

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

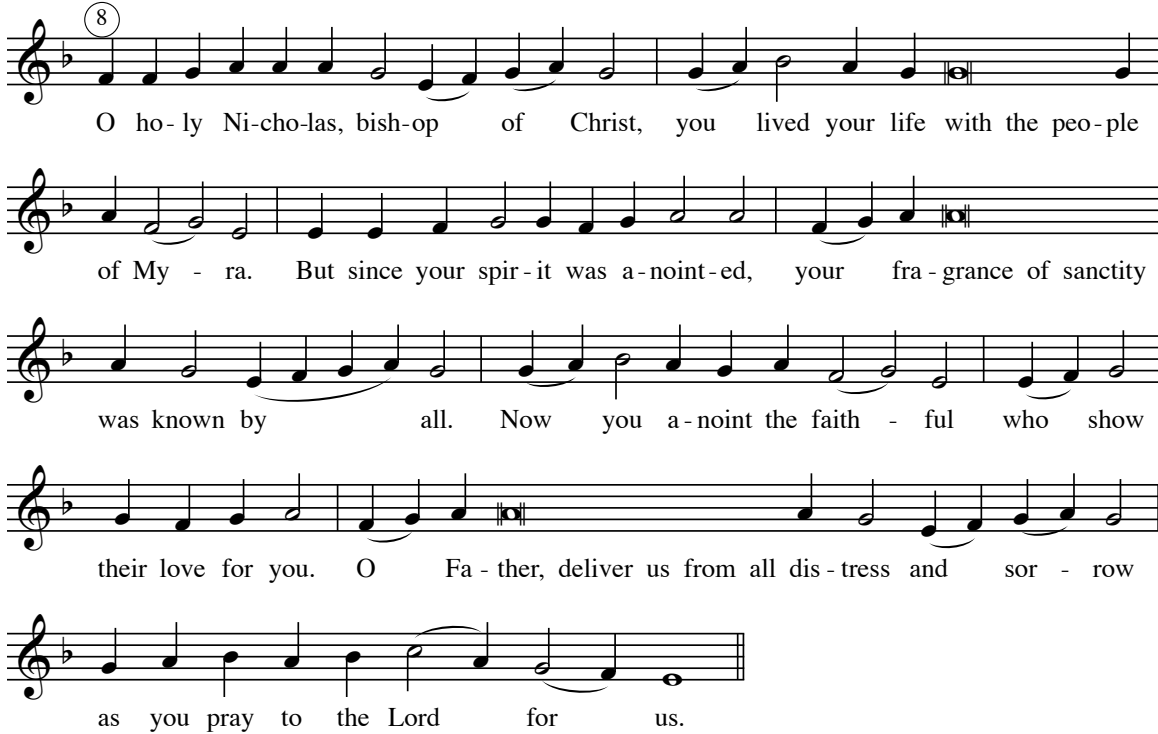
Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays After Pentecost, 2005

"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

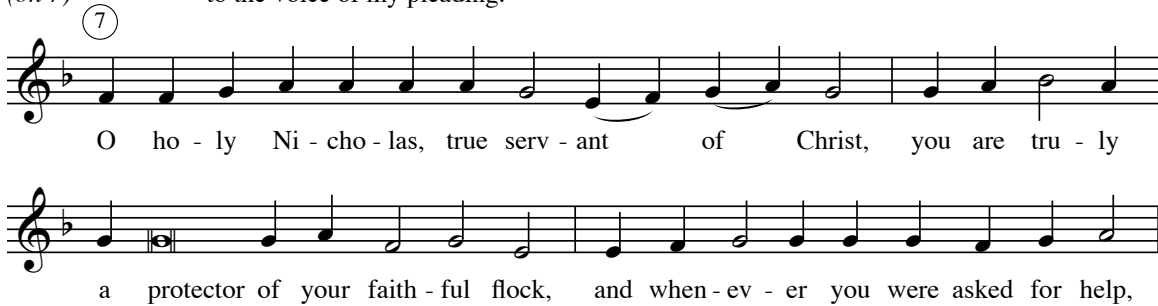
8



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 serv - ant 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 - stan - tine 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.

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 pre - sent he saw far in - to the fu - ture.

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 - versed 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, all - ho - 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

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

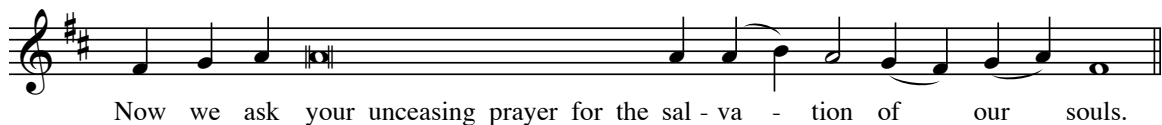
Litija

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.



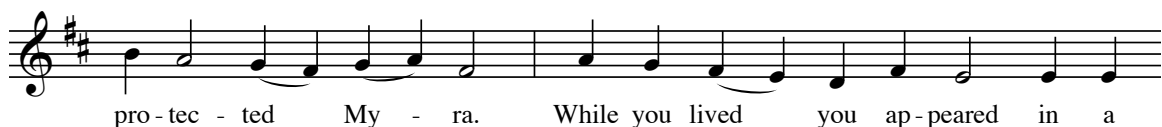
You are known as the pro-tec - tor of wid - ows and or-phans.



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



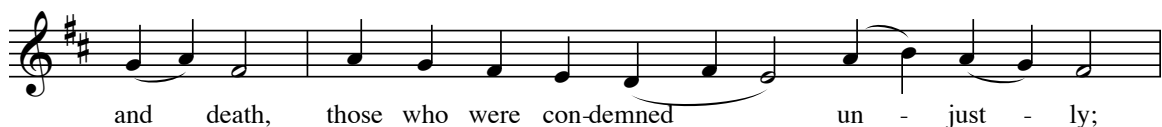
O ho-ly fa - ther Ni - cho-las, your re - lics poured out myrrh and



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,



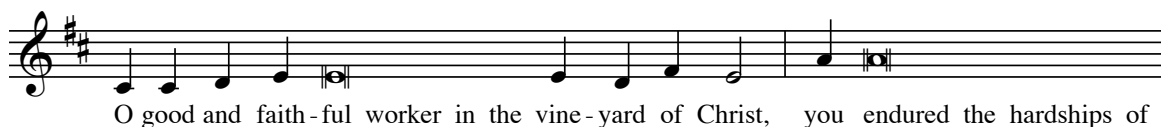
and death, those who were con-demned un - just - ly;



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-joyce, 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

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.

2



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.

3



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

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;

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

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

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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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