

# March 13

**Second Week of Great Lent;  
Commemoration of the Transfer of the Relics of our  
Father among the Saints, Nicephoros,  
Patriarch of Constantinople  
(5th Class)**

## **PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY**

*Stichera for the Fast (Tone 1)*

8. Keeping a spiritual Fast, O brethren, let us speak no lies with our tongue nor give our brothers and sisters cause for scandal. But through repentance, let us make the lamp of our soul burn brightly, and let us cry with tears to Christ: "Forgive us our trespasses in Your love for mankind."
7. O martyrs worthy of all praise, although the earth did not conceal your bodies in burial, Heaven has welcomed you. The gates of Paradise were opened to you, and there you rejoice in the Tree of Life. Intercede with Christ that He grant our souls peace and great mercy!

*(Tone 3)*

6. At the prayers of Your divine Apostles, grant in Your love, O merciful Lord, that we may spend the time of the Fast with truly contrite hearts: so may we all be saved and glorify You.
5. Mighty and terrible shall be Your Coming, O Lord, when You shall sit in righteous; judgment. Though I deserve punishment, condemn me not, but accept the prayers of Your apostles and spare me, O God.

*(Tone 6)*

4. O apostles of Christ, who shine your light on earth, treasuries of the wise knowledge of our God, filling the world with riches: by your holy prayers deliver us who sing your praises from all temptation. Guide us through the season of the Fast, watchfully guarding our lives in peace. So shall our prayers be acceptable to Christ as we celebrate His Passion, and with boldness we shall offer glory to our God.

*For Nicephoros (Tone 8)*

3. Having subjugated your passions to your reason, O blessed Father Nicephoros, you made your soul resplendent through the prism of the virtues. You harvested wisdom from doctrine in keeping with the Orthodox Faith, and you impart that treasure to the faithful who approach you. By grace, you became a lamp shining with a thousand flames, and are the magnificent adornment of the Church of Christ.
2. Gaining the victory over the Enemy, you received the radiant crown of justice, O Nicephoros, wise father, who taught so purely. Unshakable pillar of the Faith, impregnable rampart for the Church, you cast down the hordes of foolish heretics, O venerable Father of divine thoughts.
1. As a celestial guide, O Nicephoros, you climbed the firmament, up to Heaven, carried in the chariot of the virtues, O blessed Theologian. Imitating the zeal of Elijah, with the sword of the Spirit you completely cut the throats of the priests of infamy. And now we exalt you like the Thesbite.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion*

Hail, pride of the world! Hail, overshadowed mountain!  
Hail, our refuge and temple of the Lord! Hail, golden  
lamp, glory of the Orthodox! Hail, holy Mary, Mother of  
Christ our God! Hail, Paradise, holy table! Hail, divine  
tabernacle and golden pavilion, hope of all Christians!

*Entrance with the censer. "O Joyful Light..."*

**PROKIMENON** [Ps 31] (*Tone 6*)

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones, and  
glory all you upright of heart.

v. Blessed are those whose sins are forgiven.

1.) *Genesis 4:16 - 26*

Cain then left the LORD'S presence and settled in the  
land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain had relations with his wife,  
and she conceived and bore Enoch. Cain also became the  
founder of a city, which he named after his son Enoch. To  
Enoch was born Irad, and Irad became the father of  
Mehujael; Mehujael became the father of Methusael, and  
Methusael became the father of Lamech. Lamech took two  
wives; the name of the first was Adah, and the name of the  
second Zillah.

Adah gave birth to Jabal, the ancestor of all who dwell  
in tents and keep cattle. His brother's name was Jubal; he  
was the ancestor of all who play the lyre and the pipe. Zillah,  
on her part, gave birth to Tubalcain, the ancestor of all who  
forge instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubalcain  
was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah,  
hear my voice; wives of Lamech, listen to my utterance: I  
have killed a man for wounding me, a boy for bruising me. If  
Cain is avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-  
sevenfold." Adam again had relations with his wife, and she  
gave birth to a son whom she called Seth. "God has granted  
me more offspring in place of Abel," she said, "because Cain

slew him." To Seth, in turn, a son was born, and he named him Enosh. At that time men began to invoke the LORD by name.

**PROKIMENON [Ps 32] (*Tone 1*)**

O Lord, let Your loving mercy be upon us, even as we have put our hope in You.

v. Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones; praise becomes the just.

2.) *Proverbs 5:15-6:3*

My son, drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. How may your water sources be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let your fountain be yours alone, not one shared with strangers; and have joy of the wife of your youth, your lovely hind, your graceful doe. Her love will invigorate you always, through her love you will flourish continually. Why then, my son, should you go astray for another's wife and accept the embraces of an adulteress? For each man's ways are plain to the LORD'S sight; all their paths He surveys. By his own iniquities the wicked man will be caught, in the meshes of his own sin he will be held fast. He will die from lack of discipline, through the greatness of his folly he will be lost. My son, if you have become surety to your neighbor, given your hand in pledge to another, you have been snared by the utterance of your lips, caught by the words of your mouth. So do this which I tell you, my son, and you will be saved.