

**Μηνναῖον - ΤΗΙ ΚΤ' ΣΕΠΤΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ**

Ἡ Σύλληψις τοῦ Τιμίου Ἐνδόξου  
Προφήτου, Προδρομοῦ, καὶ Βαπτιστοῦ  
Ἰωάννου.

**ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ**

**Ἀντίφωνον Α'. Ἦχος β'.**

**Στίχ. α'.** Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχὴ μου, τὸν  
Κύριον, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐντός μου τὸ ὄνομα τὸ  
ἅγιον αὐτοῦ.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,  
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

**Στίχ. β'.** Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχὴ μου, τὸν  
Κύριον, καὶ μὴ ἐπιλανθάνου πάσας τὰς  
ἀνταποδόσεις αὐτοῦ.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,  
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

**Στίχ. γ'.** Κύριος ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ ἡτοίμασε  
τὸν θρόνον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡ Βασιλεία αὐτοῦ  
πάντων δεσπόζει.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,  
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.

Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν  
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,  
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

**Menaion - September 23**

The Conception of the Honorable and  
Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist  
John.

**LITURGY**

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**Antiphon I. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and  
everything within me, bless His holy name. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the  
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

**Verse 2:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and  
forget not all His rewards. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the  
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**Verse 3:** The Lord prepared His throne in  
heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the  
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

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

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.  
Amen.*

Through the intercessions of the  
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**Ἀντίφωνον Β'. Ἦχος β'.**

**Στίχ. α'.** Αἶνει, ἡ ψυχὴ μου, τὸν Κύριον·  
αἰνέσω Κύριον ἐν τῇ ζωῇ μου· ψαλῶ τῷ Θεῷ  
μου ἕως ὑπάρχω.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν ἁγίοις  
θαυμαστός, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

**Στίχ. β'.** Μακάριος οὗ ὁ Θεὸς Ἰακώβ  
βοηθὸς αὐτοῦ, ἡ ἐλπίς αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ Κύριον τὸν  
Θεὸν αὐτοῦ.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν ἁγίοις  
θαυμαστός, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

**Στίχ. γ'.** Βασιλεύσει Κύριος εἰς τὸν  
αἰῶνα, ὁ Θεός σου, Σιών, εἰς γενεὰν καὶ  
γενεάν.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν ἁγίοις  
θαυμαστός, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.

Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν  
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Ὁ Μονογενὴς Υἱὸς καὶ Λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ,  
ἀθάνατος ὑπάρχων καὶ καταδεξάμενος διὰ  
τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν σαρκωθῆναι ἐκ τῆς  
ἁγίας Θεοτόκου καὶ ἀειπαρθένου Μαρίας,  
ἀτρέπτως ἐνανθρωπήσας, σταυρωθεὶς τε,  
Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας,  
εἰς ὧν τῆς Ἁγίας Τριάδος, συνδοξαζόμενος  
τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, σῶσον  
ἡμᾶς.

**Antiphon II. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall  
praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God  
as long as I exist. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are  
wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia. [GOA]

**Verse 2:** Blessed is he whose help is the God  
of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are  
wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia.

**Verse 3:** The Lord shall reign forever; your  
God, O Zion, to all generations. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are  
wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia.

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

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.  
Amen.

Only begotten Son and Logos of God,  
being immortal, You condescended for  
our salvation to take flesh from the holy  
Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without  
change, became man. Christ, our God, You  
were crucified and conquered death by death.  
Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with  
the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

**Ἀντίφωνον Γ'.**

**Ἀπολυτίκιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος δ'. Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε.**

Ἡ πρώτην οὐ τίκτουςα, στεῖρα  
εὐφράνθητι· ἰδοὺ γὰρ συνέλαβες, Ἡλίου  
λύχνον σαφῶς, φωτίζειν τὸν μέλλοντα,  
παῖσαν τὴν οἰκουμένην, ἀβλεψίαν  
νοσοῦσαν· χόρευε Ζαχαρία, ἐκβοῶν  
παρρησίᾳ· Προφήτης τοῦ Ὑψίστου ἐστίν, ὁ  
μέλλον τίκτεσθαι.

