



Sunday, December 22, 2019

Sunday before Nativity

Forefeast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Anastasia the Great Martyr

Bilingual Liturgy

HYMNS AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

First Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me
bless His holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all that
He has done for you.

The Lord in heaven has
prepared His throne,
and His kingdom rules
over all.

Second Antiphon

Praise the Lord, O my soul; I
will praise the Lord in
my life; I will chant unto
my God for as long as I
have my being.

Blessed is He of whom the
God of Jacob is his help,
whose hope is in the
Lord his God.

The Lord shall be King unto
eternity; your God, O
Zion, from generation
to generation.

Third Antiphon

This is the day the Lord has
made; let us rejoice and
be glad in it.

Let the heavens and the earth
praise Him.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ Ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν Ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς Θεότητος, ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκράυαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

When Thou descended to an earthly death, Thou who art immortal Life, then did Thou strike down Hades by the lightning of Thy divinity and Lord when Thou did raise from the depths all those who were dead, all the Heavenly powers cried out to Thee: O Christ our God and giver of life, Glory to Thee.

Preparation Apolytikion for the Nativity of Our Lord

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ, ἥνοικται πᾶσιν ἡ Ἐδέμ. Εὐτρεπίζου Ἐφραθᾶ, ὅτι τὸ ξύλον τῆς ζωῆς, ἐν τῷ Σπηλαίῳ ἐξήνησεν ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου. Παράδεισος καὶ γάρ, ἡ ἐκείνης γαστήρ, ἐδείχθη νοητός, ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον φυτόν, ἐξ οὗ φαγόντες ζήσομεν, οὐχὶ δὲ ὡς ὁ Ἀδάμ, τεθνηζόμεθα. Χριστὸς γεννᾶται, τὴν πρὶν πεσοῦσαν, ἀναστήσων εἰκόνα.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. And be ready, Ephrata, for in a cave the Tree of life has blossomed forth from the Virgin. Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. Christ is born, so that He might raise up the formerly fallen image.

Apolytikion for the Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord - Daniel the Prophet and the Three Youths

Μεγάλα τὰ τῆς Πίστεως κατορθώματα! ἐν τῇ πηγῇ τῆς φλογός, ὡς ἐπὶ ὕδατος ἀναπαύσεως, οἱ Ἅγιοι τρεῖς Παῖδες ἠγάλλοντο· καὶ ὁ Προφήτης Δανιήλ, λεόντων ποιμήν, ὡς προβάτων ἐδείκνυτο. Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἰκεσίαις Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Great are the accomplishments of faith! For in the fountain of flame, as if they were lying on restful waters, the three Holy Youths took delight, and the prophet Daniel has shown himself to be the shepherd of the lions, as if they were sheep. By their prayers, Christ God, save our souls.

Church Hymn

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ πανσόφους τοὺς ἀλειτουργοὺς ἀναδείξας, καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας, φιλάνθρωπε, δόξα σοι.

Blessed are You O Christ our God, Who as all wise the fishermen You showed forth; By sending your Holy Spirit down upon them and through them the universe You drew unto your net. O lover of mankind Glory to You.

Preparation Kondakion for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασσον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰῶνων Θεόν.

Today the Virgin enters a cave to ineffably give birth to Him the eternal Logos. Dance O universe hearing of this event. Glorify with the angels and the shepherds Him who chose to be seen as a new born child, God who existed before all Time.

SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL

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V. Rev. Father John S. Bakas

Dean

Fr. Christopher Kolentsas

Assistant Priest

Scripture Reading

Faith comes by hearing...

Epistle Reader: Karen Scherrer

Priest: Let Us Attend...

Reader: Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers...for you are just in all you have done.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Hebrews (11:9-10; 32-40)

Priest: Let us be attentive...

