

# Month of January

## THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY

### Commemoration of Our Father among the Saints Kentigern, Known as Mungo, Which in the Celtic Tongue Meaneth "the Beloved", Bishop at Glasgow, Apostle of Strathclyde & Wonderworker of All Scotland

*Note: Since this day, January 14<sup>th</sup>, is the Apodosis of Holy Theophany, the hymns of the holy hierarch Kentigern are transferred to some other day deemed appropriate by the Ecclesiarch.*

#### At Vespers

*On "Lord, I have cried...", these stichera, in Tone II: Spec. Mel.: "When from the Tree"—*

Come, O ye faithful, let us bless the holy hierarch Kentigern, saying: Rejoice, O thou who by thine apostolic labors didst bring the Scottish people unto Christ! Rejoice, O thou who didst tirelessly preach the Word of God! Rejoice, O follower of the apostles, who, forsaking the vainglory of this world, didst strive for the things of heaven! Rejoice, O thou who prayest unceasingly in our behalf, that our souls may be saved!

When the grace of Christ was poured out upon thee, O holy one, and within thee faith and hope increased like leaven, and the love of God had embraced thy whole soul, thou didst willingly endure hunger and thirst, and falling down before thy Savior, clad in a hair-shirt, in repentance thou didst continually chant the psalms of David, making fervent entreaty for thy salvation, and beseeching the Lord in behalf of the people.

When Christ desired to lead the Scottish people forth from the madness of idolatry into the radiant light of salvation, He chose thee, O glorious Kentigern, to be His apostle and hierarch, and set thy heart alight with the fire of His love, that, taught by thee, they might hasten like harts to the streams of living water, and, having drunk of the wellspring of baptism, they might be enlightened by grace divine.

*Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone VI—*

Seeing the Scottish land forlorn, like a goat amid the sheep of Christ, O Kentigern, thou didst desire to bring it to new and abundant life. Wherefore, enlightening it in the laver of regeneration, thou didst lead it into the pious company of the Christian nations, and, having taught it the Gospel of salvation, thou didst lay it at the feet of Christ the Master, Whom do thou ever continually beseech, that He save and enlighten our souls.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel.: "On the third day..."—*

Seeing Thee crucified, O Christ, she who gave Thee birth cried aloud: "What is this strange mystery which I behold, O my Son? How is it that Thou diest, suspended in the flesh upon the Tree, O Bestower of life?"

*Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone II—*

Shining forth from the noetic East like the sun, O Jesus our Redeemer, with Thy never-waning light illumine the west of the Scottish land. Yea, pour forth upon it Thine enlightening grace, that, moved to compunction, its people may enter the fold of the Thy Holy Church, and bring to Thee the fruits of piety in abundance, and thus repay the labors and toils of the disciple the apostles, the holy hierarch Kentigern, through whose

supplications save the souls of all who honor his venerable memory.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel.: "When from the Tree..."—*

She who knew not wedlock, beholding Thee nailed to the Tree of the Cross, O Jesus, said, weeping: "O my sweet Child, wherefore hast Thou left me alone who gave birth to Thee, O unapproachable Light of the all-unoriginate Father? Haste Thou, and glorify Thyself, those who glorify Thy divine sufferings may receive divine glory!"

*Troparion of the saint, in Tone V—*

O glorious hierarch Kentigern, imitator of the apostles, thou faithful and divinely wise servant of Christ, chosen instrument of the Holy Spirit, vessel overflowing with grace divine, enlightener of the Picts and the Scots: Beseech the Holy Trinity most fervently, that peace and mercy be granted to the Scottish land and the whole world.

### **At Matins**

*At "God is the Lord...", the troparion of the saint, twice; Glory..., Now & ever...: Theotokion.*

*Canon of the saint, with 4 troparia, the acrostic whereof is "Kentigern shineth like the north star", in Tone II—*

#### Ode I

*Irmos:* Taking up the hymn of Moses, cry aloud, O my soul: My Helper and Protector hath He been for my salvation! He is my God, and I shall glorify Him!

Kentigern was a true vessel of holiness, for he ever cried aloud: My Helper and Protector hath Christ God been for my salvation, and I shall glorify Him!

Eluding death when hurled from a great height, the holy one's mother cried out to Christ: My Helper and Protector hast Thou been for my salvation, O my God!

Neither the fall from a precipice nor the billows of the Firth harmed the infant saint in the womb; and, saved, his mother cried: I shall glorify the Lord my God!

*Theotokion:* Taking up fitting hymns, though our mouths are unclean and our tongues impure, let us praise the Virgin Theotokos, for she is the Mother of Christ our God.

