

Akathist to Saint Nikolai Velimirovich of Žiča

Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen. O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (Thrice)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory: of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Lord have mercy. (12 times)

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

Psalm142

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Troparion, Tone 8

O golden-tongued preacher proclaiming the risen Christ,/ Everlasting guide of the cross-bearing Serbian people,/ Resounding harp of the Holy Spirit, and dear to monastics who rejoice in you,/ Pride and boast of the priesthood, teacher of repentance, master for all nations,/ Guide of those in the army of Christ as they pray to God,/ Holy Nicholas teacher in America and pride of the Serbian people,// With all the saints, implore the only Lover of mankind To grant us peace and joy in his heavenly kingdom!

Kontakion, Tone 3

Born at Lelich in Serbia,/ You served as archpastor at the church of Saint Nahum in Ochrid./ Taking your place on the throne of Saint Sabbas at Zhicha,/ You taught God's people and enlightened them with the Gospel./ You brought people to repentance and the love of Christ,/ And for Christ you endured suffering at Dachau.// Therefore we glorify you, a new Nicholas well–pleasing to God.

Kondakion 1.

The chosen preacher and superb <u>ser</u>vant of Christ,/ pouring the valuable myrrh of thy sermons to all the world, O Holy Hierarch <u>Ni</u>cholas!/ We sing thee praises, magnifying the Lord who <u>glo</u>rified thee./ Thou who hast zealously interceded for us before Him, free us from all works of evil, we who lovingly <u>sing</u> to thee:// Rejoice, O Holy Hierarch Nicholas, great Enlightener of <u>Ser</u>bia.

Ikos 1.

An angel of prayer and a preacher of repentance thou wast shown to be by the Creator of all creatures, Saint Nicholas, so that thou can glorify the All-Marvelous Name of the Most Holy Trinity: thou truly didst appear as an angel on earth and a Cherubim in body, thy life shone forth like the brightest ray of the Sun of Truth. We who honor thy glorious deeds cry out in gratitude:

Rejoice, rule of faith and icon of <u>pi</u>ety;
rejoice, teacher of repentance and proclaimer of the <u>fu</u>ture.
Rejoice, graceful shoot of a <u>pio</u>us root;
rejoice, generous enrichment of thy <u>home</u>land.
Rejoice, powerful force and establishment of <u>Ser</u>bia;
rejoice, Valjev's crown and admi<u>ra</u>tion.
Rejoice, holy adornment of Lelich's <u>mo</u>nastery;
rejoice, thou whose God-inspired writings are w<u>i</u>tnesses.
Rejoice, thou who draws our eyes towards <u>hea</u>ven;
rejoice, thou who attained prayer in the monastery <u>as</u> a child.
Rejoice, abundance of God's <u>wis</u>dom and love;
rejoice, shining torch be<u>lo</u>ved by all.
Rejoice, O Holy Hierarch Nicholas,/ great Enlightener of Serbia.

Foreseeing the many tribulations and temptations forthcoming on the Serbian people, and the turmoil of God's children, kind shepherd, Saint of God Nicholas, thou didst preach fervently, writing multiple God-inspired books: so that, when the famine and drought of Godlessness comes, there would be food and drink for thy children. They, seeing this with their own eyes, piously and with one mind cry out to God: Alleluia.

Ikos 2

Superior reason was granted to thee, O Saint Nicholas, lifting thy thoughts upward from thy youth; thou wast granted spiritual wisdom and prayerful spirit. Thou, obtaining many and rich virtues through fasting, vigil and tears, mercifully sowed them throughout the world. Glorifying thee for this, thou who endured imprisonment, beatings and tears for Christ, we sing:

