

**Vesper Propers, December 6**  
**OUR HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS THE WONDER-WORKER,**  
**ARCHBISHOP OF MYRA IN LYCIA**

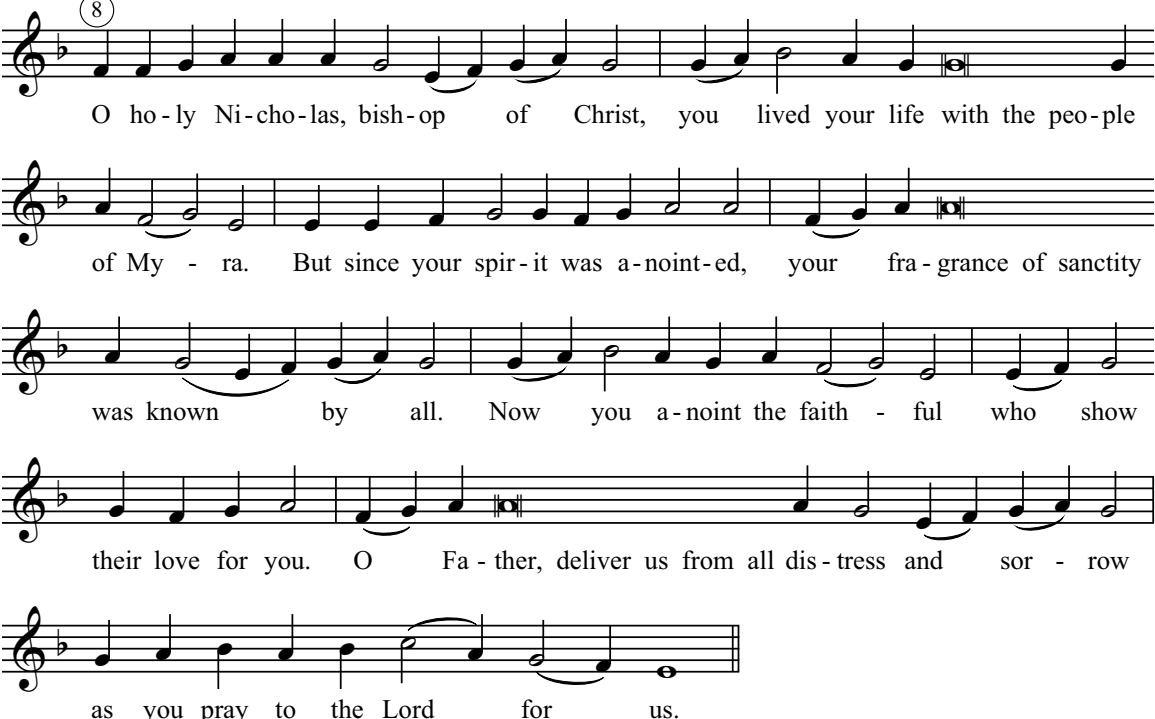
*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2006*

*"O Lord, I have cried" is sung in Tone 2, page 36.*

**Cantor:** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
*(on 8)* Lord, hear my voice!

*Tone 2 samohlasen*

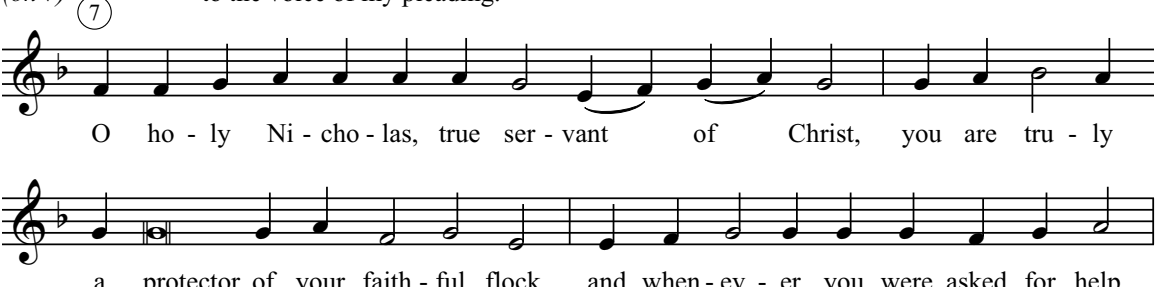
⑧



O ho - ly Ni - cho - las, bish - op of Christ, you lived your life with the peo - ple  
of My - ra. But since your spir - it was a - noint - ed, your fra - grance of sanctity  
was known by all. Now you a - noint the faith - ful who show  
their love for you. O Fa - ther, deliver us from all dis - tress and sor - row  
as you pray to the Lord for us.

**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
*(on 7)* to the voice of my pleading.

⑦



O ho - ly Ni - cho - las, true ser - vant of Christ, you are tru - ly  
a protector of your faith - ful flock, and when - ev - er you were asked for help,



you glad - ly assist-ed those who sought your aid. Now you are al - so

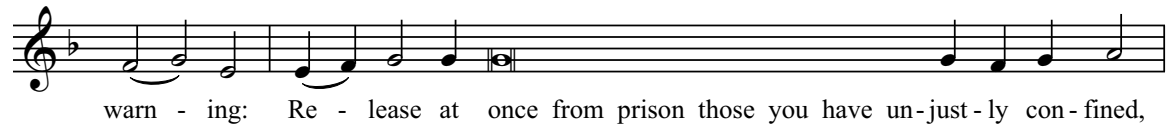


read - y by day or night to de - liv - er us from all dis-tress and sor - row.