**Antiphon III.**

**Apolytikion.**

From Menaion ---

**Mode 4. Come quickly.**

Sing now, O barren one who did not  
bear before, \* for you have indeed conceived  
the burning lamp of the Sun; \* and he will  
illuminate \* all the world afflicted \* with  
spiritual blindness. \* Dance, O Zacharias, and  
now openly cry out: \* "The one who is to be  
born is a Prophet of the Most High God." [SD]

*Ἡ, ἀντί τῶν Ἀντιφώνων, κατὰ τὸ τυπικόν,  
ψάλλονται τὰ Τυπικά καὶ οἱ Μακαρισμοί.*

**Ψαλμὸς 102.**

**Ψαλμὸς 145.**

**Οἱ Μακαρισμοί.**

**Ἦχος πλ. β'.**

Ἐν τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου μνήσθητι ἡμῶν  
Κύριε, ὅταν ἔλθῃς ἐν τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου.  
Μακάριοι οἱ πτωχοὶ τῷ πνεύματι, ὅτι αὐτῶν  
ἐστὶν ἡ Βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Μακάριοι οἱ πενθοῦντες, ὅτι αὐτοὶ  
παρακληθήσονται.

Μακάριοι οἱ πραεῖς, ὅτι αὐτοὶ  
κληρονομήσουσι τὴν γῆν.

Μακάριοι οἱ πεινῶντες καὶ διψῶντες τὴν  
δικαιοσύνην, ὅτι αὐτοὶ χορτασθήσονται.

**Κανὼν τοῦ Προδρόμου.**

**Ὡδὴ γ'. Ἦχος πλ. β'. Οὐκ ἐστὶν ἅγιος.**

*Τοῦ Μηναίου - - -*

Μακάριοι οἱ ἐλεήμονες, ὅτι αὐτοὶ  
ἐλεηθήσονται.

Ἡ στεῖρα σήμερον καρπὸν, ἱερὸν  
συλλαμβάνει, τὸν μετέπειτα πᾶσαν,  
ἀκαρπίαν τῶν ψυχῶν, ἀξίνη τῇ νοητῇ,  
ἀποτέμνειν, μέλλοντα ἐν χάριτι.

Μακάριοι οἱ καθαροὶ τῇ καρδίᾳ, ὅτι αὐτοὶ  
τὸν Θεὸν ὄψονται.

Κωφεύσας ἔνδον τοῦ ναοῦ, Ζαχαρίας ὁ  
μέγας, τὴν φωνὴν τὴν τοῦ Λόγου, ἀγγελία  
φοβεῖται, κομίζεται καὶ λαμπρῶς, μεγαλύνει,  
Κύριον τὸν εὐσπλαγχνον.

*An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika  
(Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed  
troparia, which are provided here.*

**Psalm 102.**

**Psalm 145.**

**The Beatitudes.**

**Mode pl. 2.**

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord,  
when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are  
the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of  
heaven [RSV]

Blessed are those who mourn, for they  
shall be comforted. [RSV]

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit  
the earth. [RSV]

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst  
for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

[RSV]

**Canon for the Forerunner.**

**Ode iii. Mode pl. 2. None is holy as you. (NM)**

*From Menaion - - -*

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain  
mercy. [RSV]

The barren woman today conceives a  
sacred fruit, which afterwards is going by  
grace to cut out with the spiritual axe all  
fruitlessness of souls. [EL]

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see  
God. [RSV]

Struck dumb within the temple, great  
Zachary by a fearful message acquires the  
voice of the Word, and radiantly magnifies  
the compassionate Lord. [EL]

Μακάριοι οἱ εἰρηνοποιοί, ὅτι αὐτοὶ Υἱοὶ Θεοῦ κληθήσονται.

Ὁ δεῖξας τρίβον ἀσφαλῆ, τοῖς πιστοῖς μετανοίας, προτροπῇ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου, ἐν νηδύϊ μητρικῇ, βλαστάνει θεία βουλή, παρ' ἐλπίδα, ὁ Ἐνδοξος Πρόδρομος.

Μακάριοι οἱ δεδιωγμένοι ἕνεκεν δικαιοσύνης, ὅτι αὐτῶν ἐστὶν ἡ Βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

### Θεοτοκίον.

Γαστρὶ φερόμενον Χριστόν, τῆς Παρθένου ὡς ἔγνω, ὁ ἐκ στερείρας ἐσκίρτα, προμηνύων τὴν χαράν, ἐπιδημοῦσαν ἐν γῇ, κατηφείας, πάντας ἐκλυτρώσασθαι.

