

FEBRUARY 9 – Leavetaking of the Encounter of our Lord in the Temple, Martyr Nikēphóros

FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart is indicting a good matter, I speak of the things which I have made to the King. *(Psalm 44:2)*

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. *(Psalm 44:3)*

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

Full of grace are your lips. *(Psalm 44:3)*

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

Therefore God has blest you to the age. *(Psalm 44:3)*

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O mighty one, in Your glory and Your beauty! *(Psalm 44:4)*

**O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You:
Alleluia!**

Bend Your bow, and prosper, and reign. *(Psalm 44:5)*

**O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You:
Alleluia!**

Your arrows are sharp, O most Mighty, the peoples shall be subdued under You; You shall pierce the heart of the King's enemies. *(Psalm 44:6)*

**O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You:
Alleluia!**

The scepter of Your kingdom is a righteous scepter. *(Psalm 44:7)*

**O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You:
Alleluia!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and was crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON

Hear, O daughter, consider, and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house.

(Psalm 44:11)

Tone 1 Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

Even the rich among the people shall entreat your favor. *(Psalm 44:13)*

Tone 1 Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

I will make your name to be remembered in all generations. *(Psalm 44:18)*

Tone 1 Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

Priest: Wisdom! Upright!

Chanter: Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, carried in the arms of Simeon the righteous, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

TROPARIA

Tone 1 Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder: / you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, / Who grants us the Resurrection!

Tone 4 Your holy martyr Nikēphóros, O Lord, / through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God. / For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. / Through his intercessions, save our souls!

Tone 4 In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, / a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, / so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, / O Holy Father Nicholas, / intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen. **KONTAKION**

Tone 1 In Your birth sanctifying a virgin womb / and blessing, as is fitting, the hands of Symeon, / You have come now, also, and saved us, Christ God. / But give peace in wars to the people, / and strengthen the kings whom You have loved // Who alone love mankind.

The prokeimenon in the third tone: My soul magnifies the Lord / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *(Luke 1:46-47)*

v: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. *(Luke 1:48)*

THE READING IS FROM THE FIRST CATHOLIC EPISTLE OF PETER (4:1-11)

Brethren, because Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles – when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you. They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear. (Psalm 44:11)

v. Before your face the richest of people will pray. (Psalm 44:13)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (12:28-37)

COMMUNION HYMN I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! *(Psalm 115:4)*