Rejoice, insuperable wall of <u>*Or*</u>thodox truth; rejoice, Father, glory and beauty of the <u>*Fa*</u>thers; Rejoice, golden vessel of the gifts of the Holy <u>*Spi*</u>rit; rejoice, holy denouncer of false and Godless <u>*tea*</u>chings. Rejoice, unceasing evangelist of E<u>*ter*</u>nal life; rejoice, untiring kind shepherd and pro<u>*tec*</u>tor of thy flock. Rejoice, denouncer of falsehood and affirmer of holy <u>*Or*</u>thodoxy; rejoice, great knight, vanquisher of Latin's <u>*slan*</u>der. Rejoice, thou who art quick to hear those in trouble and af<u>*fli*</u>ction; rejoice, merciful healer of our in<u>*fir*</u>mities. Rejoice, richly illumined by the grace of the Holy <u>*Spi*</u>rit; rejoice, shepherd, equal to the apostles, and <u>*tea*</u>cher of the world. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch <u>*Ni*</u>cholas,/ great Enlightener of <u>*Ser*</u>bia.

The power of the Most High, Saint Nicholas, truly didst protect thee from thy youth: when drowning in the river Gradtse, the Lord saved thee by the hand of the boy Sretena: thy father paid a robber three hundred ducats as ransom for you: thou overcame the military Balkan Golgotha, and the multitude attempts on thy life, coming out of the netherworld-like prison Dachau alive. We, who have thee as a new apostle, prophet and hierarch, gratefully sing to the Lord who protected Thee: **A**lleluia.

Ikos 3

Being diligent in the feat of monastic angel-like life, O Hermit Nicholas of Ochrid, thou hast traveled the Holy Mountain rapids from one year to the next, seeking hermits and reveling in the conversations of saints: so thou ascended from strength to strength, from deeds to knowledge of God, emulating the growth of Christ. We, who marvel at thy zeal, feats and love, sing to thee:

Rejoice, lover of Christ with all thy mind, <u>heart</u> and soul; rejoice, taker of His easy yoke u<u>pon</u> thyself; Rejoice, rejecter of the blessings and <u>va</u>nities of this world; rejoice, ye who is fervently drawn to the Heavenly <u>Home</u>land. Rejoice, keeper of the Lord's holy com<u>mand</u>ments: rejoice, reverent reader of <u>pray</u>ers from thy youth. Rejoice, revealer of Christ's path to the Serbian <u>pe</u>ople; rejoice, ye who empowers thy children with warm suppli<u>ca</u>tions. Rejoice, ye who delivers us from affliction by thy <u>pray</u>ers, rejoice, ye who powerfully protects people from wicked <u>slan</u>der. Rejoice, new magnificent Chrysostom like <u>prea</u>cher; rejoice, O Holy Hierarch Nicholas,/ great Enlightener of Serbia.

Thou didst foresee the storm of temptations that was to be raised up against our Holy Church, O, Holy Hierarch Nicholas, as a kind shepherd teaching thy flock the fear of God. Traveling the ends of the earth, thou hast preached the Gospel to those in ignorance, so that they, vigilant in prayer, keeping the true faith and observing the Lord's commandments, walking before Him with pure heart, would joyously cry out to Him: Alleluia.

Ikos 4

People came from all over to hear thee, Christ's Chrysostom like Nicholas, the chosen vessel, overflowing with the gifts of the Spirit and merciful feats, the devotee of the poor, nurturer of widows and orphans, the protector and comforter of the suffering, the tearful supplicant of sinners. Together with them we also, repentant of our sins and prayerfully asking thy intercession before the Lord, loudly cry:

Rejoice, having offered all of thyself as a sacrifice <u>un</u> to the Lord; rejoice, humbly reaching the height of dis<u>pas</u>sion. Rejoice, Christ's truly victorious <u>war</u>rior for truth; rejoice, the good and true servant of the Heavenly <u>Buil</u>der. Rejoice, our fearless intercessor be<u>fore</u> the Lord; rejoice, enlightening those engulfed in <u>faith</u>lessness. Rejoice, ye whose love makes the lost listen to <u>rea</u>son; rejoice, quick comforter of those re<u>pent</u>ing of sins. Rejoice, thou who dost nurture and warm us with thy <u>teach</u>ings; rejoice, bearer of many children by the Holy <u>Spi</u>rit. Rejoice, mentor of <u>see</u>kers of truth; rejoice, great torrent of heavenly di<u>vine</u> thoughts. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch *Ni*cholas,/ great Enlightener of *Ser*bia.

