

APRIL 7

Wednesday of the Sixth Week of Great Lent

Vespers (sung on Tuesday, for St. Tikhon)

Rest of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America

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

Tone 1 Idiomelon *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

O my soul, you were clothed in the divinely-woven purple of self-mastery,
the fine linen of incorruption,
but you have mocked your own dignity.
You made sin your wealth and pleasure,
and looked down with scorn upon your brothers,
as the rich man who despised poor Lazarus.
But that you may not be chastised with him
be poor in spirit, and cry to the Lord Who was humbled for your sake:
"You wore the purple of mockery before Your Crucifixion,
and, for my sake, You were nailed to the Cross,
deliver me from eternal shame, O Christ,//
and clothe me in the robe of Your Kingdom!"

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

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

Ruled by many passions,
weakened by all the assaults of the Evil One,
my heart lies shamefully in the tomb of slothfulness,
crushed with senselessness as with a stone.
O Savior, by Your life-bearing Cross,
You gave life to those who were in hell.
Awaken me, and give me life, //
so that in fear, I may glorify Your divinity!

v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

At the prompting of the Evil One,
I have always loved the riches of corrupting pleasure,
and without conscience I have delighted in vanity.
I have despised my mind when it groaned like Lazarus
and hungered for the food of God.
O Word, deliver me in Your tender mercy from the flames to come, //
that I may glorify You, O Lover of man!

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

Tone 3 (from the Lenten Triodion, by Theodore)

Today Lazarus has died;
Bethany laments for him.
But You, O Savior, shall raise him from the dead,
giving us an assurance of Your own dread Resurrection,
of the death of hell, and of Adam's restoration. //
Therefore we sing Your praises.

v. (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* *(for St Tikhon)*

O Holy Hierarch Tikhon,
glorious dawn of the wisdom of God,
holy vessel of the grace of God;
O splendor of hierarchs,
true example of the monastic way of life,
firm defender and protector,//
deliver our souls from the bondage of the Enemy!

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

O Holy Hierarch Tikhon,
you were given great authority and power by God
to cast away the multitude of demons,
and to preserve us from their hatred of mankind
through the power of your prayers,//
and to protect all those who come to you with faith and love.

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

How shall we honor the great Hierarch Tikhon,
whose pure thoughts and blessed accomplishments
have enlightened us with divine wisdom,
and have illumined us with the grace of his confession?
Therefore we, the faithful, cry aloud://
"Rejoice, our father among the fathers, Holy Hierarch Tikhon!"

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

Tone 1 *(from the Menaion, for St. Tikhon)*

"I call upon you, archpastors and pastors,"
were the words of our holy Patriarch Tikhon.
"and you, my sons and my daughters in Christ,
to go forth into the world with the message of repentance,
to stand firm against the enemies of our faith.
I call upon you to suffer together with me, remembering the words of the
Apostle://
'No one can separate us from the love of God!'"

* Music for the stichera for St. Tikhon from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org. These stichera are listed as the Stichera at the Aposticha.

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

Tone 1 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!
The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!
The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!
She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!
She was revealed as the heaven, as the temple of the Godhead!
She destroyed the wall of enimity!
She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!
Since she is our foundation of faith,
our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!
Courage! Courage! O People of God!
For Christ will destroy our enemies//
since He is all powerful.

Tone 4 **Prokeimenon**

The fear of the Lord / is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps 110/111:10)

v: I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; in the council of the upright and in the congregation. (Ps 110/111:1)

Reading from Genesis (31:3-16)

Tone 4 **Prokeimenon**

He is merciful, / full of compassion, and righteous. (Ps 111/112:4)

v: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; he will delight greatly in His commandments. (Ps 111/112:1)

Reading from Proverbs (21:3-21)

Gospel
John 10:9-16

Aposticha

Tone 1 Idiomelon *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

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the fine linen of incorruption,
but you have mocked your own dignity.
You made sin your wealth and pleasure,
and looked down with scorn upon your brothers,
as the rich man who despised poor Lazarus.
But that you may not be chastised with him
be poor in spirit, and cry to the Lord Who was humbled for your sake:
“You wore the purple of mockery before Your Crucifixion,
and, for my sake, You were nailed to the Cross,
deliver me from eternal shame, O Christ, //
and clothe me in the robe of Your Kingdom!”

v: I lift up my eyes to You, 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 122/123:1-2)

(Repeat: “O my soul, you were clothed ...”)

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 122/123:3-4)

How beautiful is the manner of your exchange, O Saints,
for you gave your blood to inherit the things of heaven;
You suffered tribulation for a time, and now make glad eternally.
You received immortality by forsaking corruptible things;
and rejoicing with the choirs of angels, //
you forever sing the praises of the Consubstantial Trinity!

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

“A sword pierced my heart, O Son, the Virgin cried,
when she beheld Christ upon the Tree!
It has torn my heart, as Simeon once foretold.
But arise, I pray You, O immortal Lord, //
Glorify Your Mother and Handmaiden.”

(And the rest of lenten daily Vespers)