### Κανὼν τοῦ Προδρόμου.

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ὡδὴ C'. Ἦχος πλ. β'.**  
*Τοῦ βίου τὴν θάλασσαν.*

Μακάριοι ἐστὲ ὅταν ὀνειδίσωσιν ὑμᾶς, καὶ διώξωσι, καὶ εἰπωσι πᾶν πονηρὸν ῥῆμα καθ' ὑμῶν, ψευδόμενοι ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ.

Ἀμφίβολον κέκτημαι, τὴν διάνοιαν ἐγώ, καὶ ἀπιστῶ τοῖς λόγοις σου, τῷ Ἀρχαγγέλῳ ἔφη ὁ Ἱερεὺς· λαοῦ σωτηρίαν γάρ, οὐκ ἐμῆς ἐξ ὁσφύος καρπὸν ἤτησα.

Χαίρετε καὶ ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, ὅτι ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν πολὺς ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς.

Ὁ πλάστης τῆς φύσεως, τῶν Ἀγγέλων Βασιλεὺς, ὁ λειτουργὸς ἀντέφησε, τῆς παρουσίας Ἀγγελον τῆς αὐτοῦ, ἠὲ δόκησε τίκτειν σε, τοῖς ἐμοῖς μὴ ἀπίσται λόγοις ἀνθρῳπε.

Δόξα.

Τὸ εἶδός σου πύρινον καὶ ἡ θεά σου φορικτή, καὶ θαυμαστὸς ὁ λόγος σου, ὁ Ζαχαρίας ἔφη τῷ λειτουργῷ, ἀλλ' οὖν οὐ

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. [RSV]*

The glorious Forerunner, who showed to all the safe path of repentance, sprouts in his mother's womb at the behest of the Angel by divine counsel and beyond hope. [EL]

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [RSV]*

### Theotokion.

As he recognised Christ being carried in the womb of the Virgin, the issue of a barren woman leapt, foretelling the joy that had come to dwell on earth to ransom all from despair. [EL]

### Canon for the Forerunner.

From Menaion ---

**Ode vi. Mode pl. 2. Watching life's sea. (NM)**

*Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely [for my sake]. [RSV]*

My mind is full of doubt and I do not believe your words, the priest said to the Archangel; for I asked salvation for the people, not fruit from my loins. [EL]

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. [RSV]*

The Fashioner of nature, King of the Angels, replied the minister, has been well-pleased for you to beget the Messenger of his coming; do not disbelieve my words, my friend. [EL]

Glory.

Your form is of fire, your appearance terrifying and your word wondrous, said Zachary to the minister; but yet I do not

πιστεύω σοι, ὑπὲρ φύσιν λαλοῦντι ξένα  
ῥήματα.

Καὶ νῦν. **Θεοτοκίον.**

Ὁ λύχνος τὸν ἥλιον, ἐν νεφέλῃ  
μητρικῇ, γαστρὸς κατακρυπτόμενον,  
ἐπεγνωκῶς ὑπάρχων ἐν ζοφερῷ, τῆς  
μήτρας σκηνώματι, προσεκύνησε χαίρων  
καὶ ἐσκίρτησε.

believe you as you speak strange words  
beyond nature. [EL]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

The lamp, recognizing the Sun hidden in  
the cloud of his mother's womb, himself in  
the sombre dwelling of the womb, rejoicing  
worshipped him and leapt for joy. [EL]

**Εἰσοδικόν. Ἦχος β'.**

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ  
προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱέ  
Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐν ἁγίοις θαυμαστός, ψάλλοντάς  
σοι, Ἀλληλουῖα.

**Ὑμνοι μετὰ τὴν Μικρὰν Εἴσοδον  
Ἀπολυτίκιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος δ'. Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε.**

Ἡ πρόην οὐ τίκτουσα, στεῖρα  
εὐφράνθητι· ἰδοὺ γὰρ συνέλαβες, Ἡλίου  
λύχνον σαφῶς, φωτίζειν τὸν μέλλοντα,  
πᾶσαν τὴν οἰκουμένην, ἀβλεψίαν  
νοσοῦσαν· χόρευε Ζαχαρία, ἐκβοῶν  
παρρησίᾳ· Προφήτης τοῦ Ὑψίστου ἐστίν, ὁ  
μέλλον τίκτεσθαι.

**Τοῦ Ναοῦ.**

(Τὸ Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ.)

