

SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, DAVID THE KING,
JAMES THE BROTHER



Icon of the Visit of the Magi

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

28 DECEMBER 2025 ♦ TONE 04 EOTHINON 7 † / ST. JOSEPH THE BETROTHERD, DAVID AND JAMES

GREAT DOXOLOGY:

Liturgy Book p. 17

ANTIPHON:

FIRST: NATIVITY

SECOND: O Son of God who were born of the Virgin.

THIRD: Troparion of the nativity

ENTRANCE HYMN: "Before the morning star:

Liturgy Book p. 151

APOLYTIKIA: Resurrection (Tone 4)

Liturgy Book p. 42

Troparion of the Nativity (tone 4)

Liturgy Book 152

St. Joseph (x2)

Liturgy Book p. 47

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

KONTAKION: Nativity

Liturgy Book p. 153

TRISAGION:

Liturgy Book p. 50

PROKIMENON:

Sing Praise to our God, sing praise!

Stichon: All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with cries of gladness!

EPISTLE:

Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I give you to understand that the Good News that was announced to you by me is not of man. For I did not receive it from man, nor was it taught to me [by man], but I received it by a revelation from Jesus Christ. For you have heard of the way I lived before in Judaism: how I persecuted the Church of God and ravaged it beyond measure. And I advanced in Judaism above many of my contemporaries in my nation, showing much more zeal for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased him who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the Gentiles, immediately, without taking counsel with flesh and blood and without going up to Jerusalem to those who were appointed apostles before me, I retired into Arabia and again returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went to Jerusalem to see Peter, and I remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles, except James, the Lord's brother.

ALLELUIA:

In you O Lord have I hoped; let me not be put to shame.
Be for me a protecting God, a sheltering house to save me.

GOSPEL:

St. Matthew 2:13-23

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying, "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and remain there until I tell you. For Herod will seek the Child to destroy Him." So, he arose, and took the Child and His mother by night, and withdrew into Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod; so that what the Lord said through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, seeing that he had been tricked by the Magi, was furious; and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and all its neighborhood who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had carefully ascertained from the Magi. Then was fulfilled what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, "A voice was heard in Rama, weeping, moaning and a loud complaint; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be comforted, because they are no more." But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." So, he arose and took the Child and His mother, and went into the land of Israel. But hearing that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there; and being warned in a dream he withdrew into the region of Galilee. And he went and settled in a town called Nazareth; that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

HIRMOS: Magnify O my soul (tone 1)

Liturgy Book p. 154

KINONIKON: The Lord has sent redemption to His people: He has established His covenant forever. Alleluia

POST-COMMUNION HYMN:

Liturgy Book p. 89

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS IN JANUARY

Saturday, January 3rd

NO SERVICES TODAY

Sunday, January 4th

Confessions: 9:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 6th

TWELVE GREAT FEASTS: THEOPHANY

Divine Liturgy: 5:30 p.m.

Great Blessing of the Water

Saturday, January 14th

Confessions: 3:00 p.m.

Great Vespers: 3:15 p.m.

Divine Liturgy: 4:00 p.m.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED
DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR
CHRISTMAS!

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

O St. Joseph, chaste spouse of the Lady Theotokos, head of the Holy Family, we again place ourselves under your patronage. † Through your powerful intercession, bestow up on us every good thing both spiritual and temporal. † Protect this your parish from all spiritual harm and renew in us the spirit of repentance and a fervent desire for the kingdom of heaven. † Make this vineyard flourish with new souls and by an increase of faith, hope and love; may forgiveness, peace and joy reign within our holy fellowship. † In all we do, may the Name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Please fill envelopes at the back of the church.

2025 WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 21

Weekly Offering: \$ 830.00

December 25

Christmas offering: \$3423.00

Candles: \$ 7.00

Total: \$ 3,430.00

The Lord Has Made His Salvation Known to the Whole World

The loving providence of God determined that in the last days He would aid the world, set on its course to destruction. He decreed that all nations should be saved in Christ. A promise had been made to the holy patriarch Abraham in regard to these nations. He was to have a countless progeny, born not from his body but from the seed of faith.

In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judea only, but in the whole world. ... As Isaiah prophesied: the people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned. He spoke of them to the Lord: The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke

you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you. ...

This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ.

Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

HOMILY ON THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

by St. John Chrysostom

I behold a new and wondrous mystery!

My ears resound to the Shepherd's song, piping no soft melody, but chanting full forth a heavenly hymn.

The Angels sing!

The Archangels blend their voices in harmony!

The Cherubim hymn their joyful praise!

The Seraphim exalt His glory!

All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the Godhead here on earth, and man in heaven. He who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and he that was lowly is by divine mercy raised.

Bethlehem this day resembles heaven; hearing from the stars the singing of angelic voices; and in place of the sun, enfolds within itself on every side the Sun of Justice.

And ask not how: for where God wills, the order of nature yields. For He willed, he had the power, He descended, He redeemed; all things move in obedience to God.

This day He Who Is, is Born; and He Who Is becomes what He was not. For when He was God, He became man; yet not departing from the Godhead that is His. Nor yet by any loss of divinity became He man, nor through increase became he God from man; but being the Word He became flesh, His nature, because of impassibility, remaining unchanged.

And so the kings have come, and they have seen the heavenly King that has come upon the earth, not bringing with Him Angels, nor Archangels, nor Thrones, nor Dominations, nor Powers, nor Principalities, but, treading a new and solitary path, He has come forth from a spotless womb.

Yet He has not forsaken His angels, nor left them deprived of His care, nor because of His Incarnation has he departed from the Godhead.

And behold,

*Kings have come, that they might adore the heavenly King of glory;
Soldiers, that they might serve the Leader of the Hosts of Heaven;
Women, that they might adore Him Who was born of a woman so that He might change
the pains of child-birth into joy;
Virgins, to the Son of the Virgin, beholding with joy, that He Who is the Giver of milk,
Who has decreed that the fountains of the breast pour forth in ready streams, receives
from a Virgin Mother the food of infancy;
Infants, that they may adore Him Who became a little child, so that out of the mouth of
infants and sucklings, He might perfect praise;
Children, to the Child Who raised up martyrs through the rage of Herod;
Men, to Him Who became man, that He might heal the miseries of His servants;
Shepherds, to the Good Shepherd Who has laid down His life for His sheep;
Priests, to Him Who has become a High Priest according to the order of Melchisedech;
Servants, to Him Who took upon Himself the form of a servant that He might bless our
servitude with the reward of freedom;
Fishermen, to Him Who from amongst fishermen chose catchers of men;
Publicans, to Him Who from amongst them named a chosen Evangelist;
Sinful women, to Him Who exposed His feet to the tears of the repentant;*

*And that I may embrace them all together, all sinners have come, that they may look upon
the Lamb of God Who taketh away the sins of the world.*

*Since therefore all rejoice, I too desire to rejoice. I too wish to share the choral dance, to
celebrate the festival. But I take my part, not plucking the harp, not shaking the Thyrsian
staff, not with the music of pipes, nor holding a torch, but holding in my arms the cradle
of Christ.*

*For this is all my hope, this my life, this my salvation, this my pipe, my harp. And bearing
it I come, and having from its power received the gift of speech, I too, with the angels,
sing:*

*Glory to God in the Highest;
and with the shepherds: and on earth peace to men of good will.*