

Wednesday, September 8 Nativity of the Mother of God

Tropar of the Nativity, tone 4: Your birth, O Virgin Mother of God, * heralded joy to the universe; * for from you rose the Sun of Justice, Christ our God. * He took away the curse, He gave the blessing, * and by trampling death, * He gave us everlasting life.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kondak of the Nativity, tone 4: Through your holy birth, O Immaculate One, * Joachim and Anne were freed from the reproach of childlessness, * and Adam and Eve* from the corruption of death. * Delivered from the guilt of sin, * your people celebrate this when they cry out to you: * She who is barren gives birth to the Mother of God * and the Sustainer of our life.

Prokimen, tone 3: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

Verse: Because He has regarded the humility of His handmaid; for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Epistle: Philippians. 2: 5-11

Brothers and Sisters! Your attitude must be that of Christ: Though he was in the form of God, he did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. Rather, he emptied himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men. He was known to be of human estate, and it was thus that he humbled himself, obediently accepting even death, death on a cross! Because of this, God highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name above every other name, so that at Jesus' name every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth, and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God the Father: 'Jesus Christ is Lord!'

Alleluia Verses: Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear.

The rich among the people shall entreat your countenance.

Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42; 11: 27-28

At that time Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him to her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and listened to his words. Martha, who was busy with all the details of hospitality, came to him and said, "Lord, are you not concerned that my sister has left me to do the household tasks all alone? Tell her to help me." The Lord in reply said to her: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and upset about many things; one thing only is required. Mary has chosen the better portion and she shall not be deprived of it." While he was saying this a woman from the crowd called out, "Blest is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!" "Rather," he replied, "blest are they who hear the word of God and keep it."

Instead of 'It is truly right...': O my soul, extol the Virgin Mary, born of a barren womb. Mothers cannot be virgins, nor virgins be mothers; but in you, O Mother of God, both virginity and motherhood were present. Therefore, all the people of the earth unceasingly extol you.

Communion Hymn: I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!