



Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone (708) 239-0004 | Fax (708) 221-6449 | www.stmaryoc.org | office@stmaryoc.org

Church Office Hours : Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

December 24th, 2020

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

First Antiphon

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.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

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

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

اعترف لك يارب من كل قلبي، وأحدّث بجميع عجائبك في مجلس المستقيمين وفي مجمعهم. عظيمة أعمال الرب.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا.

مدبّرةً طبقاً لكلِّ مرادهِ بها. صنعهُ الاعترافِ وعُظمُ الجلالِ. وعدلهُ يدومُ إلى دهرِ الداهرينِ.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا.

المجدُ للأبِ والإبنِ والروحِ القدسِ، الآنِ وكلِّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرينِ. آمين.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا.

Second Antiphon

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.

Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

Glory and riches shall be in His house, and His righteousness endureth forever.

Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

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

Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

O only-begotten son and word of God...

طوبى للرجل الذي يتقي الرب ويهوى وصاياه جدا. تكون ذرّيته في الأرض مقتدرة.

خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من ولد من البتول، لنرتل لك، هلوليا!

يكون المجد والغنى في بيته. وبرّه يدوم الى دهر الداهرين.

خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من ولد من البتول، لنرتل لك، هلوليا!

اشرق النور في الظلمة للمستقيمين.

خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من ولد من البتول، لنرتل لك، هلوليا!

المجد للأب والإبن والروح القدس، الآن وكلّ أوانٍ وإلى دهر الداهرين، آمين.

يا كلمة الله الابن الوحيد...

Third 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.

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!

قال الرب لربي اجلس عن يميني حتى اجعل أعداءك موطناً لقدميك. عصا قوتك يرسل لك الرب من صهيون. معك الرئاسة في يوم قوتك في بهاء قديسيك.

ميلادك أيها المسيح إلهنا قد اشرق نور المعرفة في العالم. لأن الساجدين للكواكب به تعلموا من الكوكب السجود لك يا شمس العدل. وأن يعرفوا أنك من مشارق العلو أتيت. يارب المجدلك!

Entrance Hymn

Out of the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee. The Lord hath sworn and will not change His mind: Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek. Save us, O Son of God, who wast born of a Virgin, who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

من البطن قبل كوكب الصبح ولدتك. حلف الرب ولن يندم، أن أنت كاهنٌ الى الأبد على ترتيب

مليكصادق.خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من ولد من البتول، لنرتل لك: هلوليا!

Troparion of the Nativity (Tone Four)

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!

ميلادك أيها المسيح إلهنا قد اشرق نور المعرفة في العالم. لأن الساجدين للكواكب به تعلموا من الكوكب

السجود لك يا شمس العدل. وأن يعرفوا أنك من مشارق العلو أتيت. يارب المجدلك!

Kontakion of the Nativity (Tone Three)

Today, the Virgin giveth birth to the transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify Him; and the Magi with the star travel on their way; for a new child hath been born for our sakes; God before the ages.

اليومَ البتول تلدُ الفائقَ الجواهر، والأرضُ تقربُ المغارة، لمن هو غير مقربٍ إليه. الملائكة مع الرعاة يمجدون، والمجوس مع الكوكب في الطريقِ يسرون. لأنه قد ولد لنا صبيٌّ جديدٌ، وهو الإله الذي قبل الدهور.

Instead of the Trisagion Hymn, the following is sung (Tone One):

“As many as have been Baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!” (THRICE)

"أنتم الذين بالمسيح اعتمدتم المسيح قد لبستم، هليلويا!"

Epistle for the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee!

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians (4:4-7).

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

يسجد لك كل أهل الأرض ويرتلوا لك!

هللوا لله يا جميع أهل الأرض!

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل غلاطية.

يا اخوة لما حان ملاء الزمان أرسل الله ابنه مولودا من امرأة مولودا تحت الناموس * ليفتدي الذين تحت الناموس لننال التبني * وبما أنكم أبناء أرسل الله روح ابنه إلى قلوبكم صارخا يا أبا الآب * فلست بعد عبدا بل أنت ابن. وإذا كنت ابنا فأنت وارث لله بيسوع المسيح.

Gospel of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (2:1-12)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern My people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متى الإنجيلي
البشير، التلميذ الطاهر.

