

**7. JANUARY. 2018. 31st. SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.
THE NATIVITY IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.**

**7, СІЧЕНЬ, 2018. 31-ша. НЕДІЛЯ ПО П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ.
РІЗДВО ПО ПЛОТІ ГОСПОДА БОГА І СПАСА НАШОГО ІСУСА ХРИСТА.**



Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world, was born of the Most Holy Virgin Mary in the city of Bethlehem during the reign of the emperor Augustus (Octavian). Caesar Augustus decreed that a universal census be made throughout his Empire, which then also included Palestinian Israel. The Jews were accustomed to be counted in the city from where their family came. The Most Holy Virgin and the Righteous Joseph, since they were descended from the house and lineage of King David, had to go to Bethlehem to be counted and taxed.

In Bethlehem they found no room at any of the city's inns. Thus, the God-Man, the Savior of the world, was born in a cave that was used as a stable. "I behold a strange and most glorious mystery," the Church sings with awe, "Heaven, a Cave; the Virgin the Throne of the Cherubim; the Manger a room, in which Christ, the God Whom nothing can contain

is laid." (Irmos of the 9th Ode of the Nativity Canon).

In the stillness of midnight, the proclamation of the birth of the Savior of the world was heard by three shepherds watching their flocks by night.

An angel of the Lord (Saint Cyprian says this was Gabriel) came before them and said: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord" The humble shepherds were the first to offer worship to Him Who condescended to assume the form of a humble servant for the salvation of mankind. Besides the glad tidings to the Bethlehem shepherds, the Nativity of Christ was revealed to the Magi by a wondrous star. Saint John Chrysostom and Saint Theophylactus, commenting on Saint Matthew's Gospel, say that this was no ordinary star. Rather, it was "a divine and angelic power that appeared in the form of a star." Saint Demetrius of Rostov says it was a "manifestation of divine energy" (Narrative of the Adoration of the Magi). Entering the house where the Infant lay, the Magi "fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2:11).

The present Feast, commemorating the Nativity in the flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, was established by the Church. Its origin goes back to the time of the Apostles.

MAGNIFICATION: We magnify You, Christ the Giver of life, Who was born in the flesh from the Pure and Unwedded Virgin Mary.

ANTIPHON ONE

1. I will praise You, Lord, with my whole heart: I will speak of all Your marvelous works

REFRAIN:

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

2. In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation: the works of the Lord are great.

REFRAIN:

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

3. His work is honourable and glorious: And His righteousness endures forever

REFRAIN:

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

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

REFRAIN:

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

ANTIPHON TWO

1. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord: he shall greatly delight in His commandments

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

2. His descendants will be mighty upon the earth: The generation of the upright shall be blessed.

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

3. Glory and riches shall be in His house: And his righteousness endures forever.

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

4. Unto the upright there arises Light in the darkness; He is gracious, full of compassion and righteousness.

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

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

ONLY BEGOTTEN SON

Only-begotten Son and Word of God, You are immortal, and did will for our salvation to become incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, and without change became man, and were crucified, O Christ God, trampling down death by death; being One of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit:
save us.

ANTIPHON THREE

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

TROPAR OF THE NATIVITY, TONE- 4.

1. Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone the light of knowledge upon the world. For by it those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as the Orient from on High. O Lord, glory to You.

ТРОПАР РІЗДВА НА ГОЛОС 4-ий. Різдво Твоє, Христе Боже наш, засвітило світові світло розуміння, в нім бо ті, що звіздам служили, від звізди навчилися поклонятися Тобі, Сонцю Правди, і пізнавати Тебе, як Схід з висоти. Господи, слава Тобі. **СЛАВА** Отцю і Сину і Святому Духові і нині і повсякчас і на віки вічні, Амінь.

ENTRANCE HYMN:

From the womb before the morning star have I begotten You. The Lord has sworn and will not repent: You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

TROPAR OF THE NATIVITY, TONE 4

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone the light of knowledge upon the world. For by it those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as the Orient from on High. O Lord, glory to You

GLORY... BOTH NOW

KONDAK OF THE NATIVITY, TONE 3.

