption to the human race. Therefore in songs we glorify Thy rising on the third day.

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

The lawless people, O Christ, handed Thee over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified, thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor. But voluntarily Thou didst endure burial, rising by Thy own power on the third day as God, granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

With tears the women reached Thy tomb, searching for Thee, but not finding Thee. They wept with wailing and lamented: "Woe to us! Our Savior, King of all, how wast Thou stolen? What place can hold Thy life-bearing body?" An Angel replied to them: "Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen, granting us joy as the only compassionate One!"

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

Tone 6 *(for the Righteous Ones)*

Thy Nativity became the commemoration of priests, and the strength and joy of kings, Rejoicing in it, we say: "Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, O Lover of man!"

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

Tone 6 *(for the Feast)*

Today the Invisible Nature is joined to mortal men, coming forth from the Virgin. Today the Infinite Essence is wrapped in swaddling clothes at Bethlehem. Today God leads the Magi by a star to worship Him, and with gold and frankincense and myrrh they foretell His three-day burial. Therefore we sing: "O Christ our God, made flesh of the Virgin, save our souls!"

Troparia

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

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

Tone 2 Troparion *(Righteous Ones)*

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, to David, the ancestor of God; thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; and thou didst give glory with the shepherds; thou didst worship with the Magi, and didst receive the news from the Angel. Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

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

Tone 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

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

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

Deacons: Geoffrey LoBalbo

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, Sherry Hromiak, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Mary Orzolek, Kylie Pinho, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Alex Roberts, 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 Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

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