لَمَّا وُلِدَ يَسُوعُ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ فِي أَيَّامِ هِيرُودَسَ
الْمَلِكِ إِذَا مَجُوسٌ قَدْ أَقْبَلُوا مِنَ الْمَشْرِقِ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ
قَائِلِينَ، أَيْنَ الْمَوْلُودُ مَلِكُ الْيَهُودِ فَأَنَّا رَأَيْنَا نَجْمَهُ فِي
الْمَشْرِقِ فَوَاقَيْنَا لِنَسْجُدَ لَهُ * فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ هِيرُودُسُ الْمَلِكُ
اضْطَرَبَ هُوَ وَكُلُّ أُورُشَلِيمَ مَعَهُ * وَجَمَعَ كُلَّ رُؤَسَاءِ
الْكَهَنَةِ وَكُتَّابَةَ الشَّعْبِ وَاسْتَخْبَرَهُمْ أَيْنَ يُولَدُ الْمَسِيحُ *
فَقَالُوا لَهُ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ لِأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا قَدْ كُتِبَ
بِالنَّبِيِّ: وَأَنْتِ يَا بَيْتَ لَحْمِ أَرْضِ يَهُوذَا لَسْتَ بَصُغْرَى
فِي رُؤَسَاءِ يَهُوذَا لِأَنَّهُ مِنْكَ يَخْرُجُ الْمَدْبَرُ الَّذِي يَرعى
شَعْبِي إِسْرَائِيلَ * حِينَئِذٍ دَعَا هِيرُودُسُ الْمَجُوسَ سِرًّا
وَتَحَقَّقَ مِنْهُمْ زَمَانَ النَّجْمِ الَّذِي ظَهَرَ * ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَهُمْ إِلَى
بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ قَائِلًا: انْطَلِقُوا وَابْحَثُوا عَنِ الصَّبِيِّ بِتَدْقِيقٍ
وَمَتَى وَجَدْتُمُوهُ فَاخْبِرُونِي لِكَيْ آتِي أَنَا أَيْضًا وَاسْجُدَ لَهُ
* فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا مِنَ الْمَلِكِ ذَهَبُوا فَإِذَا النَّجْمُ الَّذِي كَانُوا
رَأَوْهُ فِي الْمَشْرِقِ يَتَقَدَّمُهُمْ حَتَّى جَاءَ وَوَقَفَ فَوْقَ
الْمَوْضِعِ الَّذِي كَانَ فِيهِ الصَّبِيُّ * فَلَمَّا رَأَوْا النَّجْمَ
فَرَحُوا فَرَحًا عَظِيمًا جَدًّا وَأَتَوْا إِلَى الْبَيْتِ فَوَجَدُوا
الصَّبِيَّ مَعَ مَرِيَمَ أُمِّهِ فَخَرُّوا سَاجِدِينَ لَهُ وَفَتَحُوا كَنُوزَهُمْ
وَاقْدَمُوا لَهُ هَدَايَا مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَلُبَانٍ وَمُرٍّ * ثُمَّ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْهِمْ
فِي الْحُلْمِ أَنْ لَا يَرْجِعُوا إِلَى هِيرُودَسَ فَاَنْصَرَفُوا فِي
طَرِيقٍ أُخْرَى إِلَى بِلَادِهِمْ.

Megalynarion of the Nativity of Christ (Tone One)

Magnify, O my soul, her who is more honorable and more exalted in glory than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave a heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, and the manger a noble place in which hath laid Christ the uncontained God. Let us, therefore, praise and magnify Him.

عَظِّمِي يَا نَفْسِي مِنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ قَدْرًا وَأَرْفَعُ مَجْدًا مِنَ الْأَجْنَادِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

إنني أشاهدُ سرّاً عجيباً مستغرباً. المغارةُ سماءً والبتولُ عرشاً شاروبيمياً. والمذودُ محلاً شريفاً الذي اتكأ فيه

المسيحُ الإلهُ غيرُ الموسوعِ في مكانٍ فلنُسبِّحُه معظمين.

Koinonikon for the Nativity (Tone Eight)

The Lord hath sent redemption to his people. Alleluia!

أرسل الرب خلاصاً لشعبه . هلوليا!