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds give glory. The magi journey with a star. For unto us is born a young Child, the Pre-eternal God.

КОНДАК РІЗДВА НА ГОЛОС 3-ий. Діва сьогодні Пресущного рождає, і земля вертеп Непроступному приносить, ангели з пастирями славословлять, і волхви зі звіздою подорожують. Бо ради нас народилося мале Дитячко, Предвічний Бог.

INSTEAD OF TRISAGION HYMN:

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. Thrice. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

ЗАМІСТЬ ТРИСВЯТОГО: Усі ті, що в Христа хрестилися, у Христа зодягнулися. Алілуя.

READER : “ PROKIMEN IN TONE 8. Let all the earth worship You and chant unto You: let them chant unto Your Name, O Most High.

CHOIR : “ Let all the earth worship You and chant unto You: let them chant unto Your Name, O Most High.

ЧИТ. : “ **ПРОКІМЕН НА ГОЛОС 8-ий.** Вся земля нехай поклониться Тобі і співає Тобі, нехай співає Імені Твоєму, Всевишній.”

ХОР. : “ Вся земля нехай поклониться Тобі і співає Тобі, нехай співає Імені Твоєму, Всевишній.”

READER : “Shout with jubilation unto the Lord, all the earth: Sing unto His Name; give glory in praise of Him.”

CHOIR : “ Let all the earth worship You and chant unto You: let them chant unto Your Name, O Most High.”

ЧИТ. : (СТИХ) “ Воскликніте Господеві, вся земле! Співайте Імені Його, воздайте славу хвалі Його.”

ХОР. : “ Вся земля нехай поклониться Тобі і співає Тобі, нехай співає Імені Твоєму, Всевишній.”

READER : “Let all the earth worship You and chant unto You ”

CHOIR : “Let them chant unto Your Name, O Most High.”

ЧИТ. : “ Вся земля нехай поклониться
Тобі і співає Тобі.”

ХОР. : “ Нехай співає Імені Твоєму,
Всевишній.”

EPISTLE: Galatians 4 : 4-7

⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

READER “ ALLELUIA IN TONE 1. Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

ЧИТ. : “ АЛИЛУЯ НА ГОЛОС 1-ий. Алилуя.”

ХОР. : “ Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”

READER “ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.

CHOIR: “Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

ЧИТ. : “ Небеса возвіщають славу Божу, про діла ж Його промовляє небозвід. Алилуя.”

ХОР. : “ Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”

READER “Day speaks to day; and night proclaims knowledge unto night

CHOIR : “Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!”

ЧИТ. : “ День дневі передає слово і ніч ночі сповіщає розуміння. Алилуя.”

ХОР. : “ Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”

GOSPEL: Matthew. 2 : 1 -12

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.” ³ When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

⁹ When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. ¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

INSTEAD OF " IT IS TRULY WORTHY "

Magnify, O my soul, the Most Pure Virgin Theotokos who is greater in honour and more glorious than the Hosts on high.

IRMOS, TONE 1.

A strange and most glorious mystery do I see: The cave is heaven, the Virgin the Throne of the Cherubim, and the manger, a room in which Christ God, Whom nothing can contain, is laid. Him we do praise and magnify.

ЗАДОСТОЙНИК :

Величай, душе моя, Чеснішу і Славнішу від Горніх Воїнств, Діву Пречисту Богородицю.

ІРМОС, ГОЛ. 1 - ий. Таїнство бачу я дивне і преславне, небо, вертеп, престіл Херувимський, Діва, ясла, вмістилище, в яких возліг невмістимий Христос Бог. Його ж оспівуючи, величаємо.

COMMUNION VERSE:

The Lord has sent deliverance to His people.
Alleluia.

ПРИЧАСНИЙ.

" Визволення послав Господь народу
Своєму. Аلیلія."

