

Sunday, June 27, 2021 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost; Bishop-Martyr Nykolai (Nicholas) Charnetsky and the Twenty-Seven Other New Blesseds of the Church of Rus'-Ukraine Beatified in 2001; Venerable Father Samson, Host of Strangers (527-65); Apostles' Fast.

Troparia and Kontakia Troparion, Tone 4: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel* the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* “Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen,* granting to the world great mercy.”

Troparion, Tone 7: Blessed Ukrainian Martyrs,* you did not break the integrity of the Body of Christ,* in giving your bodies to tribulations:* you did not give way to the flattery of the enemy nor deny the Petrine unity.* Your earthly homeland Ukraine beseeches you* together with the whole Universal Church, singing with ancient song:* Holy Martyrs, you gloriously suffered and were crowned;* So pray to the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

Kontakion, Tone 4: My Savior and Deliverer from the grave* as God raised out of bondage the children of the earth* and shattered the gates of Hades;* and as Master, He rose on the third day.

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, Tone 8: Invincible martyrs crowed with victory,* we in the Church you saved* sing songs of thanksgiving to you,* written on the scrolls of our hearts.* And you whose names are written in the Book of the living God,* protect our Church with Life,* that we may cry out: Rejoice you who belong to Heaven!

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Theotokion, Tone 8: Invincible Queen, in honor of victory,* we who are saved from evil, with songs of thanksgiving,* sing to you, O God-Bearer.* And whose power is unfailing,* protect us from all evils,* so that we may sing to you:* Rejoice, O Bride unwed!

Prokeimenon, Tone 4 How great are Your works, O Lord* You have made all things in wisdom.
verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great. (*Psalms 103:24,1*)

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

verse: To the saints who are in His land, the Lord has made wonderful all His desires in them.

Epistle - A Reading of Paul to the Romans: Romans 10:1-10 & Ephesians 6:10-17 (NRSV)

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I can testify that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they have not submitted to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring

Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

Brothers and sisters, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Alleluia, Tone 4 *verse*: Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice. *verse*: You have loved justice and hated iniquity. (Psalm 44:5,8)
verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of their afflictions. (Psalm 33:18)

Gospel: Matthew 8:28-9:1 & Luke 21:12-19 (NRSV)

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, “What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. The demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine.” And he said to them, “Go!” So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the water. The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And after getting into a boat he crossed the sea and came to his own town.

The Lord said to his disciples, “Beware of people, for they will lay their hands on you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Communion Hymn Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (Psalm 148:1)