

DECEMBER 9 - Conception of the Birthgiver of God by the Righteous Anna

FIRST ANTIPHON. PSALM 91.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to Your name, O most High.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To show that the Lord is upright, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

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.

SECOND ANTIPHON. PSALM 92.

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, He has girded Himself.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

The world also is established, so that it cannot be moved.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, 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.

Only-begotten Son...

THIRD ANTIPHON. PSALM 94

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

TROPARIA

Tone 4 Today the bonds of barrenness are broken:

God has heard the prayers of Joachim and Anna.

He has promised them beyond all their hopes to bear the Maiden of God,
by whom the Uncircumscribed One was born as a mortal Man;

He commanded an Angel to cry to her:

“Rejoice, of full of grace,
the Lord is with you!”

Tone 4 In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,
a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence,

so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty,

O Holy Father Nicholas,

intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

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

Amen.

KONTAKION

Tone 4 Today the universe rejoices,

for Anna has conceived the Theotokos through God’s dispensation,//

for she has brought forth the one who is to bear the ineffable Word.

The rokeimenon in the seventh tone: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall hope in Him. (*Psalm 63:10*) **v: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to You!** (*Psalm 63:1*)

EPISTLE

The reading is from the Epistle of the Apostle Paul to the Galatians (4:22-27) Brethren: it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, “Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married.”

Alleluia, Tone 1

v. The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord, and He is their protector in time of affliction. (*Psalm 36:39*)

v. The Lord shall help them, and deliver them, and He shall deliver them from sinners, and save them, because they hope in Him. (*Psalm 36:40*)

GOSPEL Luke 8:16-21

COMMUNION HYMN

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Psalm 32:1*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!