

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of April

### Venerable Father Nicetas the Confessor, Abbot of Medikon.

#### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 2: *To the melody, “Down from the tree....”***

**D**irecting souls with thy words, O bearer of God, /  
And as one who guided others to the knowledge of mystical things /  
Thou didst reveal thyself to be a divine husbandman, /  
Sowing the good seeds of salvation; /  
And harvesting the fruit in great abundance /  
And presenting them to thy Master. /  
Standing now before Him and rejoicing, O blessèd one, ///  
Forget not thy flock which ever honors thee, O divinely inspired Nicetas.

**B**eing simple and meek, O divinely-inspired Nicetas /  
Thou didst reveal thyself an ardent defender of Orthodoxy, /  
Clothing thyself in the armor of faith /  
And armed with the spear of abstinence, /  
Thou didst denounce the blasphemies of heresy, /  
Honoring the divine icon of the Savior ///  
Whom thou didst serve, following the ways of the fathers.

**S**uffering the bitterness of exile /  
And cruelly confined in dark places by the gloomy tyrant, /  
Thou didst endure all things, O father, /  
Rejoicing in thy soul as if in the mansions of paradise. /  
Now, having truly received the reward for all thy suffering, ///  
Thou hast been granted to behold its splendor, O blessèd one.

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: *(and melody)***

**T**hou alone didst bear within thy womb /  
The uncontainable God without confining Him, /  
Who in His goodness became a man. /  
Therefore, I beseech thee, O All-Holy Bride of God, /  
Set me free of the passions which confine me //  
That walking the straight and narrow path I may reach that which leads to Life, O  
Lady.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)**

**W**hen the chaste ewe-lamb beheld her own Lamb /  
Led of His own will, as a man, to the slaughter /  
She cried aloud, lamenting: /  
“What is this which Thou art doing, /  
O Christ the Deliverer of all,  
Art Thou striving to make me who bore thee childless? /  
Yet I will praise and glorify thine exceeding goodness /  
Which passeth beyond all reason and understanding, ///  
O Thou, Who lovest mankind!”

**The General Troparion of Venerable Monastics, in Tone 4: (No Troparion of the Saint given in the Menaion)**

**T**he image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Father, /  
For thou didst take up thy cross and follow Christ /  
By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away /  
But to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal ///  
Therefore thy spirit, O holy Nicetas, rejoices with the angels.

**Matins**

**The Canon of Saint Nicetas, in Tone 2,**

*having the acrostic “I honor thy all-radiant life, O father,” the composition of Theophanes  
— incomplete as of 1/20/2014*

**After the Sixth Ode of the Canon:**

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 2: To the melody, “Seeking the highest....”**

**H**aving attained a heavenly mind and manner of life, /  
And shining brightly as with the rays of the Sun, /  
The splendor of thy deeds illumine all that sit in the darkness of life, /  
And lead them all unto God. ///  
Ceaselessly pray for us all, O father Nicetas.