

TYPIKA AT HOME: DECEMBER 27, 2020

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS: THE MEMORY OF THE HOLY AND JUST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY; OF DAVID, PROPHET AND KING; AND OF THE HOLY APOSTLE JAMES, BROTHER OF THE LORD.

THE HOLY APOSTLE, FIRST MARTYR AND ARCHDEACON STEPHEN.

In Churches dedicated to St. Stephen.

Troparion, Tone 5:

O faithful, let us praise and adore the Word eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For he chose to ascend the cross in the flesh and to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Troparion, Tone 4: Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed upon the world the light of knowledge, for through it those who worshipped the stars have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, and to know you, the Dawn from on High, glory to you, O Lord.

Troparion, Tone 2:

O Joseph, proclaim the wonders you have seen to David, the forefather of God: the Virgin has given birth; you have given glory with the shepherds and worshipped with the wise men; you have been instructed by an angel. Ask Christ our God to save our souls.

Troparion, Tone 4:

First martyr and apostle of Christ, you fought the good fight. You convicted the tyrants of their wickedness. When you were killed by stoning at the hands of sinners, you received a crown from God's right hand while you cried out: Lord, do not hold this sin against them.

The following is then read:

Synaxarion:

On the Sunday after Christmas, we commemorate the holy and just ancestors of Christ: Joseph, the Spouse of the holy Virgin, our Lady, the Theotokos; James, the Brother of God; and David, the King and Prophet.

Let us honor the faithful spouse of the Virgin, the only one chosen as guardian from among all those available. O son of the carpenter, you were the brother of the Lord who was the fashioner of the universe by his word alone. What can I say? The Lord himself bore witness to you, saying: I have found David, my chosen one, and have loved him.

On December 27, we commemorate the holy apostle, protomartyr and archdeacon, Stephen, one of the seven deacons.

I see you surrounded with a garland of praises, like precious stones, with which you were crowned in your death by stoning, O Stephen. On the twenty-seventh, heaven was opened to him.

By their holy prayers, O our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Response: Amen.

Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Response: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen

Come, let us worship our King and God.

Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ the King and our God.

We chant the Typical Psalms:

Psalm 102:

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,

who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion,

who fills your life with good things,

renewing your youth like an eagle's.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgment for all who are oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry forever.

He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him;

for he knows of what we are made,
he remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass;
he flowers like the flower of the field;

the wind blows and he is gone
and his place never sees him again.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who hold him in fear;

his justice reaches out to children's children
when they keep his covenant in truth,
when they remember his commands and do them.

The Lord has set his throne in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.

Bless the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word,

who heed the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his servants who do his will.

Bless the Lord, all his works,
in every place where he rules.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. Amen.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Blessed are you, O Lord.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

Praise the Lord, O my soul.
I will praise the Lord all my life.
I will make music to my God while I live.

Put no trust in princes,
in mortal men in whom there is no help.

Take their breath, they return to clay
and their plans that day come to nothing.

He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God,
whose hope is in the Lord his God,

who alone made heaven and earth,
the seas and all they contain.

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free,

the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,

the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan.

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign forever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

Now and ever
and forever. Amen.

Hymn of the Incarnation

O only-begotten Son and Word of God, who, being immortal, deigned for our salvation to become incarnate of the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, and became man without change; you were also crucified, O Christ our God, and by death have trampled Death, being One of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.

Troparia at the Beatitudes

In your kingdom, remember us, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.

12. *Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

(Tone 5) The thief on the cross, believing you to be God, O Christ, professed you sincerely from his heart, crying out, "Remember me, O Lord, in your kingdom."

11. *Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.*

- With one accord let us praise in song as Savior and Creator the one who made life blossom for the human race by the tree of the cross, and withered the curse of the tree.

10. *Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.*

- By your death, O Christ, you destroyed the power of death, raising with you the dead from ages past who sing hymns to you, our true God and Savior.