#### Ode III

*Irmos:* O Thou Who by thy wisdom and word didst establish the heavens in the beginning, and found the earth upon the waters: raise us up from the grave, granting us the horn of salvation.

In His divine providence Christ, the Wisdom and Word of God, chose Kentigern from his mother's womb to be a vessel of His mercy and compassion, through him leading many to salvation.

Grace grew within the pure soul of the saint of God, for the seeds of piety were planted therein by the venerable Servan, who raised the holy child to worship Him Who arose from the grave.

Earthly things were as nought for the holy Kentigern, who in his heart yearned for the knowledge of God and salvation, like as a hart of the wilderness thirsteth after pure fountains of water.

*Theotokion:* Raise us up from the mire of our iniquities and set our feet upon the firm earth of the confession of thy Son and our God, O thou who becamest the Mother of the Wisdom and Word of God.

*Sessional hymn, in Tone VIII: Spec. Mel.: "Of the Wisdom..."—*

Chosen most wondrously from thy mother's womb, thou gavest thyself to Christ from childhood, and to Him didst thou dedicate thy whole life, O glorious Kentigern, follower of the apostles; and, shining forth with the divine light of God, thou wast like a brilliant beacon set upon the heights, guiding all to the safe haven of salvation, whither, through the deep of the sea of life, thou didst lead many among the Picts and Scots, and who now rejoice with thee amid the delights of paradise.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion—*

Having fallen into the temptations of great cunning laid for me by enemies visible and invisible, caught in the tempest of my countless offenses, I make haste to the haven of thy goodness, O pure one, as to my fervent assistance and protection. Wherefore, O all-pure one, pray thou earnestly to Him Who became incarnate of thee without seed, in behalf of all thy servants who unceasingly entreat thee, O all-pure one, ever beseeching Him to grant remission of sins unto those who hymn thy glory as is meet.

*Stavrotheotokion—*

The Virgin and Mother of the Redeemer, standing before the Cross and lamenting with tears of anguish, cried out maternally: What strange and most glorious thing is this that I behold, O my Son? Thou Who pourest forth dispassion upon all men art crucified upon a Cross between two condemned thieves, Thy side pierced, and Thou art given gall to drink by hands which Thou Thyself hast made! But arise and grant remission of sins unto those who hymn Thy divine Passion with faith.

#### Ode IV

*Irmos:* I heard report of Thee and was afraid, O Lord; I understood Thy works, and marveled and cried out: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Neither the assaults of the demons nor the rebellions of the flesh daunted the saint of God, who ever cried: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Seeking solitude on earth in his quest for stillness of soul, the holy one found refuge in the West, crying: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Having mortified thy flesh, O Kentigern, and attained the heights of humility, thou didst teach others to cry: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

*Theotokion:* In awe we marvel at the mighty works that the Lord hath wrought through His Mother, and we cry aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

#### Ode V

*Irmos:* Dispelling the darkness of my soul, O my Savior, with the light of the commandments illumine me, in that Thou alone art the King of peace.

Named Kentigern in the waters of enlightenment, yet was the saint of God called "the Beloved", for he was well loved by the Savior, the King of Peace.

Expelling the darkness of demonic delusions from his soul with the light of the commandments of Christ, the venerable one became a vessel of grace.

The waves of the Firth of Forth have been hallowed by the Creator, for thereon the Maker of all rocked the infant saint while in his mother's womb.

*Theotokion:* Harrowed are our souls by the minions of darkness, O Lady, and besieged on every hand by their hordes; but save us, O Mother of the King of peace.

#### Ode VI

*Irmos:* In mine affliction I cried out to the Lord my God, imitating the prophet: Lead me up from corruption, O Lord!

Living in piety, O Kentigern, thy light could not be hid from the people, who chose thee to lead them unto God.

Ireland sent bishops to consecrate the holy one, that he might save men's souls from the corruption of sin and hades.

Knowing well the Scriptures, the hierarch imitated the apostles of Christ, traveling everywhere by foot to preach His Gospel.

*Theotokion:* Ever beset by all manner of afflictions, we cry out to the all-holy Virgin: Lead us up from corruption, O Lady!

*Kontakion, in Tone VIII—*

Raised by God to the hierarchal rank, like another apostle thou didst proclaim the Holy Trinity unto all, O beloved Kentigern; and though thou wast like a lamb among wolves, thou wast undaunted by their threats and unbelief, but, preaching and baptizing, thou didst teach all to fulfill the commandments of the Lord most piously. Wherefore, an unfading wreath of righteousness hath been given thee by Christ, the Chief Shepherd.

