

December 25 / January 7
The Nativity According to the Flesh of
Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ

Galatians 4: 4 – 7

Matthew 2: 1 – 12

First Festal Antiphon
Tone 2

(Psalms 9: 1; 110: 1, 2, 3)

Stichos 1

People: I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; / I will tell of all Your wondrous things.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 2

People: In the council of the upright and in the assembly: / Great are the works of the Lord.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 3

People: Sought out in all things / with regard to His will.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 4

People: Thanksgiving and majesty are His work, / and His righteousness continues to the ages of ages.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, / now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Second Festal Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 111: 1, 2, 3, 4)

Stichos 1

People: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; / He will delight exceedingly in His commandments.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 2

People: His seed shall be mighty on earth; / the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 3

People: Glory and riches shall be in his house, / and his righteousness continues to the ages of ages.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 4

People: For the upright, light springs up in darkness, / for he is merciful, compassionate, and righteous.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Hymn to Our Lord Jesus Christ

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Only-Begotten Son and immortal Word of God, /

who for our salvation willed to be incarnate /

of the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. /

Who without change, became man and was crucified. /

Who is one of the Holy Trinity, /

glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, /

O Christ our God trampling down Death by death,
save us.

Third Festal Antiphon

Tone 4

(Psalm 109: 1, 2, 3)

Stichos 1

Reader:

The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies the footstool of Your feet.”

People (Tone 4):

Your Nativity O Christ our God,
has dawned upon the world the Light of Knowledge,
for by it those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star,
to worship You the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You the Sunrise from above.
O Lord glory to You.

Stichos 2

Reader:

The Lord shall send forth the rod of Your power from Zion.

People (Tone 4):

Your Nativity O Christ our God,
has dawned upon the world the Light of Knowledge,
for by it those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star,
to worship You the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You the Sunrise from above.
O Lord glory to You.

Stichos 3

Reader:

With You is the beginning in the day of Your
power, in the brightness of Your saints.

People (Tone 4):

Your Nativity O Christ our God,
has dawned upon the world the Light of Knowledge,
for by it those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star,
to worship You the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You the Sunrise from above.
O Lord glory to You.

The Small Entry

(Psalm 109: 3 – 4)

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! “I have begotten You from the womb before the morning star.” The Lord swore and will not repent, “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

People:

O come let us worship /
and fall down before Christ. /
O Son of God, /
who was born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: /
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Troparion of Nativity **Tone 4**

People:

Your Nativity O Christ our God,
has dawned upon the world the Light of Knowledge,
for by it those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star,
to worship You the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You the Sunrise from above.
O Lord glory to You.

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

Kontakion of Nativity
Tone 3

People:

Today the Virgin gives birth to Him who is above all essence,
and the earth offers a cave to Him whom no one can approach.

Angels with shepherds glorify Him,
and Magi journey with the star.

For to us a new Child is born:
the pre-eternal God.

Instead of the Trisagion

(Galatians 3: 27)

People:

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia. ***(x3)***

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

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Prokeimenon Tone 8

(Psalm 65: 4, 1 – 2)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let them sing to Your name.

People: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let them sing to Your name.

Reader: Shout to God, all the earth; sing now to His name; give glory to His praise.

People: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let them sing to Your name.

Reader: Let all the earth worship You and sing to You...

People: ... let them sing to Your name.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Galatians 4: 4 - 7

Reader: Brethren, when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that He might redeem those who were under the law and so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, “Abba, Father!” Now you are no longer slaves, but children; and if you are children, then you are heirs of God through Christ.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Alleluiarion Tone 1

(Psalm 18: 2, 3)

Reader: Alleluia in the 1st Tone.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the firmament shows the creation of His hands.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Day to day utters speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Deacon: Bless Master, him who proclaims the Holy Gospel of the Holy, Apostle and Evangelist Matthew.

Priest: May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious, all praised Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, enable you to proclaim the Good News with great power, for the fulfillment of the Gospel of His Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

Priest: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Deacon: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest: Let us attend.

Deacon: **Matthew 2: 1 - 12**

The Hymn to the Theotokos

Instead of "It is truly right..." we chant the Irmos of the 9th Ode of the 1st Canon of the Feast.

Tone 1

People: Magnify, O my soul, her who is greater in honour and more glorious than the hosts on high, the All-pure Virgin Theotokos.

A strange and wonderful mystery do I see: the cave is Heaven; the Virgin is the throne of the Cherubim; the manger is the place in which Christ, the God whom nothing can contain, is laid. We praise and magnify Him.

Communion Verse (Koinonikon)

People: The Lord sent redemption to His people;
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. (Psalm 110: 9)