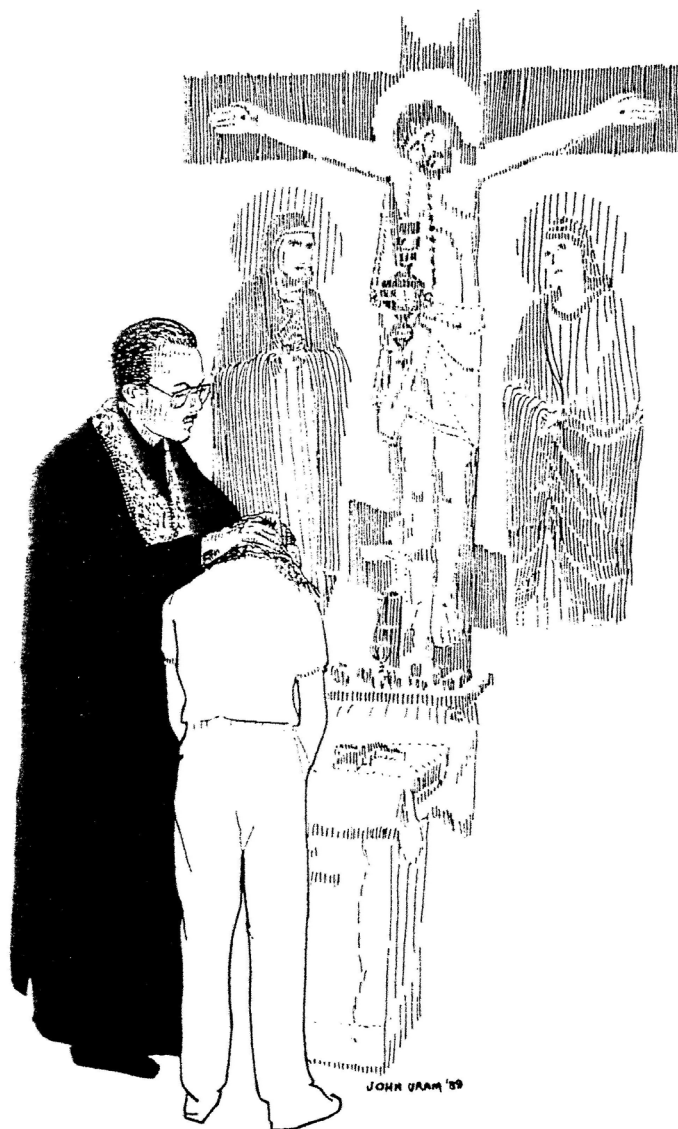


ORDER OF GENERAL CONFESSION



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
(Mogadore, Ohio 2020)

Very Reverend Nicholas Wyslutsky

General Confession

Priest, vested in stole, stands in the center of the church (Curtin & RD closed). Facing the Iconostasis begins:

Priest: ***Blessed is Our God, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.***

People: *Amen. Glory to Thee, our God! Glory to Thee!*

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere and fills all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us; and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O Most Holy Trinity: Have mercy on us. Lord: Cleanse us from our sins. Master: Pardon our transgressions. Holy One: Visit and heal our infirmities, for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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 ages of ages.***

People: Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come, let us worship God our King!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

PSALM 50 (51)

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight; That thou may be found just when thou speak, And blameless when thou judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. Behold, thou desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part thou will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones thou have broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from thy presence, and do not take thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me by thy generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted to thee. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. For thou does not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; thou does not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart; These, O

God, thou will not despise. Do good in thy good pleasure to Zion; build the walls of Jerusalem. Then thou shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering; then they shall offer bulls on Thine Altar.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us. For we sinners void of all defense, do offer unto thee, as to our Master, this supplication: Have mercy upon us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, for in thee have we trusted, and be not very wroth with us, neither call thou to remembrance our iniquities: but look down even now upon us, inasmuch as thou art of tender compassion, and deliver us from our enemies; for thou art our God, and we are thy people, we are all the works of thy hands, and we call upon thy Name.

