

September 8, 2023
The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Troparion:

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Kontakion:

By your Nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

Prokeimenon in the 3rd Tone (Song of the Theotokos):

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

(Vs.) For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Philippians. (Phil. 2:5-11)

Brethren, Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia Verses:

Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear.

(Vs.) The rich among the people shall pray before thy face.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke. (Chapter 10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him to her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also seated herself at the Lord's feet, and listened to His word. But Martha was worried about much serving. And she came up and said, "Lord, is it no concern of yours that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her therefore to help me." But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; and yet only one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the best part, and it will not be taken away from her." Now it came to pass as He was saying these things, that a certain woman from the crowd lifted up her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that nursed you." But He said, "Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it."