Divine light shone on thy prison, O Martyr Nicholas, and thy walls were fiery flames, when Christ appeared to thee in the German prison Dachau to encourage thee: whoever seeks salvation, let them take up their cross and follow Him, as all suffering is temporary, but the Kingdom of Heaven is eternal. Thou also hast showed thyself as a seeker of Christ, instructing in meekness to unceasingly chant: Alleluia.

Ikos 5

Seeing thy pure and holy life, O, confessor Nicholas, the enemy of the human race yearned to destroy thee: he leveled upon thee a multitude of temptations and attempts on thy life even to deadly imprisonment, where he himself appeared in person, disguised as a gentleman and philosopher, and who thou, filled with the Holy Spirit, thou didst defeat him with words from thy lips. Then he, in anger at thee, vanished in putrid smoke. We that marvel at thee who suffered many torments for Christ, with tears in our eyes, cry out to thee:

Rejoice, thou who defeated the spirit of malice with *good*ness;

rejoice, thou who conquered with the power of God's grace enemies visible and in*vi*sible.

Rejoice, thou who banished the angels of darkness with thy <u>pray</u>er; rejoice, thou who displayed the likeness of Christ in humility and <u>meek</u>ness. Rejoice, thou who shamed enemies with thy blessed <u>ti</u>dings; rejoice, thou who rocked the forces of hades <u>with</u> thy words. Rejoice, good softener of obstinate and <u>e</u>vil souls; rejoice, opener of heaven through the raising up <u>of</u> thy arms; Rejoice, freer of penitents' sins through thy <u>pray</u>ers; rejoice, feeder of the hungry with truth through thy <u>to</u>ils. Rejoice, quick awakener of <u>hard</u>ened hearts; rejoice, protector of the uncovered and the liberator of the im<u>pri</u>soned. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch *Ni*cholas,/ great Enlightener of *Ser*bia.

The preachers sent by thee, great equal-to-the-apostles Nicholas, became lesser apostles, traversing the Serbian land in sackcloth, carrying the Gospel in a bag on their shoulders, and preaching the good news of Christ to the people: first displaying their teachings through deeds, doing all freely and reverently, and crying out with the people: Alleluia.

Ikos 6

Thou, O Holy Hierarch Nicholas, hast shone brighter through thy life than the northern lights, enlightening all with the light of Christ, and raising up Serbian monasteries with thy pupils and their children. We likewise gratefully honor thy toils, and magnify thee thus:

Rejoice, true servant of the Most Holy <u>*Tri*</u>nity; rejoice, thou who didst see Christ with thine <u>*own*</u> eyes. Rejoice, thou who wast well sated by the eternal <u>*bread*</u> of life; rejoice, thou who wast filled with the drink of immortality for e<u>*ter*</u>nity. Rejoice, foretaster of heavenly sweetness in mortal <u>*bo*</u>dy; rejoice, filler of monasteries with new in<u>*hab*</u>itants. Rejoice, glorious builder of many churches and <u>*con*</u>vents; rejoice, mentor of monks and teacher of <u>*lay*</u>men. Rejoice, quiet haven for those overwhelmed by the <u>*wre*</u>tched world; rejoice, fervent adherent of God's <u>*peace*</u> and truth; rejoice, glorious leader of Christ's prayerful <u>*ar*</u>my. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch <u>*Ni*</u>cholas,/ great Enlightener of <u>*Ser*</u>bia.

The Lord, Lover of mankind, wanting to reveal in thee, O, All-blessed Nicholas, His ineffable mercy for people, revealed thee as a new confessor for the defense of the Serbian race and Church: lifting the symbol of victory over the Latin heretics attacking thy homeland with thy friends, not sparing thy life for the venerable Cross, and joyfully singing to God: Alleluia.