**Κοντάκιον. Ἦχος β'.**

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν  
ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν  
ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης, ἀμαρτωλῶν  
δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς  
ἀγαθή, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς  
κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν,  
καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα  
ἀεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

**Ο ΤΡΙΣΑΓΙΟΣ ΥΜΝΟΣ**

Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, ἅγιος Ἰσχυρός, ἅγιος  
Ἀθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. (ἐκ γ')

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.  
Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν  
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

**Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.**

Come, let us worship and bow down  
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who  
are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia. [GOA]

**Hymns After the Small Entrance.  
Apolytikion.**

From Menaion ---

**Mode 4. Come quickly.**

Sing now, O barren one who did not  
bear before, \* for you have indeed conceived  
the burning lamp of the Sun; \* and he will  
illuminate \* all the world afflicted \* with  
spiritual blindness. \* Dance, O Zacharias, and  
now openly cry out: \* "The one who is to be  
born is a Prophet of the Most High God." [SD]

**Apolytikion of the Parish Church**

(The text of the Apolytikion of the local  
church goes here.)

**Kontakion. Mode 2.**

O Protection of Christians that never falls,  
intercession with the Creator that never fails,  
we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices  
of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore  
you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry  
out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession,  
and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who  
protect now and ever those who honor you.

[SD]

**THE TRISAGION HYMN**

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,  
have mercy on us. (3) [GOA]

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

Άγιος Αθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς.

**Ὁ Ἀπόστολος**

Τοῦ Προδρόμου.

**Προκείμενον.** Ἦχος βαρύς. Ψαλμός 63.

Εὐφρανθήσεται δίκαιος ἐν Κυρίῳ.

**Στίχ.** Εἰσάκουσον, ὁ Θεός, τῆς φωνῆς μου.

Γα 4:22-27

Ἀδελφοί, Ἀβραὰμ δύο υἱοὺς ἔσχεν· ἓνα ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης, καὶ ἓνα ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας. Ἀλλ' ὁ μὲν ἐκ τῆς παιδίσκης κατὰ σάρκα γεγέννηται, ὁ δὲ ἐκ τῆς ἐλευθέρας διὰ τῆς ἐπαγγελίας. Ἰτινά ἐστὶν ἀλληγορούμενα· αὗται γάρ εἰσιν δύο διαθηκαί· μία μὲν ἀπὸ ὄρους Σινᾶ, εἰς δουλείαν γεννῶσα, ἥτις ἐστὶν Ἄγαρ. Τὸ γὰρ Ἄγαρ Σινᾶ ὄρος ἐστὶν ἐν τῇ Ἀραβίᾳ, συστοιχεῖ δὲ τῇ νῦν Ἱερουσαλήμ, δουλεύει δὲ μετὰ τῶν τέκνων αὐτῆς. Ἡ δὲ ἄνω Ἱερουσαλήμ ἐλευθέρα ἐστίν, ἥτις ἐστὶν μήτηρ πάντων ἡμῶν· γέγραπται γάρ, Εὐφράνθητι, στεῖρα, ἢ οὐκ τίκτουσα· ῥῆξον καὶ βόησον, ἢ οὐκ ὠδίνουσα· ὅτι πολλὰ τὰ τέκνα τῆς ἐρήμου μᾶλλον ἢ τῆς ἐχούσης τὸν ἄνδρα.

**Ἀλληλούϊα.** Ἦχος δ'. Ψαλμός 91.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

**Στίχ. α'.** Δίκαιος ὥς φοῖνιξ ἀνθήσει.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

**Στίχ. α'.** Πεφυτευμένοι ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ Κυρίου.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**The Epistle**

For the Forerunner.

**Prokeimenon.** Grave Mode. Psalm 63.

The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord. [SAAS]

**Verse:** Hear my voice, O God. [SAAS]

Gal. 4:22-27

Brethren, 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." [RSV]

**Alleluia.** Mode 4. Psalm 91.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 1:** The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree. [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 1:** Those planted in the house of the Lord. [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.



## Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον

Τοῦ Προδρόμου.