Instead of “We have seen the true light...”, sing:

Troparion of the Nativity (Tone Four)

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!

ميلادك أيها المسيح إلهنا قد اشرق نور المعرفة في العالم. لأن الساجدين للكواكب به تعلموا من الكوكب

السجود لك يا شمس العدل. وأن يعرفوا أنك من مشارق العلو أتيت. يارب المجدلك!

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Nativity 2020



*“Magnify, O my soul,
her who is more honorable and exalted in glory than the heavenly hosts.
I behold a strange and wonderful mystery:
the cave a heaven, the Virgin a Cherubic throne,
and the manger a noble place in which hath lain Christ the uncontained God.
Let us therefore praise and magnify Him.”*

Nativity Ode 9, First Canon

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

We humbly offer gratitude to our Savior for every precious gift He bestows upon us as we warm ourselves by the fire of His cave. May the Nativity of our Lord and Savior bring you joy and imbue the hearts of people throughout the world with peace, reconciliation, understanding and love for one another. May you be granted a grace-filled, joyous feast and a blessed new year replete with both spiritual and physical health.

Yours in the service of Christ,

+JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend
Bishop ANTHONY



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Toledo and
The Midwest

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
December 25, 2020

To the beloved Clergy and faithful of our Midwest Diocese,

Christ is Born! *Glorify Him!* **المسيح وُلِد! فمجدوه!**

In our meditation on the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas, we see the new born Babe as the new Adam. St. Irenaeus of Lyon reminds us, *"Just as Adam had been created by the Word of God from the untilled and virgin earth, so also the Word of God created flesh for Himself from a virgin womb when the Son of God became the new Adam, so as to correct the fall into sin of the first Adam."*

As we look into the Cave where the Baby is, we see the animals around Him. I am reminded of the love of the animals for Adam in Paradise before sin entered: *"The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field ..."* (Genesis 2:20). After Adam and Eve left Paradise and their descendants built cities and began to use animals for their pleasure and pride, the world was ruined by wickedness because man's *"heart was only evil continually"* (Genesis 6:5). Even after the great Flood when Noah had saved the animals and God made another agreement with mankind, these animals and their generations to come would not trust human beings: *"The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth"* (Genesis 9:2). Men would rule animals by tyranny not tenderness.

Jesus welcomes the animals back by bringing back, first in this Cave in the wilderness, the Paradise lost long ago. When Jesus began to preach and teach and when He went back to the wilderness no longer as a babe but as a young man, St. Mark in his Gospel says, *"he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him"* (Mark 1:13). The animals knew Jesus since He was a babe, and the Angels have always known Him since He has always been God. We hear the angels singing again, here in the wilderness walk of Christ as in the wilderness rest at His birth: *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men ..."* (Luke 2:14).

And the Eastern Kings in their adoration of our Lord, in their gifts for Him, knew He was the *"King of kings and the Lord of lords"* (1 Timothy 6:15; Revelation 17:14; 19:16). The shepherds came to worship Him who is the anointed One, the Messiah, the Christ, the Savior, the Son of God and Son of David, whom God *"took from the sheepfolds ... to be the shepherd of Jacob His people and Israel His inheritance"* (Psalms 78:70-71). Jesus speaking of Himself said, *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep"* (John 10:11).

Jesus was born into a rude, wilderness Cave, a place of contest with harsh weather and simple shelter. It was just the start of constant stress and rugged demands. Like David and fellow shepherds, He would endure the deprivations of comforts to comfort the sheep: *"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God"* (Isaiah 40:1) *"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord"* (Isaiah 40:3). *"Remember, O Lord, in David's favor, all the hardships he endured; how he swore to the Lord and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob, 'I will not enter my house or get into my bed; I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob'"* (Psalms 132:1-5).

His earthly life was never easy and finally devastating, one stumbling walk up to Golgotha as a last step to glory. As we all face pressure and tension now with the haunting uncertainty of the virus stalking

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

Midwest Diocesan Chancery
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Toledo, OH 43623

us from behind or racing toward us, we can know that the Lord who has “*endured the Cross for us*” (Hebrews 12:2) and rose in glory will help us endure our cross, rise again in this life, and in the life to come.