*Ikos:* Having subdued all the passions of mind and body, O Kentigern, thou didst shine forth with the splendor of the virtues; for which cause men were drawn to thee as to a light divine and desired that thou wouldst watch over them like a shepherd. Then, as a most devout archpastor, thou didst drive away the savage wolves of error with the saving commandments, as with stones cast from a shepherd's sling, protecting the sheep of the flock of the Lord. Wherefore, an unfading wreath of righteousness hath been given thee by Christ, the Chief Shepherd.

#### Ode VII

*Irmos:* Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers, Who of old extinguished the thunderous furnace and bedewed the children with by an outpouring of the Spirit.

The holy hierarch, filled with the Spirit, continually chanted the psalms of David the King, crying out to the Lord: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Heights of grace and austerity didst thou attain, O saint of God, when with compunction thou didst pray and chant, standing the while in icy streams.

Escaping the press of the crowds, in time of fasting thou didst withdraw from the people to give thyself over to penance, abstinence and ascetic toil, O hierarch.

*Theotokion:* Not with feigned devotion or outward display do we bless the Mother of our God, but with a true outpouring of love do we render her fitting praise.

#### Ode VIII

*Irmos:* Refusing to obey the edict of the tyrant, the three venerable children were cast into the furnace, and confessed God, chanting: Bless the Lord, O ye works of the Lord!

Obedient to the command of the Scriptures, Kentigern gave place to wrath, and withdrew from his flock into Wales, chanting: Bless the Lord, O ye works of the Lord!

Returning betimes, the holy hierarch hallowed Hoddam with his sojourn, until he again went in search of his lost sheep, crying: Bless the Lord, O ye works of the Lord!

The venerable Columba left the holy Isle of Iona to greet the wondrous Kentigern; and the twain exchanged pastoral staves, crying: Bless the Lord, O ye works of the Lord!

*Theotokion:* Humbly do we take up the angelic salutation, crying out to Mary, the Mother of Christ God: Rejoice, O all-pure Maiden, for all the works of the Lord call thee blessed!

#### Ode IX

*Irmos:* The Church of the faithful people hath been magnified, for the Creator of all, dwelling therein, reneweth it unto life.

Scotland is yet enlightened by the holy hierarch Kentigern, whom all the faithful of the Church of Christ ever magnify.

The Gospel of the Savior did the holy one tirelessly preach, and he renewed men in the hallowed waters of the sacred font.

All Christians hymn Kentigern the Beloved; for, having wrought many miracles in this life, he poureth forth wonders still.

*Theotokion:* Renewed unto life by Christ's baptism in the waters of the Jordan, the Church of the faithful magnifieth His all-pure Mother.

*Exapostilarion: Spec. Mel.: "By the Spirit in the holy place"—*

Moved by the Spirit of God, thou didst leave thy peaceful hermitage, O venerable one, and, preaching the Gospel to the ungodly, thou didst gain multitudes for Christ. Wherefore, with love the Scottish people celebrate thy holy memory and call on thee as their intercessor before the Lord.

*Theotokion—*

As a most honorable temple, O all-immaculate Bride and Theotokos, thy birthing was ineffable; for thou gavest birth to God the preëternal Word, Who made His abode within thee. Wherefore, chanting, we magnify thy birthing, O most immaculate Maiden.

*Aposticha stichera from the Octoechos; and Glory...: Idiomelon, in Tone IV—*

O holy hierarch Kentigern, having lived and labored tirelessly among the heathen, with wisdom and righteousness, all the days of thy life, thou didst turn the malice of the obdurate into meekness and love. Wherefore, never cease to watch over thy flock, that the Scottish people may advance in piety, and find mercy and enter the bosom of the Holy Church, and that all may be saved who celebrate thy holy memory with love.

*Now & ever...: Theotokion, or this stavrotheotokion, in the same tone: Spec. Mel. : "As one valiant among the martyrs..."—*

As she beheld Thee, the Lamb and Shepherd, upon the Tree, the Ewe-lamb who gave birth to Thee lamented and maternally exclaimed to Thee: O my Son most desired, how is it that Thou art suspended upon the Tree of the Cross, O Longsuffering One? How is it, O Word, that Thy hands and feet have been nailed by the iniquitous? How hast thou shed Thy blood, O Master?

## At Liturgy

*Prokimenon, in Tone I—*

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

*Stichos:* The mouth of the righteous is exercised in wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

### EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS, §318

Brethren: Such a High Priest became us, Who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this He did once, when He offered up Himself. For the law maketh men high priests who have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, Who

is consecrated for evermore. Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a High Priest, Who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a Minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

*Alleluia, in Tone II—*

*Stichos:* The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

*Stichos:* The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be tripped.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN, § 36

The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him: "I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he who is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good Shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine. As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

*Communion verse—*

In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings.