

The Sunday after the Nativity of Christ
December 29, 2024

Commemoration of Joseph the Betrothed, David the Prophet and King, and James the brother of the Lord

1st Antiphon – Refrain: *Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: I will speak of all Thy marvelous works. In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation, the works of the Lord are great. *(Refrain)*

They are sought out according to all His purposes. His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endureth forever. *(Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

2nd Antiphon – Refrain: *Save us, O Son of God, Who was born of a Virgin, who sing unto Thee. Alleluia.*

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; that delighteth greatly in His commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed. *(Refrain)*

Glory and riches shall be in His house, and His righteousness endureth forever. *(Refrain)*

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: He is gracious, full of compassion and righteous. *(Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and Word of God...

3rd Antiphon:

The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints. *(Immediately sing the Troparion of the Nativity.)*

The Entrance Hymn

Come let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; save us who sing unto Thee. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades with Thy Godly power. And when Thou

didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Nativity of Christ (Tone 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Sunday after the Nativity (Tone 2)

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

Troparion for St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 3)

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, Adornment of the holy Church! Thou art Champion of the True Faith, Seeker of the lost, Consolation of the oppressed, Father to orphans and Friend of the poor, Peacemaker and good Shepherd, Joy of all the Orthodox, Son of Antioch, Boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor 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.

The Prokeimenon

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

Epistle

Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Holy Bread: Kh Meleah Palke/Carol Ofiesh/Pr Vicki Kontogiorgis

Commemorations(Living): Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, John, Corgie, Karen, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, George, Joan, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Carol, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Cassi, Nina, Kenneth, Alex, Beth, Janni, Dominick, Yina, Lauren, Rashid, Hala, Irina, Alex, Lauren, Aaron, Adam, Atticus, Gabriela, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, the suffering believers throughout the world.

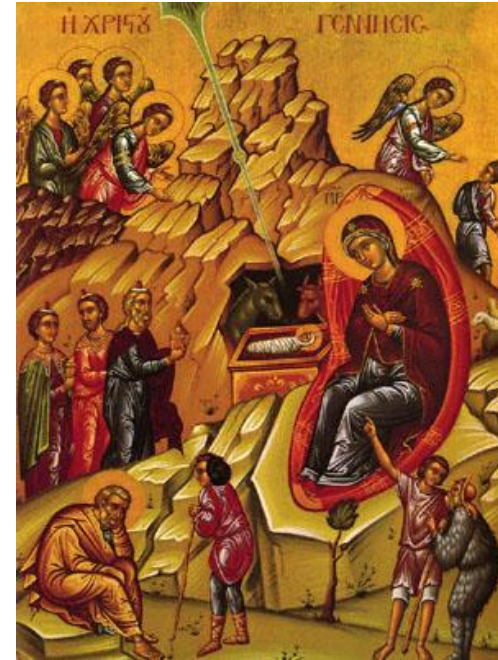
Departed: Perry (Spyridon)

All donations to the church will be included in 2024 contribution statements if the check date is on or before 12/31/24 and is postmarked prior to January 1.

Next Sunday will mark the Feast of Theophany and the Great Blessing of Waters. Holy water will be distributed to every family in attendance.

May the Lord grant all of you a happy New Year celebration and good health and countless spiritual blessings in the coming new year.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!



St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

**Metropolitan Joseph, Primate
Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic**

Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

**Meeting at Compton Village
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Centreville, Virginia 20121**

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