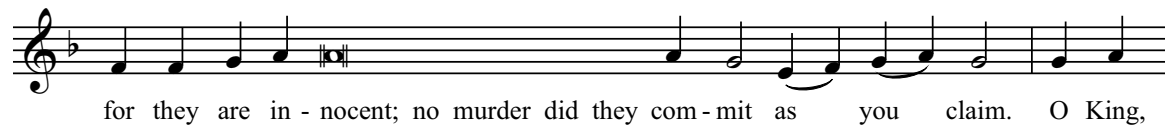
**Cantor:** If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord who would survive?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.



When you ap-peared in a dream to Con-stantine the King, you gave him this



warn - ing: Re - lease at once from prison those you have un-just - ly con - fined,

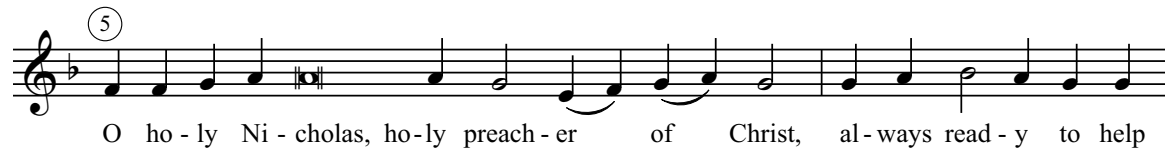


for they are in - nocent; no murder did they com - mit as you claim. O King,

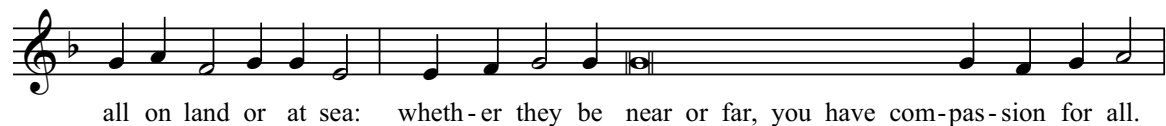


lis - ten to me, or else I shall call up - on the Lord.

**Cantor:** My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.



O ho - ly Ni - cholas, ho - ly preach - er of Christ, al - ways read - y to help



all on land or at sea: wheth - er they be near or far, you have com - pas - sion for all.

hu-mil - i - ty and wealth through pov - er - ty. O fa - ther and arch - bish - op  
 Nich - o - las, in - tercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

*Glory...now and ever...*

*Troparion "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos," page 119, followed by the Blessing of Bread.*

Thus, you are a pre-cious help - er; there - fore we who gath - er here ask  
 you to pray to the Lord that we be de - liv - ered from all dis - tress and sor - row.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
 (on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

What crowns of praise shall we con - fer up - on the saint - ly Ni - cho - las?  
 Once pres - ent in the flesh in My - ra, he is pres - ent in spirit to all who love  
 him pure - ly. He is the lead - er and de - fend - er of ev' - ry one,  
 a com - fort - er in dis - tress, and a ha - ven of all in dan - ger;  
 a pil - lar of pi - e - ty, and con - quer - or for be - liev - ers. For his  
 sake, Christ o - ver - came en - e - mies and shows us great mer - cy.

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. (*Repeat "What crowns of praise..."*)

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations,  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

②

With what songs of praise shall we ex-tol the most saint - ly Ni-cho-las?  
He is the foe of wick-ed-ness. He is an out-stand-ing lead - er,  
a most pow-er-ful de-fend-er in dis-tress, and a great teach-er of the Church.  
He con-founds all those who show dis - hon - or. He is the re - fu - tor  
of Arius and his com-pan - ions. Be-cause of him, Christ put down their rag-ings  
and showed great mer - cy.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

①

With what hymns of proph - e - cy shall we ex - tol the saint - ly  
Nich - o - las? Liv - ing in the pres - ent he saw far in - to the fu - ture.

who is your moth - er? How can you cradle the Cre-a - tor in your arms?  
How did you accom-plish vir-gin-birth? Most pure Lady, we see in you great  
won - ders, awe-some mys - ter - ies ful-filled on earth. We shall pre-pare  
a wor-thy cave for you. We shall ask the heav-ens for a star. We shall ask  
the Magi to come from the east to the west to be - hold your newborn child in  
a man - ger, to be - hold the Sav - ior of all.

### Troparion

*Priest first, then all:*

*Tone 4*

Your life has shown you to your flock as a rule of faith, an im - age  
of gentleness, and a teacher of mod-er - a - tion. You ac-quired great-ness through

o - ver - flow - ing with scent - ed myrrh. You in - spire us to keep us from sin.

