

Great Vespers

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Forgiveness Vespers



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Due to corona virus precautions, please take this printed copy of the service book home with you. Please do not leave used printed materials in the church.



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 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 *(Penitential stichera in the Tone of the week)*

Like the Prodigal I come and fall before Thee, O Lord: accept me as one of Thy hired servants, and have mercy on me, O compassionate One!

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

Like the man who fell among thieves and was wounded, I have fallen, and my soul is bruised by my many sins. To whom can I, the guilty one, run, if not to Thee, the only merciful Physician of our souls? Pour out Thy great mercy on me, O God!

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

O Savior, sinner that I am, do not cut me down like the barren fig tree! But grant me forgiveness all the year long, watering my soul with tears of repentance, that I may bring forth acts of mercy as fruit for Thee!

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

Since Thou art the Sun of righteousness, enlighten and guide the hearts of those who cry out to Thee: "O Lord, glory to Thee!"

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

Tone 2 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Joseph) (Joseph of Arimathea)*

Let us humble the flesh by abstinence, as we follow the divine path of pure fasting! With prayers and tears let us seek the Lord, Who saves us! Let us put an end to anger, crying out: "Save us for we have sinned against Thee! Save us, O Christ our King, as Thou didst save the men of Nineveh, and make us partakers of Thy heavenly Kingdom, O compassionate One!"

(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.

When I think of my deeds, O Lord, I am filled with despair, and know that I am worthy of every torment. I have despised Thy commandments, O Savior. I have spent my life as a prodigal. I pray to Thee, O only merciful One: "Cleanse me by repentance, enlighten me through prayers and fasting, and despise me not, O most gracious Benefactor of all!"

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

Tone 2 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Theodore)*

Let us begin the fast with joy! Let us prepare ourselves for spiritual efforts! Let us cleanse our soul and cleanse our flesh! Let us abstain from every passion as we abstain from food! Let us rejoice in virtues of the Spirit and fulfill them in love, that we all may see the Passion of Christ our God, and rejoice in spirit at the holy Pascha!

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

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for the Martyrs) (Oh, most glorious wonder)*

O seven martyrs of Christ, you counted the assaults of the torturers and violent death to be nothing. You hastened to battle with readiness and courage, covering yourselves with the glory of victory. You are numbered among all the righteous; we call you blessed, glorifying you with them forever.

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

O martyred athlete Agapius, thou didst love the Well-spring of good things and the Summit of desires. Thou didst hasten to drain the cup of martyrdom, calling on the Divine Name of the living God. What courage was thine; what endurance, by which thou wast openly given the gift of glory and splendor!

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

O all-blesséd martyrs, you gave yourselves to voluntary slaughter; you sanctified the earth with your blood and illumined the air with your passing. Now in the image of God you live in the heavens, ever praying for us to the never-fading Light.

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

Tone 8 *(Theotokion)*

Rejoice, O godly chariot of the Light, temple and house of the Lord and tabernacle of holiness; rejoice, for from thy spotless womb, Light is risen on all, thus making the ends of the world exceedingly bright, for in His goodness, He has sanctified us. Rejoice, O pure Maiden, the crown of our salvation and life; Rejoice, O report and fame of those who trust in thee!

Tone 8 **Great Prokeimenon**

Turn not away Thy face from Thy child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it! *(Ps. 68:21-22a)*

Let Thy salvation, O God, uphold me! (Ps. 68:34b)

Let the poor see and be glad! (Ps. 68:37a)

Seek God, and thy soul shall live! (Ps. 68:37b)

Aposticha

Tone 4 *Idiomelon* (from the Lenten Triodion)

Thy grace hath shone forth, O Lord: the grace which illumines our soul. This is the acceptable time! This is the time of repentance! Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, that passing through the Fast as through a great sea we may reach the Resurrection on the third day of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of our souls.

To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps 122:1-2)

(Repeat: "Thy grace hath shone forth, O Lord...")

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122:3-4)

Tone 4 (for the Martyrs)

Thou art glorified in the memory of Thy saints, O Christ God. At their supplications, send down on us Thy 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 4 (from the Lenten Triodion)

The angelic hosts glorify thee, O Mother of God, for thou gavest birth to God,

co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, Who, by His own desire, created the angelic hosts out of nothing. Beseech Him to deliver from corruption and to enlighten the souls of those who rightly praise thee, O most pure one!

Tone 8 The Lenten Troparia

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace: the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb; for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

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

O Baptiser of Christ, remember us all, that we may be delivered from our iniquities; for to thee is given grace to intercede for us!

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

Intercede for us, O holy Apostles and all the saints, that we may be delivered from perils and sorrows; for we have acquired you as fervent intercessors before the Savior!

Beneath thy compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos. Do not despise our supplications in adversity, but deliver us from perils, O only pure and only blessed one!

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 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, Victoria Lustig, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Nicolae & Doina Marian, 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 Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

Handmaidens of God: Amanda Riley, Natalie Stepanoff and their unborn children

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