

**Vespers Propers on the Evening of the  
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast  
March 22, 2015**

**The holy venerable martyr Nikon and his students martyred with him** fled the persecutions in Palestine to a refuge in Sicily, where they were put to death under the emperor Decius. (250)

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers on Sunday Afternoons in the Great Fast.*

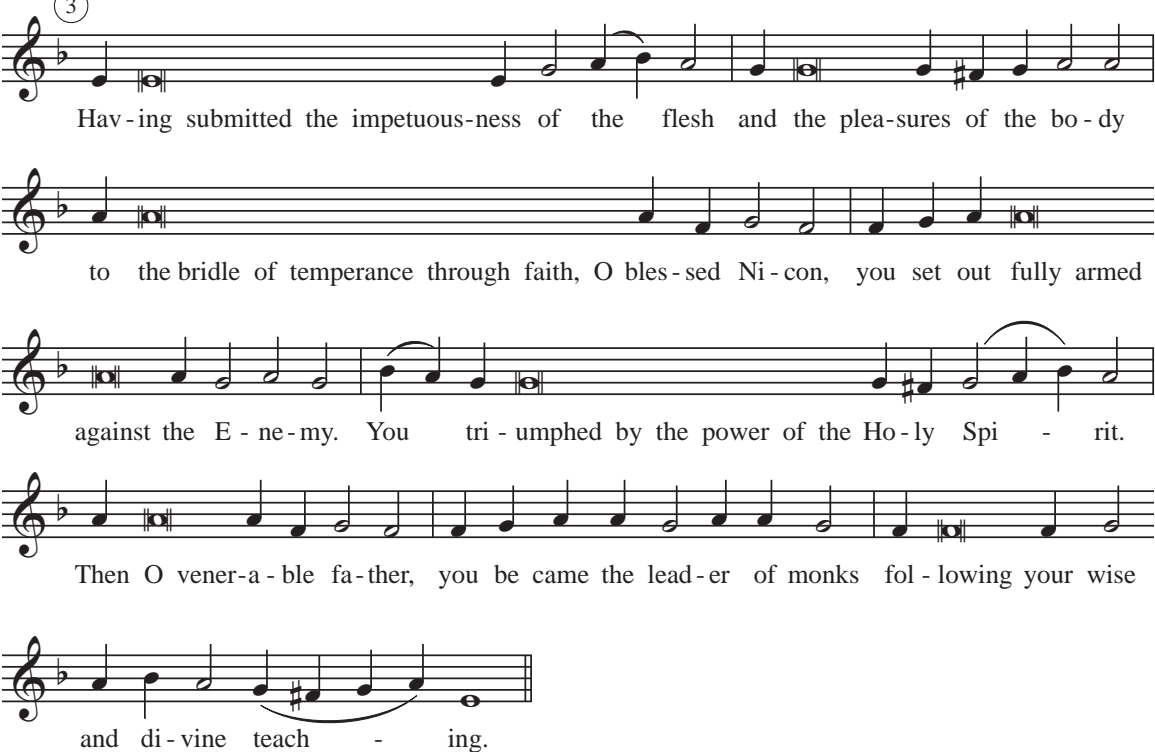
*Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness in the tone of the week (Tone 8, p. 52)*

*Stichera of the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 77*

**Cantor:** (Tone 1) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

**Stichera of the holy venerable-martyr Nikon and companions - Tone 4 samohlasen**

③



Hav - ing sub - mit - ted the im - petu - ous - ness of the flesh and the plea - sures of the bo - dy  
to the bridle of tem - per - ance through faith, O bles - sed Ni - con, you set out fully armed  
against the E - ne - my. You tri - umphed by the power of the Ho - ly Spi - rit.  
Then O vener - a - ble fa - ther, you be - came the lead - er of monks fol - lowing your wise  
and di - vine teach - ing.

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations; **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him, all you peoples!

②

Ri - sing in the East like the sun, O bles-sed fa - ther Ni - con, you filled  
the whole world with the light of your mir - a - cles, lead - ing af - ter you the choir  
of your companions like ra - diant stars. Hav - ing strug - gled to - ge - ther val - iant - ly,  
you were given over to the sword, com - mending your spirits into the hands of the  
al - might - y Lord.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

Nei - ther hunger not dan - - ger, nor na - ked - ness nor beat - ings,  
nor violent death could separate you from the love of Christ, O admir - a - ble mar - tyrs.  
But, like lambs following their shepherd to the slaugh - ter, you came from the West,

bear - ing your crowns, to the nev - er end - ing rest in the King - dom of God.

**Cantor:** Glory...now and ever...

**Theotokion** - *Tone 4 samohlasen*

O all - ho - ly Bride of God, de - liver my lowly soul from con - dem - na - tion  
and griev - ous trans - gres - sions, and by your sup - plications re - lease it from death,  
and grant that I may receive the justification on the day of death which the councils of  
the saints have re - ceived. Be - fore the end show me to be cleansed by re - pen - tence  
and the shed - ding of tears.

*The service continues on page 9.*

*Prokeimenon for the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p.10*

*Aposticha of the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, p. 79*