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundation, whose builder and maker is God.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW (1:1-25)

The book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of

continued

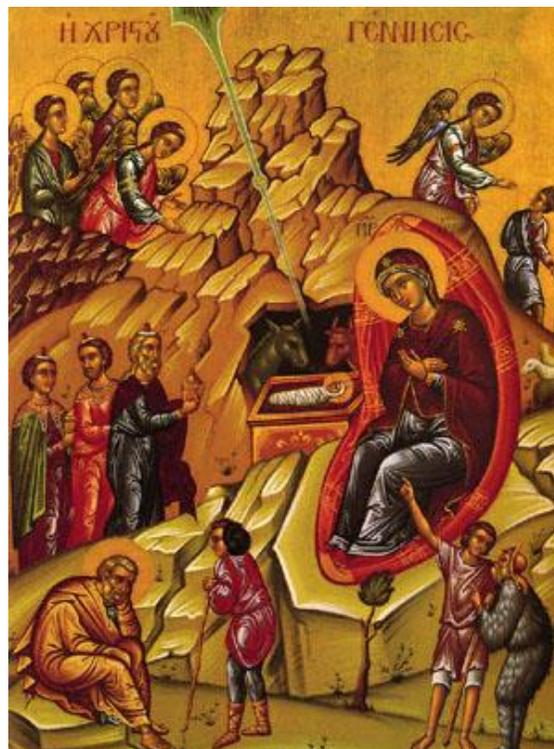
Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.



Memorials

May their memory be eternal...

Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior to the souls of your servants...

<i>Sophia Palomares (8 years)</i>	<i>Andreas Phinos</i>	<i>Marika</i>	<i>Helen</i>
<i>Jose Palomares</i>	<i>Louis Loukaris (22 years)</i>	<i>Gina</i>	<i>John</i>
<i>Demetrios Palomares</i>	<i>Lucas Loukaris</i>	<i>Litsa</i>	<i>Evangelia</i>
<i>Fani Zagoreos</i>	<i>Efstratios</i>	<i>Rocco</i>	<i>Thanos</i>
<i>Demetrios Dagres</i>	<i>Despina</i>	<i>Vasilis</i>	<i>Despina</i>
<i>Ekatarini Dagres</i>	<i>Stavros</i>	<i>Kostas</i>	<i>Helen</i>
<i>Demetrios McMabill</i>	<i>Hariklia</i>	<i>Evdoxia</i>	<i>Anthoula</i>
<i>Kostas Katsenes</i>	<i>Efstratios</i>	<i>Mihalīs</i>	<i>Vasilios</i>
<i>Despina Maheras</i>	<i>Myrsini</i>	<i>Marigo</i>	<i>Kizoula</i>
<i>Georgia Korbakis</i>	<i>Fotios</i>	<i>Smaragda</i>	
<i>Panayiotis Korbakis</i>	<i>Hariklia</i>	<i>Anastasios</i>	
<i>Eleni Phinos</i>	<i>Myliadis</i>	<i>Stella</i>	

ALTAR CANDLES

Offered in loving memory of Georgia Korbakis and Panayiotis Korbakis, and Eleni Phinos and Andreas Phinos by Dr. and Mrs. John Korbakis.

PERPETUAL CANDLES

Offered in loving memory of Louis Loukaris and Lucas Loukaris by Mersy Loukaris.

Offered in loving memory of Vasilis and Kostas by Zoi Fovos.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

Offered in loving memory of Sophia Palomares by her family.

The Mission of Saint Sophia Cathedral

- 1. Proclaim and teach the Gospel according to the Orthodox Christian Faith*
- 2. Sanctify and enhance the spiritual life of the faithful through Orthodox Christian worship.*
- 3. Receive persons into the Church through instruction, baptism and/or chrismation.*

Sunday, December 22

8:30 am — Orthros
9:45 am — Memorials
10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*
12:30 pm — Bible Faith Studies

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve
4:00 pm — Vespers Liturgy
Office Closed

Wednesday, December 25

Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
9:00 am — Orthros
10:00 am — Divine Liturgy
Office Closed

Friday, December 27

Stephen, Archdeacon and First Martyr
9:00 am — Orthros
10:00 am — Divine Liturgy