9. *Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will be satisfied.*

- The pious women came to your tomb, O Christ, seeking to anoint you, the Giver of life, and an angel appeared, crying out to them, "The Lord is risen."

8. *Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*

(Tone 1) O Christ, the rod from Jesse's root and its flower, you blossomed from the virgin; praiseworthy one, from the overshadowed shady mountain. You came in the flesh from her who knew not man. God, not made of matter, glory to your power, O Lord!

7. *Blessed are the pure of heart, for they will see God.*

- In the days of old, Jacob foretold you, O Christ, calling you the expectation of the nations. You have come forth from the tribe of Judah and have overcome the might of Damascus and the spoils of Samaria, turning their idolatry into faith pleasing to God. Glory to your power, O Lord!

6. *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

- Rising as a star out of Jacob, O Master, you have brought joy to the Magi who interpreted wisely the words of Balaam, the prophet of old. They were led to you as the first fruits of the

Gentiles, and you graciously received them as they brought you pleasing gifts. Glory to your power, O Lord!

5. *Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

- You have descended, O Christ, into the womb of the Virgin as dew upon the fleece and as drops of rain that shower the earth. Ethiopia, Tarshish, and the Isles of Arabia; the kings of Saba, of the Medes, and those of all the earth, bow down before you, O Savior. Glory to your power, O Lord!

4. *Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.*

(Tone 5) Stephen, the warrior of Christ, having lawfully arrayed himself against the killers of God, vested in the invincible power of God, denounced all the wicked opposition of the iniquitous.

3. *Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*

- Aflame with the zeal of the love of Christ and having stripped down for combat, filled with faith and the Spirit of God, O protomartyr, you proclaimed to all the divinely appointed preaching of the fishermen.

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

- As a proclaimer of the hidden and truly divine life, heedless of this present life, through deed the protomartyr clearly showed to all truth triumphant, having assented to death, O Master.

1. *Now and ever and forever. Amen.*

- For our sake the Master entered the cave of life through humility; and Stephen, chief among the martyrs, departs from human burdens, overcome by the love of the Master.

Prokeimenon, Tone 5:

You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us forever from this generation.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the righteous have vanished.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8:

Through all the earth their voice resounds, their message reaches to the ends of the earth.

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 and Acts 6:8-7:5.47-60.

Leader: A reading from the Letter of St. Paul the Apostle to the Galatians.

Brothers and Sisters: Now I want you to know that the gospel preached by me is not of human origin. For I did not receive it from a human being, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you heard of my former way of life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it, and progressed in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my race, since I was even more a zealot for my ancestral traditions. But when God, who from my mother's womb had set me apart and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him to the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; rather, I went into Arabia and then returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to confer with Cephas and remained with him for fifteen days. But I did not see any other of the apostles, only James the brother of the Lord.

In those days: Stephen, filled with grace and power, was working great wonders and signs among the people. Certain members of the so-called Synagogue of Freedmen, Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and people from Cilicia and Asia, came forward and debated with Stephen, but they could not withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he spoke. Then they instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speaking blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes, accosted him, seized him, and brought him before the Sanhedrin. They presented false witnesses who testified, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law. For we have heard him claim that this Jesus the Nazorean will destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us." All those who sat in the Sanhedrin looked intently at him and saw that his face was like the face of an angel. Then the high priest asked, "Is this so?" And he replied, "My brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he had settled in Haran, and said to him, 'Go forth from your land and from your kinsfolk to the land that I will show you.' So he went forth from the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. And from there, after his father died, he made him migrate to this land where you now dwell. Yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but he did promise to give it to him and his descendants as a possession, even though he was childless. But Solomon built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says: 'The heavens are my throne, the earth is my footstool. What kind of house can you build for me? says the Lord, or what is to be my resting place? Did not my hand make all these things?' "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always oppose the holy Spirit; you are just like your ancestors. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They put to death those who foretold the coming of the righteous one, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become. You received the law as transmitted by angels, but you did not observe it." When they heard this, they were infuriated, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out in a loud voice, covered their ears, and rushed upon him together. They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them"; and when he said this, he fell asleep.