Λου 1:5-25

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐγένετο ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Ἡρώδου τοῦ βασιλέως τῆς Ἰουδαίας ἱερεὺς τις ὀνόματι Ζαχαρίας ἐξ ἐφημερίας Ἀβιά, καὶ ἡ γυνὴ αὐτοῦ ἐκ τῶν θυγατέρων Ἀαρών, καὶ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῆς Ἐλισάβετ. ἦσαν δὲ δίκαιοι ἀμφοτέρωθεν ἐνώπιον τοῦ Θεοῦ, πορευόμενοι ἐν πάσαις ταῖς ἐντολαῖς καὶ δικαιομασίαις τοῦ Κυρίου ἀμεμπτοί. καὶ οὐκ ἦν αὐτοῖς τέκνον, καθότι ἡ Ἐλισάβετ ἦν στείρα, καὶ ἀμφοτέρωθεν προβεβηκότες ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτῶν ἦσαν. Ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ ἱερατεύειν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ τάξει τῆς ἐφημερίας αὐτοῦ ἕναντι τοῦ Θεοῦ, κατὰ τὸ ἔθος τῆς ἱερατείας ἔλαχε τοῦ θυμιᾶσαι εἰσελθὼν εἰς τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Κυρίου· καὶ πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος ἦν τοῦ λαοῦ προσευχόμενον ἔξω τῇ ὥρᾳ τοῦ θυμιάματος. ὦφθη δὲ αὐτῷ ἄγγελος Κυρίου ἑστὼς ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου τοῦ θυμιάματος. καὶ ἐταράχθη Ζαχαρίας ἰδὼν, καὶ φόβος ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτόν. εἶπε δὲ πρὸς αὐτόν ὁ ἄγγελος· μὴ φοβοῦ, Ζαχαρία· διότι εἰσηκούσθη ἡ δέησίς σου, καὶ ἡ γυνὴ σου Ἐλισάβετ γεννήσει υἱόν σοι, καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰωάννην· καὶ ἔσται χαρὰ σοι καὶ ἀγαλλίασις, καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπὶ τῇ γεννήσει αὐτοῦ χαρήσονται. ἔσται γὰρ μέγας ἐνώπιον τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ οἶνον καὶ σίκερα οὐ μὴ πῖναι καὶ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου πλησθήσεται ἔτι ἐκ κοιλίας μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ πολλοὺς τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ ἐπιστρέψει ἐπὶ Κύριον τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν· καὶ αὐτὸς προελεύσεται ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ ἐν πνεύματι καὶ δυνάμει Ἡλιοῦ, ἐπιστρέψαι καρδίας πατέρων ἐπὶ τέκνα καὶ ἀπειθεῖς

## The Gospel

For the Forerunner.

Lk. 1:5-25

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, it fell to him by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zacharias was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth; for he will be great before the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For

ἐν φρονήσει δικαίων, ἐτοιμάσαι Κυρίῳ  
 λαὸν κατεσκευασμένον. καὶ εἶπε Ζαχαρίας  
 πρὸς τὸν ἄγγελον· κατὰ τί γνώσομαι τοῦτο;  
 ἐγὼ γάρ εἰμι πρεσβύτης καὶ ἡ γυνή μου  
 προβεβηκυῖα ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτῆς. καὶ  
 ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ ἄγγελος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐγὼ  
 εἰμι Γαβριήλ ὁ παρεστηκὼς ἐνώπιον τοῦ  
 Θεοῦ, καὶ ἀπεστάλην λαλῆσαι πρὸς σε  
 καὶ εὐαγγελίσασθαί σοι ταῦτα. καὶ ἰδοὺ  
 ἔση σιωπῶν καὶ μὴ δυνάμενος λαλῆσαι  
 ἄχρι ἥς ἡμέρας γένηται ταῦτα, ἀνθ' ὧν  
 οὐκ ἐπίστευσας τοῖς λόγοις μου, οἵτινες  
 πληρωθήσονται εἰς τὸν καιρὸν αὐτῶν. καὶ  
 ἦν ὁ λαὸς προσδοκῶν τὸν Ζαχαρίαν, καὶ  
 ἐθαύμαζον ἐν τῷ χρονίζειν αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ  
 ναῷ. ἐξελθὼν δὲ οὐκ ἠδύνατο λαλῆσαι  
 αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐπέγνωσαν ὅτι ὀπτασίαν  
 ἑώρακεν ἐν τῷ ναῷ· καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν διανεύων  
 αὐτοῖς, καὶ διέμενε κωφός. καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς  
 ἐπλήσθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι τῆς λειτουργίας  
 αὐτοῦ, ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ. Μετὰ  
 δὲ ταύτας τὰς ἡμέρας συνέλαβεν Ἑλισάβετ  
 ἡ γυνὴ αὐτοῦ, καὶ περιέκρυβεν ἑαυτὴν  
 μῆνας πέντε, λέγουσα ὅτι οὕτω μοι  
 πεποίηκεν ὁ Κύριος ἐν ἡμέραις αἷς ἐπειδὲν  
 ἀφελεῖν τὸ ὄνειδός μου ἐν ἀνθρώποις.