Ikos 7

Seeing in thee God's new chosen one, Christ-bearing Nicholas, who tearfully prayed to God that He would keep His people in the faith of their forefathers, the faithful followed thee, until thou cleared the land of heretics and directed the ship of the church on the waters of the Holy Fathers towards the east. For this people praise thee thus:

Rejoice, deliverer from the flood of Latin <u>he</u>resy; rejoice, defeater of the mental <u>A</u>malek. Rejoice, model to thy race and glorious <u>lead</u>er; rejoice, wise savior of our souls from eastern <u>va</u>nity. Rejoice, intercessor of tearful <u>pe</u>nitents; rejoice, thou who dost unceasingly pray for us before the <u>Throne</u> of God. Rejoice, establisher of Apostolic faith while standing on the <u>Lord's</u> watch; rejoice, banisher of malice and super<u>sti</u>tions. Rejoice, unfailing assurance of sinners burdened by <u>ma</u>ny sins; rejoice, bestower of the crown of grace upon <u>mour</u>ners; Rejoice, brilliant pillar, leading us on the gloomy <u>de</u>sert; rejoice, perceptive denouncer of <u>hid</u>den sins. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch <u>Ni</u>cholas,/ great Enlightener of <u>Ser</u>bia.

Kondakion 8

Thy audacity appeared as a strange miracle, O Spirit-bearing Nicholas, imploring the enemies of the Serbian land to either let thee be martyred with the citizens of Kralev who were being shot, or that they cease the slaying of thy flock. The German heathens, imprisoned thee, but did end the general slaughter. We who cannot describe the sufferings and prayerful tears that thou wept for people, warmly thank thee, and glorify Christ the Vanquisher of death: Alleluia.

Ikos 8

Thou wast truly Christ's grape-gatherer, O supremely wise Nicholas, measuring everything by the holy word: how is partaking of truth akin to deceit; or what relationship is there between darkness and light; or what portion is shared by the faithful and the unfaithful; thou considered those same unfaithful as the worst and vilest before God, according to the prophet's word: The fool hath said in himself, there is no God. For this the foolish heave rocks and timber on thee, while we faithful chant to thee the following:

Rejoice, courageous keeper of the faith, persecuted <u>wrong</u>fully;

rejoice, thou who dost lay down thy life *for* thy flock.

Rejoice, thou who wast adorned by the great feat of fasting and complete *po*verty;

rejoice, thou who wast comforted by the Spirit of truth through tears for thy sins and for those of the *whole* world.

Rejoice, intercessor of salvation for all who come to thee;

rejoice, sleepless ascetic who knew no rest.

Rejoice, manifester of blazing love *to*wards the Lord;

rejoice, scorcher of enemy arrows with thy *pra*yers.

Rejoice, great and glorious treasure of the *faith*ful;

rejoice, unfailing prophet of *fu*ture events.

Rejoice, inextinguishable lantern of spiritual gifts;

rejoice, heir of heavenly mansions with the saints.

As a joy to all those in temptations and sorrows, the Lord revealed thee as a great shepherd, our God-bearing Father Nicholas, healing the infirm, exorcising evil spirits, rescuing from unjust death, calling to repentance. Thou hast planted the Kingdom of Heaven in human hearts by entreating God for our salvation. We, who seek thy help, cry out with faith and hope: Alleluia.

Ikos 9

Effusive orators cannot describe the strength of thy preaching and thy prayer, most blessed Nicholas, who gave thyself to serving fellow man, and who was all to all: the good adviser of the perplexed, the comforter of the despondent, the gentle admonisher of the lost, the quick healer of the ailing, the nurturer and protector of the orphaned and infirm, the all-powerful resurrecter of our souls. For this we cry out to thee:

