



ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

773-231-6177

www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Nativity Orthros & Divine Liturgy: Saturday at 9:00pm

The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



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Troparion of the Nativity (Tone 4): Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom. For by it, those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

Kontakion of the Nativity (Tone 3): The Virgin brings forth today the omnipotent one, and the earth offers a cave to the unapproachable one. Angels give glory with shepherds, and the magi journey with the star, when for our sakes was born as a new babe, He who is from eternity God.

Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4): Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

THE EPISTLE

For the Nativity

Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (4:4-7)

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

THE GOSPEL

For the Nativity

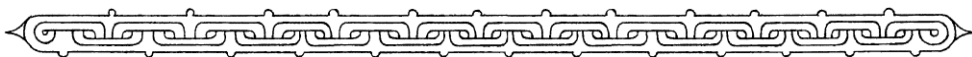
The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:1-12)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him.”

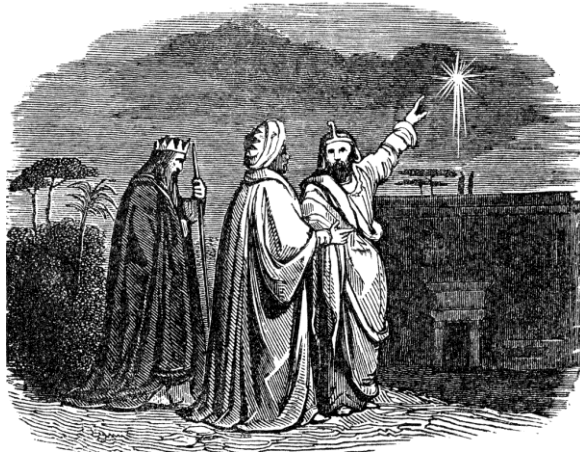
When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: ‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern My people Israel.’”

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him.”

When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



Hymn to the Theotokos for the Nativity (Tone 1): O my soul, magnify her who is more honorable and who is more glorious than the heavenly hosts! A mystery I behold which is strange and wondrous: the cave is heaven, and the Virgin is the throne of the cherubim; in the confines of the manger is laid the infinite, Christ our God, whom we praise and magnify!



:: CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM! ::

“Blessed is He who gave Thee to us without our asking, so that by Thee we might thank Thy Father for His gift.”

~St. Ephraim the Syrian, Hymn 4 on the Nativity

On this holy feast of the Nativity of Christ, God gives us everything through Christ: true knowledge of Him, inspiration to seek Him, empowerment to serve Him, and the means by which to thank and praise Him. May His Gift spiritually enrich all our lives, always and in every way.

Wishing you and your loved ones a most joyous feast, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

+Metropolitan ANTONIOS

Metropolitan of Zahle, Baalbek, and Dependencies

Patriarchal Vicar of New York and All North America



“Christ is born glorify Him! Christ is come from heaven receive Him. Christ is on earth be ye lifted up. Sing to the Lord all the earth and praise Him with joy, all people. For He has been glorified!”

~From the First Nativity Canon, Ode 1

As you rejoice with your family, friends, and brothers and sisters throughout the world, know that He is born so we can receive Him. He is born on earth, to bring us back to heaven, to paradise, to the garden of Eden, to live with Him and to eat with Him at the heavenly banquet.

He is the King of kings, and the Lord of lords, because our Lord is born to die. In His death, he destroys death and He saves us from death. Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is born so our sins can be forgiven.

As He humbly becomes a babe, let us humbly receive Him today and every day! Receive Him so His love, peace, and joy may abide in your hearts forever and ever, alleluia, alleluia! May He who was born in a cave and lay in a manger for our salvation bless you always.

+Bishop ANTHONY

Bishop of Toledo

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website www.allsaintsorthodox.org

This week at All Saints:

- Confession, anointing, and any other pastoral blessings are available after each posted service or by appointment.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 28:** Christmas caroling at the church, 7pm.
- **Friday, Dec. 30:** Morning prayers, 9am. *Morning prayers on Friday only this week.*
- **Saturday, Dec. 31:** Vespers, 7pm.
- **Sunday, Jan. 1: St. Basil the Great; Circumcision of our Lord.** Matins, Chrismations & Baptism of the Fajardo family, and Divine Liturgy, beginning at 8:30am.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! The Kishler family would like to thank all of you for your cards, gifts, and warm Christmas greetings. We are grateful for your love, support, and kindness. May we all continue to grow together in God's love this holy season and throughout the new year!

A NOTE ON THE COMMUNION FAST: In preparing for Holy Communion, Orthodox Christians observe a period of total fasting from all food and drink (if we are able to do so). On Sunday morning, this begins when we wake up, so that the first thing to touch our lips is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus. **For evening and late-night Divine Liturgies, we begin the total fast about six hours before receiving Holy Communion.** We don't need to be overly legalistic about this, but on Christmas Eve, we may eat a meal mid-to-late afternoon, and then begin the fast afterwards. Let Fr. Andrew know if you have any questions.

THEOPHANY & HOME BLESSINGS: We will celebrate **Theophany Divine Liturgy and the Blessing of the Waters on Thursday, Jan. 5, beginning at 7pm.** Festal Matins will be Friday, Jan. 6 at 9am. Home blessings will begin thereafter.

CHURCH SCHOOL for children and adults will resume Sunday, January 15.

Volunteer Schedule

| Date | Reader | Prospora | Greeter | Coffee | Food |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| Sat., Dec. 24 (9pm) <i>Nativity</i> | Sdn. Joseph | Dn Walid | JoAnne T | n/a | n/a |
| Sun, Jan 1 | Doug J | Sandy A | Sandy A | Zach C | A-F |
| Thurs Jan 5 <i>Theophany</i> | Jim K | Debbie K | Azizeh C | n/a | n/a |
| Sun, Jan 8 | Paul K | Pat K | Nancy L | Lydia A | G-K |
| Sun, Jan 15 | Jason L | Domitille | JoAnne T | Domitille | L-P |
| Sun, Jan 22 | Joseph L | Cristina P | Domitille | Alina S | R-Z |
| Sun, Jan 29 | Richard C | Dn Walid | Sandy A | Zach C | A-F |

For Sunday coffee hour, the church has been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.

If you have children, please monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and help them clean up after themselves.

Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour. And of course, things go faster when we can all pitch in and help.

****Shaded days are days of fasting for Orthodox Christians. Please avoid bringing meat and dairy.***



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

DECEMBER 25-31, 2022

ADAPTED FROM THE
LECTIONARY OF THE NATIVITY SERVICES

Sunday, December 25: Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Matthew 1:18-25 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Matthew 2:1-12

Monday, Dec. 26: Synaxis of the Holy Theotokos

Acts 6:1-15 / Luke 12:2-12

Tuesday, Dec. 27: St. Stephen the Proto-Martyr

Acts 7:1-16 / Matthew 21:33-42

Wednesday, Dec. 28: 20,000 martyrs burned in Nicomedia

Acts 7:17-43 / Luke 14:25-35

Thursday, Dec. 29: Holy Innocents of Bethlehem

Acts 7:44-8:2 / Matthew 2:13-23

Friday, Dec. 30: Anysia the virgin-martyr of Thessaloniki

1 Timothy 6:11-16 / Matthew 12:15-21

Saturday, Dec. 31: Melania the Younger, Nun of Rome

1 Timothy 3:14-4:5 / Matthew 3:1-11

ALL SAINTS IS A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
HIS BEATITUDE PATRIARCH JOHN X OF ANTIOCH
HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST
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