### Ὕμνος εἰς τὴν Θεοτόκον.

Ἄξιόν ἐστιν ὡς ἀληθῶς μακαρίζειν  
 σε τὴν Θεοτόκον, τὴν ἀειμακάριστον  
 καὶ παναμώμητον καὶ μητέρα τοῦ Θεοῦ  
 ἡμῶν. Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ καὶ  
 ἐνδοξοτέραν ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεῖμ,  
 τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν, τὴν  
 ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in  
 years." And the angel answered him, "I am  
 Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God;  
 and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring  
 you this good news. And behold, you will be  
 silent and unable to speak until the day that  
 these things come to pass, because you did  
 not believe my words, which will be fulfilled  
 in their time." And the people were waiting  
 for Zacharias, and they wondered at his delay  
 in the temple. And when he came out, he  
 could not speak to them, and they perceived  
 that he had seen a vision in the temple; and  
 he made signs to them and remained dumb.  
 And when his time of service was ended, he  
 went to his home. After these days his wife  
 Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she  
 hid herself, saying, "Thus the Lord has done  
 to me in the days when he looked on me, to  
 take away my reproach among men." [RSV]

### Hymn to the Theotokos.

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos,  
 ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our  
 God. More honorable than the Cherubim,  
 and beyond compare more glorious than the  
 Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth  
 to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true  
 Theotokos. [GOA]

**Κοινωνικόν. Ψαλμός 111.**

Εἰς μνημόσυνον αἰώνιον ἔσται δίκαιος.  
Ἀλληλουῖα.

**Ὑμνος μετὰ τὴν Θ. Κοινωνίαν.  
Ἦχος β'.**

Εἶδομεν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν, ἐλάβομεν  
Πνεῦμα ἐπουράνιον, εὗρομεν πίστιν ἀληθῆ,  
ἀδιαίρετον Τριάδα προσκυνοῦντες· αὕτη  
γὰρ ἡμᾶς ἔσωσεν.

**ΑΠΟΛΥΣΙΣ**

Χριστὸς ὁ ἀληθινὸς Θεὸς ἡμῶν,  
ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς παναχράντου  
καὶ παναμώμου ἁγίας αὐτοῦ Μητρός,  
δυνάμει τοῦ τιμίου καὶ ζωοποιοῦ Σταυροῦ,  
προστασίαις τῶν τιμίων ἐπουρανίων  
Δυνάμεων Ἀσωμάτων, ἱκεσίαις τοῦ τιμίου,  
ἐνδόξου, προφήτου, Προδρόμου καὶ  
βαπτιστοῦ Ἰωάννου, οὗ καὶ τὴν σύλληψιν  
ἐορτάζομεν· τῶν ἁγίων ἐνδόξων καὶ  
πανευφήμεων Ἀποστόλων, τῶν ἁγίων  
ἐνδόξων καὶ καλλινίκων μαρτύρων· τῶν  
όσιων καὶ θεοφόρων Πατέρων ἡμῶν· (τοῦ  
Ἁγίου τοῦ Ναοῦ)· τῶν ἁγίων καὶ δικαίων  
Θεοπατόρων Ἰωακείμ καὶ Ἄννης, καὶ  
πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων, ἐλεῆσαι καὶ σῶσαι  
ἡμᾶς, ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος.

**Κανόνας Νηστείας**

*Κατάλυσις εἰς πάντα.*

**Communion Hymn. Psalm 111/112.**

The righteous will be remembered for  
ever. Alleluia. [RSV]

**Hymn after Holy Communion.  
Mode 2.**

We have seen the true light; we have  
received the heavenly Spirit; we have found  
the true faith, worshipping the undivided  
Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [GOA]

**THE DISMISSAL**

May Christ our true God, through  
the intercessions of His all-pure and all-  
immaculate holy Mother, the power of the  
precious and life-giving Cross, the protection  
of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven,  
the supplications of the honorable, glorious  
prophet and forerunner John the Baptist,  
whose Conception we celebrate; of the holy,  
glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the  
holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs,  
of our righteous and God-bearing fathers,  
(local patron saint); of the holy and righteous  
ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all  
the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for  
He is good and loves mankind.

**Fasting Rule**

*Fast Free: All foods allowed.*