



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+ The Great Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ +



Hymns for the Nativity Our Lord Jesus Christ

Thy 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 Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

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.

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 2:1-12

Now after 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 when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.'" Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Thank you to all who donated poinsettias for this Great Feast of the Nativity.

For the Health of:

Conklin, Boulle, Korba, Seasock, Geiger,
Kennedy families
Gianuzzi family
Apanovich, Harenza, Huntzinger families
Krill and Zimich families
Tumavitch family
Father Innocent, Matushka, & sons
Steve & Jean Hutz
Sofvenovic family
William & Mary Gurka
Bankos, Bawn, Haugh, Krill, Cardoni,
Benczkowski families
Church school students & teachers
Meck family
Willis family
Cardoni & Benczkowski families
Margaret Krout

In Memory of:

Conklin, Boulle, Korba, Seasock, Geiger,
Kennedy families
Rita, Leigh, Philip
Gianuzzi family
Apanovich, Harenza, Huntzinger families
Anna, John, Joseph
Krill and Zimich families
Conon & Tumavitch families
Helen & Peter Welgo
Anna P. Homick
Steven Homick
David Voda
Mivko Soljaga
Ray Gajić
Dave Vujović
Bato Zunjic
William & Eva Sokola
Bankos, Bawn, Haugh, Krill, Cardoni,
Benczkowski families
Mary & Walter Shedlock, Margaret & Bill Dryer
Helen
Goobic Family
Kurtz & Barnes family

*This Christmas night bestowed peace on the
whole world;
So let no one threaten;
This is the night of the
Most Gentle One -
Let no one be cruel;
This is the night of the Humble One -
Let no one be proud.
Now is the day of joy -
Let us not seek revenge;
Now is the day of Goodwill -
Let us not be mean.
In this Day of Peace -
Let us not be conquered by anger.
Today the Bountiful impoverished Himself
for our sake;
So, rich one, invite the poor
to your table.
Today we receive a Gift for which we
did not ask;
So let us give alms to those who
implore and beg us.
This present Day cast open the heavenly
doors to our prayers;
Let us open our door to those
who ask our forgiveness.
Today the DIVINE BEING took upon
Himself the seal of our humanity,
In order for humanity to be decorated by the
Seal of DIVINITY.*

+ St. Isaac the Syrian, Homily for the Nativity +