You are a sword that cuts the weeds of er - ror; you proved Ar - ius to be

a false teach - er. Pray to Christ to save our souls with his great mer - cy.

**Cantor:** *(Tone 6) Glory...*

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

O man of God, O faithful serv - ant of the Lord, you are a chosen vessel filled

with de - sire for God. You are a pillar and a foun - da - tion of the Church;

you are an heir of the King - dom. O holy father Ni - cho - las, pray to the Lord

for us.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

**Theotokion**

O Vir - gin without a husband, from where do you come? Who gave you birth;

He spoke tru - ly about faraway things as though they were near.

He ov - er - sees the whole world, and de - liv - ers the af - flic - ted.

He ap - peared in a dream to the God - wise king. He de - liv - ered

pris - oners who were unjustly ac - cused of mur - der To - day he

grants us the mer - cy of Christ.

**Cantor:** *(Tone 6) Glory...*

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

We have gath - ered to celebrate and to praise with song the model of bishops and

a glory to the fa - thers, a foun - tain of miracles and a great help - er of

be - liev - ers. Let us sing to the saint - ly Ni - cho - las: Re - joice, O

Pro - tec - tor of My - ra who was re - veyed as its leader and strong - est

pil - lar. Re - joice, O radiant star, whose light of miracles shines through - out the  
 world. Re - joice, O divine joy to those in sor - row. Re - joice, O defender of  
 those who are op - pressed; for e - ven now, allÐho-ly Ni - cho - las,  
 you still pray to God for us who cele-brate your feast with faith and who  
 hon - or you with zeal and joy.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

**Theotokion**

O cave, pre - pare yourself to re - ceive the Moth - er who bears Christ with - in  
 her womb. O man - ger, receive the Word who de - stroyed the sins of all.  
 O shep - herds, keep watch and then bear witness to the awe - some won - der.  
 O ma - gi, from Per - sia now come, and bring your gifts of gold, frank - in - cense, and

Re - joice, O saintly father, temple of the Trin - i - ty; pil - lar of the Church, protect - or  
 of the faith - ful, help of all in trou - ble. You are a star  
 whose rays of prayer dispel the dark - est trou - ble. You are a qui - et har - bor  
 for the storm - tossed, for all those adrift in the sea of life.  
 Pray to Christ to save our souls with his great mer - cy.

*Cantor*

Your priests shall be clothed in ho - li - ness; your faith - ful shall ring  
 out their joy.

Re - joice, O zeal - ous man of God! You ap - peared in a dream, and you  
 saved from death those un - just - ly sen - tenced. You are a foun - tain in My - ra

the on - ly Sav - ior of all.

*Litija Litany, page 116*

**Aposticha**

*Tone 5 samohlasen*

Re-joyce, O priestly leader, spotless ves-sel of vir-tue, mod-el of divine priest-hood,  
 great shep-herd of your flock, bear-er of the torch of vic-t'ry; you hear  
 the prayers of those who call on you. You grant the pe-ti-tions of the poor;  
 you res-cue all who praise your name. Now we ask you to beg Christ  
 that he may show - er a - bun - dant mer - cy on the world.

*Cantor*

Pre-cious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faith - ful.

myrrh to the King. For the Lord has appeared from a Vir-gin Moth - er;  
 yet she bowed to him as a serv - ant and spoke to him in her bos - om,  
 say - ing: "How were you con-ceived in me? How did you grow in me, my  
 God and Sav - - - ior?"

*Prokeimenon for the day of the week, page 114*

**Readings:** Composite 1  
 Proverbs 10: 31 through 11: 12  
 Wisdom 4: 7-15

**Litija**

*Tone 2 Bolhar*

O ho - ly fa - ther Ni - cho-las, Christ has shown you to be the  
 mod - el of faith. Your hu - mil - i - ty in-spired all in your flock.  
 From My - ra, your pi - e - ty shines through - out the world.

You are known as the pro-tec - tor of wid - ows and or-phans.

Now we ask your unceasing prayer for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

② O ho - ly fa - ther Ni - cho - las, your re - lics poured out myrrh and

pro - tec - ted My - ra. While you lived you ap - peared in a

dream to the king; by this ap - pear - ance you freed from lash - es, pris - on,

and death, those who were con - demned un - just - ly;

now man - ifest yourself as then, im - plor - ing Christ to save our souls.

**Cantor:** (Tone 6) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen**

O good and faith - ful worker in the vine - yard of Christ, you endured the hardships of

dai - ly la - bors; you did not complain of those who worked less than you.

You in - creased the tal - ent giv - en you. There - fore, the gates of heav - en

o - pened to you, and now you share in the joy of the Lord.

O ho - ly Ni - cho - las, pray for us.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

**Theotokion**

O Zi - on, be hap - py; re - joice, O Je - ru - sa - lem, the cit - y

of Christ, our God; bid wel - come to the Creator who rests in a man - ger in a cave.

O - pen your gates, Jerusalem, and I will en - ter so that I may see him, who

holds all cre - a - tion in his hands, e - ven though he lies in a manger wrapped

in swad - dling clothes. The angels ever praise this life - giv - ing Lord, who is