Rejoice, merciful protector of the poor and <u>wret</u>ched; rejoice, great teacher of Orthodox en<u>ligh</u>tenment. Rejoice, loving father of the offspring who <u>came</u> to thee; rejoice, giver of hope and reassurance to them with <u>words</u> of love. Rejoice, great ladder, leading up to the <u>heav</u>ens; rejoice, holy bath, cleansing the <u>con</u>science. Rejoice, most wise physician, healer of all spiritual in<u>fir</u>mities; rejoice, trustworthy guide in <u>world</u>ly life. Rejoice, dew-filled cloud <u>quen</u>ching our hearts; rejoice, earthly heir of the <u>King</u>dom of God. Rejoice, provider for the parched and <u>hung</u>ry; rejoice, destroyer of lies and <u>lov</u>er of truth. **R**ejoice, O Holy Hierarch <u>Ni</u>cholas,/ great Enlightener of <u>Ser</u>bia.

Thou reached the end of thy salutary feat, Holy Hierarch Nicholas, while standing on thy knees in prayer, putting thy soul in God's hands, and which the holy angels carried up to the throne of the Almighty, so that thou could stand before it in never waning glory, praying the Lover of Mankind with all the saints to grant repentance to our race negligent-in- faith. All of us cry out to him warmly: Alleluia.

Ikos 10

The walls of the church that thou didst build received thy sacred relics, Holy Nicholas, in Lelich where thou wast born, and where thou decreed thy body to be brought when the time did come. Being foretold from above of thy pending death, thou didst see a Serbian carpet from Kralev for a shroud and a handful of Serbian earth: thou madest thine own Cross for thy grave, and decreed to be buried in a simple wooden coffin. We, marveling at such great humility on thy part, chant unto thee:

Rejoice, revealing the holiness of thy *life* by thy death;

rejoice, giving thy loving soul to the Lord while *pray*ing.

Rejoice, thou whose head was crowned with an eternal crown by the <u>King</u> of Kings;

rejoice, mysterious and glorious treasury of prayerful and *fast*ing feats.

Rejoice, prayerful founder of thy heart and *mind* in God;

rejoice, steadfast strong column of *pie*ty.

Rejoice, inextinguishable light, lit by the *flame* of God;

rejoice, thou who wast banished for the Savior and His truth and His co-heir of the blessed *King*dom.

Rejoice, tearful and fervent beseecher for our souls' sal<u>va</u>tion;

rejoice, thou who mercifully comforted us with the coming of thy \underline{re} lics.

Rejoice, the new Serbian sacrifice on God's <u>al</u>tar;

rejoice, great glory to thy earthly *home* land.

Chanting unceasingly up to the Most Holy Trinity, God-bearing Nicholas, thou wast a great confessor of truth by thy entire life, as the establisher of Orthodoxy: teacher of faith, hope and love: intercessor for Church, homeland and every soul. For this we, so grateful to the Lord for such mercy to us, praise Him: Alleluia.

Ikos 11.

We see thee as a shining ray in the darkness of those in ignorance glowing even brighter upon thy falling asleep, Holy Christ's Hierarch Nicholas. Many, with minds darkened, renewed preaching superstitions and heresies that were denounced in the past, destroying thy flock with a new and more vicious pan heresy created from all malicious fabrications. We pray that this darkness and poisonous scourge be dispelled, with hope crying out to you:

Rejoice, flash of lightning, searing <u>he</u>resies; rejoice, bright thunder, frightening se<u>du</u>cers. Rejoice, quick deliverer from enemies visible and in<u>vis</u>ible; rejoice, merciful healer of the infirm and <u>ail</u>ing. Rejoice, salt of the earth, saving us from per<u>di</u>tion; rejoice, light of the world, enlightening <u>hu</u>mankind. Rejoice, encompasser of all the ends of thy homeland <u>with</u> thy love; rejoice, thou who dost shine on the whole world with love and <u>wis</u>dom. Rejoice, intercessor for the orphaned, infirm, and for<u>got</u>ten by all; rejoice, unceasing gratitude to the Vanquisher of Death and His Most Holy <u>Mo</u>ther.

Rejoice, generous giver of good things earthly and <u>heav</u>enly; rejoice, mighty conqueror of the flatterer's evil **do**ings.