Alleluia, Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.

Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Leader: A reading from the gospel of the holy apostle and evangelist Matthew. (Matthew 2:13-23 and 21:33-42)

Response: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Leader:

At that time: When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my son." When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi. Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah the prophet: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be consoled, since they were no more." When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazorean."

The Lord told this parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes'?"

Response: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Then:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. Amen.

Remember us, O Lord,
when you come in your kingdom.

Remember us, O Master,
when you come in your kingdom.

Remember us, O Holy One,
when you come in your kingdom.

The heavenly choir praises you and says,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

The heavenly choir praises you and says,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

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

The choir of holy angels and archangels, with all the heavenly powers, praises you and says,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

Now and ever
and forever. Amen.

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, the only-begotten, born of the Father before all ages. Light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in essence with the Father; through whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven and was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried. He rose on the third day according to the scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he is coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of Life, who proceeds from the Father. Together with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified; he spoke through the prophets. In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I profess one baptism for the remission of sins. I expect the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Remit, pardon, and forgive our transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in deed and in word, with knowledge and in ignorance, in thought and in desire, by night and by day, forgive them all, O God, for you are good and love us all.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Response: Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 3:

Yesterday, in human flesh the Master came to us; today, from the flesh, his servant departs. Yesterday, the King was born in the flesh; today, his servant is killed by stoning. Thus the holy Stephen, the first martyr, is brought to perfection.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

Leader: Most holy Trinity, Consubstantial Power, Indivisible Kingdom, Cause of all good things, look favorably upon me, a sinner, at this present hour. Take away all the defilement of my mind and enlighten my understanding that I may always praise, glorify, and say:

Response: One is holy, one is Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

The Leader bows his head and together with the faithful makes a spiritual Communion praying aloud:

O Lord, I believe and confess that you are truly Christ,
who came into the world

To save sinners of whom I am the first.

Although I cannot be a partaker now of your mystical supper, O Son of God,

Come at least spiritually into my heart by Your Divine Grace
for the healing of my soul and body.

For I will not reveal your mystery to your enemies,

Nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, But like the thief I profess to you:

+ Remember me, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.

+ Remember me, O Master, when you come in your kingdom.

+ Remember me, O Holy One, when you come in your kingdom.

O Lord, I also believe and profess, that this,

Which I would receive, and which is now here present with us in Mystery,

Is truly your most precious Body, and your life-giving Blood,

Which, I pray, I may one day receive again

For the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting. Amen

Then immediately:

Psalm 33

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;

In the Lord
my soul shall make its boast
The humble shall hear
and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.

Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called, the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped,
around those who revere him, to rescue them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.

Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Come, children, and hear me
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.

Who is he who longs for life and many days,
to enjoy his prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.

Turn aside from evil and do good;
seek and strive after peace.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal.

The just cried out and the Lord heard them,
and rescued them from all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just,
but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

He will keep guard over all their bones,
not one of their bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.

The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

More honorable than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim;
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Response: Amen.

Closing Hymns:

Tone 4:

Stephen, the splendid first-fruits of the martyrs, filled with the grace and power of God, working wondrous miracles and deeds among the people, was stoned to death by unjust hands. But his face seemed like that of an angel, and he saw your glory, O Christ, who were incarnate for us, at the right hand of the Father almighty. By the grace of the Spirit, he was received into the heavens. Now dwelling with the angelic choirs before you, O Lord, he intercedes for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion, Tone 3:

Today the godly David is filled with joy; Joseph offers hymns of praise with James. Rejoicing, they take up the garland of relationship with Christ. They sing praise to him whose birth on earth defies description and they cry out: O merciful Lord, save those who honor you.