

Divine Liturgy

December 26, 2023

Second Day of the Feast of the Nativity

Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

(Please note - Information to be included in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

***Please turn off or silence your electronic devices
before entering the church. Thank you.***

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(After the Entrance)

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

Tone 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone 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!

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Synaxis of the Theotokos)*

He Who was begotten before the Morning Star of the Father without a mother, today is made flesh of thee upon the earth without a father. A star announces the good tidings to the Wise Men, while Angels and shepherds sing the praises of thy most pure childbearing, O Full of Grace!

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
(Lk. 1:46-47)

For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)

Epistle

Read by Tricia Metz

(Hebrews 2:11-18 (Theotokos)) For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You." And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me." Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place: Thou and the Ark of Thy sanctification! (Ps. 131:8)

The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back. (Ps. 131:11a)

Gospel

(Matthew 2:13-23 (Theotokos)) Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and

great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery: heaven—the cave; the cherubic throne—the Virgin; the manger—the place where Christ lay: the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

(or, the ninth heirmos of the second canon)

Out of fear, we should choose to love silence, for that is a safer course; so difficult it is lovingly to compose intricately woven songs to thee, O Virgin. But grant us strength, O Mother, equal to our natural calling.

Communion Hymn

The Lord has sent redemption to His people. *(Ps. 110:8a)*

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! *(Ps. 32:1)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

Red Poinsettias

In Honor Of Our Much Beloved Church Family
Offered by Mike & Shirley Isbansky

In Memory Of Felix Family, Offered by Patty Felix

In Memory Of Betty Fedora, Offered by The Cudlic & Eck Families

For Health Of Guydan/Dupay & Antoniak/Kaminsky Families
Offered by Michele D. Guydan

In Memory Of Family & Friends, Offered by Damian Drasher

In Memory Of Nicholas Roberts, Offered by Damian Drasher

In Memory Of Peter Kohudic

In Memory Of Mike Stafiniak, Offered by Dorothy Stafiniak

For Health Of Nicholas, Ausin & Timmy, Offered by Stephanie Pasquel

In Memory Of Drs. Julius & Anna Herz, Offered by Peter & Sarah Jubinski

In Memory Of John, Anna & Kathryn Mason
Offered by Fr. James & Mat. Pat Mason

In Memory Of Selar & Jo-Ann Konsevitch
Offered by Roberts & Konsevitch Families

In Memory Of Hasenecz & Nielsen Families, Offered by Susan & Bill Nielsen

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

White Poinsettias

In Memory Of Departed Loved Ones, Offered by Mike & Shirley Isbansky

In Memory Of Subdn Michael, Offered by Michele D. Guydan

In Memory Of Guydan/Dupay & Antoniak/Kaminsky Families
Offered by Michele D. Guydan

In Memory Of Departed Hutz & Bretz Families
Offered by Ann Marie & Barry Bretz

For Health Of Fedora & Cudlic Families, Offered by Cudlic & Eck Families

For Health Of Metz Family Members

In Memory Of Departed Family Members, Offered by Sarah & Peter Jubinski

In Memory Of Departed Family Members, Offered by Greg & Rosalie Radio

In Memory Of Peter & Mary Baker, Offered by Fr. James & Mat. Pat Mason

In Memory Of Michael & Mary Stetz, Offered by Pat & Joan

In Memory Of Reade & Mary Roberts, Offered by The Roberts Family

In Memory Of Richard Stevenback

In Memory Of Yarastaw Tatusko

General Flower Donations

In Memory Of Natalie & Stephen Danchenko, Offered by Halina Danchenko