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Knowing thee as the grace-filled source of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, O Master Nicholas, we gratefully accept them and reverently pray thee: beg the bountiful Christ, that He keep His holy church unharmed by faithlessness, division, heresies, especially from the new pan-heresies, so that, delivered by thy intercession from disasters and plagues, we cry to God: **A**lleluia.

Ikos 12

Singing the feats, illnesses and toils of thy apostolic life, and thy many glorious deeds, we venerate thee, praiseworthy Nicholas, as a merciful intercessor before the Lord for the salvation of our souls, and with love call to thee thus:

Rejoice, preserver of untainted purity of soul and <u>bo</u>dy;

rejoice, thou who didst consider as dust the beauties <u>of</u> this world.

Rejoice, loving father of all Serbian worshippers;

rejoice, thou who helped thy countrymen blossom in monasticism.

Rejoice, shepherd chosen by God for thy Serbian *<u>na</u>tion*;

rejoice, like believing friend one in blood with the Russian people.

Rejoice, venerator of the Great-Martyr Tsar, whose name *thou* dost share;

rejoice, builder of the first church in the world to honor the Holy Martyrs in \underline{O} chrid.

Rejoice, decreeing that the Tsar's image be painted in all Serbian <u>*chur*</u>ches; rejoice, deeming his sacrifice for his people equal to Tsar Lazarus' martyrdom on <u>*Ko*</u>sovo Field.

Rejoice, great confessor of <u>Or</u>thodox truth;

rejoice, glorious preacher of the teachings of the Holy <u>Fa</u>thers.

Kondakion 13

O most light and most marvelous superb servant of Christ, our Holy Hierarch Nicholas, all praiseworthy and all-honorable archbishop of God! Accept this small prayer as our gratitude for thy service in the salvation of the Orthodox people, just as the Lord accepted the contribution of the poor widow, and pray our Lord Jesus Christ to deliver us from all evils transitory and eternal, that together with you in His Kingdom we may sing to Him: **A**lleluia.

Repeat Kondakion 13 three times, then read Ikos 1 and Kondakion 1.

Prayer

O Holy Chrysostom like Hierarch of Christ Nicholas, guardian of the Serbian land, and enlightener of all Orthodox Christians, reliable representative of us sinners before the Lord! We run to thee with faith and pray to thee with love, that thou look upon our many weaknesses and words, insufficient, but reverently presented to thee, and have pity on us, burdened and weakened by great sins, and plead Christ our God for all the sorrowing and embittered, demanding His help: that the unbaptized be christened, the unwed be married and keep the fruit of their womb: that all the faithful would live by God's laws. O, Hierarch of the Lord, do not leave without thy all-powerful intercession all those who renounced the Orthodox faith, those conjuring or those visiting necromancers, those lost in faithlessness, malice and superstition, that the Lord may find them in the desert and return them to His flock. O, Holy Great and New superb servant of God, second merciful Nicholas, present thy intercession for us sinners to the Highest, and plead with Him through thy God-pleasing prayers for the gifts of repentance for us, and for the bringing of our fruits thereof: the proud to become humble, the overeaters to find abstinence, the fornicators to return to chastity, the avaricious to become generous, the drunken and partakers of poisonous grains to reject their evil passions: so that all who are entrapped by sin would acquire the skill of repentance, and become free of the enemy's works. O Holy Hierarch Nicholas, pray the one Lover of Mankind to grant us sinners time to diligently

repent in faith, patience and humility, that all Serbs unite, become Godlike, and multiply, according to thy word: so that we, all the Slovenian people, connected by the union of brotherly love, would live in all forms of piety and peace, hoping for the return of Orthodox tsars to the throne, and especially, be worthy of attaining the Heavenly Kingdom through thy prayers and thy strong protection, where thou art now shining in unwaning light, together with the multitudes of Serbian and Russian new martyrs and confessors, and all the saints from time immemorial who pleased God, glory, honor and worship to His All-Holy Name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.