

Nativity of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary

*For use if the rector blesseth. Singing the festal antiphons on this feast
is not the usual practice of the Russian Church Abroad.*

At Liturgy:

1st Antiphon.

Remember, O Lord,* David and all his meekness.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

Lo, we have heard it in Ephratha.* We have found it in the plains of the
wood.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

Glorious things are spoken of thee,* O city of God.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

God is in the midst of her, she shall not be shaken;* God shall help her right
early in the morning.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!

2nd Antiphon.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David,* and He will not annul it.

O Son of God, Who wast born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Of the fruit of thy loins * will I set upon thy throne.

O Son of God, Who wast born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

There will I make to spring forth a horn for David,* I have prepared a lamp
for My Christ.

O Son of God, Who wast born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

For the Lord hath elected Sion,* He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself.

O Son of God, Who wast born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory, Both now: O Only-begotten Son...

3rd Antiphon.

This is My rest for ever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen her.

Troparion, Tone IV:

Thy nativity, O Virgin Theotokos,* hath proclaimed joy to all the world;* for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God,* annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing,* abolishing death and granting us æternal life.

The Most High hath hallowed His tabernacle.

Troparion.

Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness.

Troparion.

After the Entrance, the Troparion and the Kontakion, Tone IV:

Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness * and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death,* by thy holy nativity, O immaculate one,* which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offences,* celebrate, by crying to thee:* "The barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life."



Prokimenon, Tone III. The Song of the Theotokos:

My soul doth magnify the Lord,* and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Stichos: For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Epistle to the Philippians, Pericope 240

Brethren: Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia, Tone VIII: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear.

Stichos: The rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.

Gospel according to Luke, Pericope 54

In those days, Jesus entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to Him, and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me." And Jesus answered and said unto her, "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." And it came to pass, as He spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto Him, "Blessèd is the womb that bare Thee, and the paps which Thou hast sucked. But He said, "Yea rather, blessèd are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."

Instead of "It is truly meet..."

Magnify, O my soul,* the all-glorious nativity of the Mother of God!

Then the Irmos:

Foreign to mothers is virginity,* and strange is childbirth to virgins;* yet both were accomplished in thee, O Theotokos.* Wherefore, all of us, the peoples of the world,* magnify thee unceasingly.

Or: O Theotokos, thou art a mystical paradise,* which, untilled, put forth Christ.* by Whom the life-bearing Tree of the Cross was planted;* wherefore, worshipping it as it is now raised aloft,* we magnify thee.

And thus until the Leavetaking.

Communion verse: I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the name of the Lord: Alleluia!