

DECEMBER 26

Second Day of the Feast of the Nativity - Synaxis of the Most Holy Birthgiver of God

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Your wonders known. (Ps. 110:1a) **Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!**

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord. (Ps. 110:1b-2a)
Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

They are sought out according to His will. (Ps. 110:2b)
Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!

Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.
(Ps. 110:3) **Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Amen. **Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us!**

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. (Ps. 111:1)
Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

His descendants will be mighty in the land, the generation of the upright will be blessed. (Ps. 111:2)
Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Glory and wealth are in His house and His righteousness endures forever. (Ps. 111:3)
Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate, and righteous. (Ps. 111:4) **Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and wast crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand." (Ps. 109:1a)

Tone 4 Your Nativity, O Christ our God, /has shone to the world the light of wisdom! /For by it, those who worshipped the stars, /were taught by a star to adore You, /the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You, the Orient from on high.// O Lord, glory to You!

"Until I make Your enemies Your footstool!" (Ps. 109:1b)

Tone 4 Troparion Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

The Lord will send You the scepter of power from Zion: "Rule in the midst of Your enemies!" (Ps. 109:2) **Tone 4** Troparion Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

With You is dominion on the day of Your power, in the radiance of holiness. (Ps. 109:3)
Tone 4 Troparion Your Nativity, O Christ our God...

THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Priest: From the womb before the morning star I have begotten You. The Lord swore, and will not change His mind: "You are a priest to the age, according to the order of Melchizedek." (Ps. 109:4) O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

TROPARION

Tone 4 Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!

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

KONTAKION

Tone 3 Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.
Angels with shepherds glorify Him;
The wise men journey with the star,//
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child.

(Instead of the Trisagion)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

The prokeimenon in the fourth tone: I shall make your name to be remembered / in all generations. (Ps. 44:16)

V. Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear! (Ps. 44:9a)

The reading is from the first epistle of the apostle Paul to Timothy 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Timothy, my son, man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Arise, O Lord, into Your resting place: You and the Ark of Your sanctification! *(Ps. 131:8)*

V. The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back. *(Ps. 131:11a)*

GOSPEL

Matthew 12:15-21 *(Saturday After)*

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.
Because of our trepidation at making an error,
It would be safer and easier for us to love being silent.
Furthermore, because of our love for you, O Virgin,
It is not proper to compose protracted songs
As though they were being woven together.
Nevertheless, O Mother, give us the ability to sing
That which is pleasing to you.

Communion Hymn The Lord has sent redemption to His people. *(Ps. 110:8a)* Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

INSTEAD OF "WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT":

Tone 4 Your Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore You,
the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!