Now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Open unto us the door of thy loving kindness, O blessed Birth-giver of God. In that we set our hope on thee we may not fail, but through thee may we be delivered from all adversities; for thou art the salvation of all Christian people.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Priest: ***In peace, let us pray to the Lord.***

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: ***For the peace that is from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.***

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: *For the remission of sins, and for The pardon of the transgressions of Your servants and that they may be forgiven all their transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: *That the Lord our God may grant them remission of sins, and a time for repentance, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: *For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: *Help us, save us, and have mercy upon us, and keep us O God by thy grace.*

People: *Lord have mercy.*

Priest: *Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.*

People: *To thee, O Lord.*

Priest: *For unto Thee are due all glory, Honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

People: *Amen.*

Priest: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: ***O Lord Jesus Christ, son of the Living God, the Shepherd, and the Lamb that takes away the sins of the world, Who gave remittance unto the two debtors, and did grant remission of her sins unto the harlot: Do Thou Thyself, O Master, loose, remit and pardon the sins, transgressions and iniquities, whether voluntary or involuntary, whether known or unknown, whether by mistake or in disobedience, which Thy servants have committed, and whatsoever they have done, as men bearing flesh and living in the world, being beguiled by the devil. And if by word, or by deed, or in knowledge, or in ignorance they have sinned, or have despised the word of a Priest, or are under a priestly anathema, or are fallen under their own anathema, or are bound under an oath, do Thou Thyself, as Thou art good and gentle, O Master, be pleased that these, Thy servants, be loosed by Thy word, forgiving them their own anathema and oath, according to the greatness of Thy mercy. Yea, O Master and Lord, O Lover of Mankind, hearken unto us who are entreating Thy grace for these Thy servants; and, as the greatly-merciful One, overlook all their transgressions, and deliver them from eternal torment. For Thou hast said, O Master: "Whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." For Thou only art sinless, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.***

People: Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Priest: ***Let us pray to the Lord.***

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, our savior, Who, by Your prophet Nathan did grant remission of his sins to the repentant David, and did accept the penitent prayer of Manasseh: Do You Yourself, in Your customary love for mankind, accept these Your servants who repent of the sins they have committed, overlooking all they have done, forgiving their unrighteousness, and passing by their transgressions. For You, O Lord, have said: "I desire not the death of a sinner, but that they turn from their way and live"; and that sins shall be forgiven even unto seventy times seven. For as Your majesty is incomparable, so is Your mercy immeasurable. For if You should mark iniquities, who should stand? For You art the God of those that repent and unto You do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Turn and face penitents:

People: Amen. I a sinner confess to Almighty God, one in the Holy Trinity, to the All-Pure Virgin Mary Theotokos, to my Guardian Angel, to all the Saints and to you, my Spiritual Father, all my sins.

The penitent(s) shall make a prostration or kneel, and the confessor shall say:

Priest: Remember that Christ Himself promised to be among two or three gathered in His Name. He invisibly stands here to hear your confession. Be not ashamed, neither be afraid, nor hide nothing from Him. Rather, fear not to relate openly all that you have done, so that you may receive forgiveness from our Lord Jesus Christ. Behold, His Icon is before us, and the Holy Saints are here present. I am only a witness, that I may bear witness before Him of all you confess. Open your mind, your heart and your soul to Him. If you hide anything you shall have the greater sin. Take heed, therefore, that having come to the place of the Physician, you not depart unhealed.

Meditation

(The penitent(s) now confess their sins. The confessor will, in a profound and thorough manner, recall, the sins, errors and temptations afflicting humanity.)

Priest: ***Holy Confession is a Sacrament, a Mystery, which Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us. Through it, we sinners are able to meet the Lord in faith, receive His forgiveness and begin our lives anew in His peace.***

As I enumerate various sins and transgressions ponder them in your hearts and minds and acknowledge them before Our Savior asking for His forgiveness.

General Confession

(The penitent(s) now confess their sins. The confessor will, in a profound and thorough manner, recall, the sins, errors and temptations afflicting humanity.)

Priest: ***Let us pause for a moment in silent prayer and reflection to meditate on these, or any other transgressions we may have committed, and ask for Our Heavenly Father's love and forgiveness.***

Priest: ***Let us pray:***

People: ***For these and all the sins of my past life which I cannot recall, I am truly sorry. I sincerely repent and I promise, with the help of God, to make my life better, and I ask the Lord through you, my Spiritual Father, to grant me healing penance and absolution.***

Priest: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Priest: *O Lord God of the salvation of Your servants, Who are merciful, compassionate and long-suffering, Who repents concerning our evil deeds, Who desires not the death of a sinner, but that he should turn from his way and live: Do You Yourself now be merciful unto Your servants, and grant unto them an image of repentance, pardon and remission of sins, forgiving them every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary. Reconcile and unite them to Your Holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord, with Whom is due unto You power and majesty, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O Lord who loves mankind, receive this prayer offered on behalf of your servants who bow their heads and their hearts before you, and free them from eternal punishment as we recall Your own words, that "whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven". For You alone are without sin, and to you we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: *Amen.*

Priest: *You may now come forward to receive the Prayer of Absolution. As you approach I will ask if you have any additional sins you wish to confess at which time you may offer them.*

(Individual Absolution Following)