From the Vespers of the Nativity, we hear,

What shall we offer Thee, O Christ, Who for our sakes has appeared on earth as a man? Every creature made by Thee offers Thee thanks: the Angels offer a hymn; the heavens, a star; the Wise Men, gifts; the shepherds, their wonder; the earth, its cave; the wilderness, a manger, and we offer Thee a Virgin Mother! O Pre-eternal God, have mercy on us!

ماذا نَقْدِمُ لك أَيُّها المَسِيحُ، لَأَنَّكَ ظَهَرْتَ على الأَرْضِ كإنسانٍ مِنْ أَجْلِنا؟ فَكُلُّ فَرْدٍ مِنْ المَخْلُوقاتِ التي أُنْذِغَتْها بِقَدِّمِ لك شُكْرًا. فَالمَلَائِكَةُ التَّسْبِيحُ، وَالمَناوِئُ الكَوْكَبِ، وَالمَجْمُوسُ الهِدايا، وَالرُّعاةُ التَّعْجُوبِ، وَالأَرْضُ المِغارةُ، وَالقَفْرُ المَبْدُودُ، وَأما نَحْنُ، فَأَما نَتَوَلَّى. فِيا أَيُّها الإلهُ الَّذي قَبْلَ الدُّهورِ، ارحمنا.

As we celebrate this most joyous event with our family and friends, remember the God-Man, Jesus Christ, was born for us! Strive to love one another as He has loved us (*see* John 15:12)!

May He who was born in a cave and lay in a manger for our salvation, Christ our true God, bless you always.

+ Bishop Anthony

+Bishop ANTHONY

Bishop of Toledo

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

 VIRTUAL

15th ANNUAL SOYO CHRISTMAS RETREAT

Wednesday, December 30th 2020

6:00pm - 10:00pm via zoom

Ages 12-18

Schedule

6:00pm - Akathist

6:30pm - Session I with
Bp. Anthony

7:00pm - Dinner

Pizza delivery by clergy!

7:30pm - Coolest Christmas
Sweater Contest & Bible
Look-up Competition

8:00pm - Session II with
Fr. Mousa - "Born to Die"

8:30pm - The Voice: SOYO Edition
Caroling & Chanting contest

9:00pm - Session III with
Fr. Jacob - Becoming god

9:30pm - Jeopardy with clergy

10:00pm - Closing prayer

Cost - \$25 per participant

*ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE
BEIRUT RELIEF FUND

Register by 12/28/2020

[Click here to register.](#)

Items Needed:

Bible

Icon/candle

Mask

Come prepared for the
contests... Amazon gift
cards are calling your name!

Questions? Contact Fr. Jacob
youthpastor@stmaryoc.org

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

FOOD DRIVE

**NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD ITEMS ONLY**

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

Beans, Chili, Cereal, Pasta,
Pasta Sauce, Peanut Butter,
Jelly, Rice, Dry Milk, Soup,
Tuna, Canned Vegetables,
Canned Fruit, Mac & Cheese,
Juice.

**Nov. 3rd
to Jan. 31st**

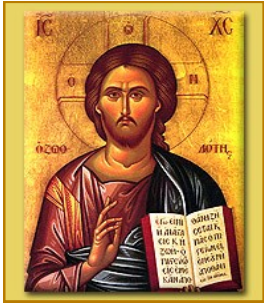
Drop Off Times

**Sunday Mornings &
Mon. - Fri. 10am - 3pm**

**HELP DONATE
TO THOSE IN
HUNGER!**

*Remembering
the words of
St. John
Chrysostom: "It
is a better thing
to feed the
hungry than to
raise the dead."*

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463 708-239-0004



Weekly Synaxarion



On December 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Nativity according to the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. Thus entered into the world He Whose coming was foretold by the prophets, and Who was born in the same manner in which it had been prophesied: of a Most-holy Virgin, in the town of Bethlehem, of the lineage of David according to the flesh, at the time when there was no king in Jerusalem of the lineage of Judah, but rather when a foreigner named Herod, who sought to kill the infant Messiah, was reigning. After many types and prefigurings, messengers and heralds, prophets and righteous men, wise men and kings, finally He appeared, the Lord of the world and King of kings, to perform the work of the salvation of mankind. Unto Him be glory unto ages of ages. Amen.