

MARCH 13

**Translation of the Relics of St. Nicephorus, Patriarch of Constantinople
Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Wednesday)**

"Lord I Call..." Tone 1

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

V. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

Tone 1 *Idiomelon* *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us keep a spiritual fast, O brethren!
Let us speak no lies or deceit with our tongue!
Let us not give each other cause for stumbling,
but by repentance let the lamp of our soul shine brightly!//
Forgive us our sins in Thy love for mankind!

V. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

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

Tone 1 *(to the Martyrs)*

O Martyrs, truly worthy of praise,
although you were dishonored on earth,
the heavens received you.
The gates of Paradise opened to you,
and now you enjoy the Tree of Life.//
Entreat Christ to grant us peace and His great mercy!

V. (7) *Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Tone 3 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Joseph) (Great is the power of Your Cross)*

Through the prayers of Your divine Apostles, O Lord,
grant us to spend this time of fasting with compunction of heart, //
that being saved we may glorify You, O compassionate One!

V. (6) *If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

Great and awesome is Your coming, O Lord,
when You will sit in righteous judgment.
Despite my guilt, do not condemn me, O God, //
but by the prayers of Your Apostles, spare me!

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

Tone 6 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Theodore) (Having placed all their hope)*

O Apostles of Christ,
lights for those born on earth,
rich treasures of the knowledge of God,
by your holy prayers deliver from temptations us who praise you.
Guide us safely through the course of the Fast,
and keep our lives in peace,
so that we may reach Christ's Passion unharmed //
and with boldness offer hymns of praise to our God.

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

Tone 1 *(from the Menaion, for St. Nicephorus) (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

The streams of your wisdom were drawn from the spiritual clouds,
pouring forth a fountain of Orthodoxy upon the world.
We the faithful draw forth the sweetness from them,
and we turn from the outpourings of heresy //
as from the bitter waters of Marah.

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

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

As your most pure body lay in the tomb,
it did not decay in any way.

It was found to be whole, O most blessed Nicephorus.

We bear it forth with zeal.

We rejoice, fed by the Orthodox faith, //
and we bless you, O divinely-wise one!

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

The Church which is honored by the name of the Apostles
received you, O most blessed one,
for through your godly deeds, you became a temple of God.
After your burial you are again buried in a holy manner, //
and you have buried the foolish talk of the heretics.

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

Tone 1 *(Theotokion)*

Tossed on a sea of transgressions,
I flee for refuge to the calm harbor of your supplications,
and cry out to you, O most pure Theotokos:
“Extend your strong right hand to your servant, //
and save me, O all-blameless Lady!”

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon**

Be glad in the Lord, / and rejoice, O you righteous! *(Ps. 31:11a)*

V. *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven. (Ps. 31:1a)*

Reading from Genesis (4:16-26)

Tone 1 Prokeimenon

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on You! *(Ps. 32:22)*

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)

Reading from Proverbs (5:15-6:3)

(and the rest of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts)

Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.