

Octoechos - Mode 3.

On Sunday Morning

Menaion - September 8

The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady
Theotokos

LITURGY

Unless otherwise indicated, the texts of the prayers and hymns of the Divine Liturgy are from: The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (© 2016), used with permission from the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. This text was produced by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and approved by the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalms 131, 86, 45.

Verse 1: Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness. [SAAS]

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

Verse 2: Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the plains of the wood. [SAAS]

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

Verse 3: Glorious things were said
concerning you, O city of God. [SAAS]

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

Verse 4: God is in her midst; she shall not be
shaken. [SAAS]

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

Glory. Both now.

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

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 131.

Verse 1: The Lord swore to David this truth,
and He shall not reject it. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: I shall set upon your throne one
from the fruit of your loins. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 3: There I shall cause to spring up a
horn for David; there I prepared a lamp for my
anointed. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 4: The Lord has chosen Zion; He chose
her for His dwelling. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit. [HC]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen. [HC]

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]

Antiphon III. Mode 4. Psalms 131, 45, 64.

Verse 1: *Here I shall dwell, for I have chosen her.* [SAAS]

Verse 2: *The Most High sanctified His tabernacle.* [SAAS]

Verse 3: *Holy is Your temple, wondrous in righteousness.* [SAAS]

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 4.

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, imparted joy to the entire earth, for out of you has risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He nullified the curse and instead gave His blessing; and causing death to be neutralized, He granted us eternal life. [SD]

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 3.

Resurrectional.

From Octoechos ---

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]

When our primal father Adam disobeyed Your divine command, O Christ, You expelled him from Paradise. But when the faithful Robber while on the cross confessed You to be Lord, You restored him there, as he cried to You: "O Savior, when You come in Your kingdom, remember me." [SD]

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

When in Paradise we sinned, You condemned us and pronounced the curse of death, being the Lord and the Giver of life. But later, loving Master, You who are sinless suffered in the flesh, and You brought the dead back to life again, who shouted: "When You come in Your kingdom, remember us." [SD]

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

Having risen from the dead, You also raised us from the passions, by Your holy resurrection, O Christ our God. And roundly You defeated death's dominion over us, O Lord. Therefore we believers cry out to You:

O Savior, when You come in Your kingdom, remember us. [SD]

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

Theotokion.

Rejoice, the gate of God, through whom went the incarnate Creator, when He was born from you, and He kept you sealed. Rejoice, O swift and light cloud who brings the divine showers, namely Christ. Rejoice, O ladder to heaven and celestial throne. O rejoice, holy mountain, uncut and rich. [SD]

Canon 1 of the Feast.

From Menaion ---

Ode iii. Mode 2. N/M (Establish us in You.)

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

The holy parents, who had lived before the Lord without reproach/brought forth the salvation of all,/giving birth to the one who bore our Creator and our God. [OCA]

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

The holy parents, who had lived before the Lord without reproach/brought forth the salvation of all,/giving birth to the one who bore our Creator and our God. [OCA]

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

The Lord, Who is a spring of life to all,/led forth the Virgin from a barren womb./He was well pleased to enter into her,/preserving her virginity inviolate after childbirth. [OCA]

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

Let us exalt Mary today:/the fruit of Anna who brought forth the Life-giving cluster./
Let us sing her praises as the Theotokos,/ protector and helper of us all. [OCA]

Canon 2 of the Feast.

From Menaion - - -

Ode vi. Mode pl. 4. N/M (The waves of life.)

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

We sing the praises of your holy birth, Virgin and Bride of God,/and venerate your conceiving without seed, Maiden;/and with us the ranks of angels and the souls of the saints dance for joy! [OCA]

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

Your wise parents, undefiled One,/ brought you, the Holy of Holies,/as an offering to the House of the Lord,/there to be reared in holiness/and made ready to become His Mother. [OCA]

Glory. **For the Trinity.**

In you, undefiled One,/the mystery of the Trinity is praised and glorified:/for the Father was well-pleased with you,/and in you the Word made His dwelling among us,/and the Holy Spirit overshadowed you. [OCA]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

You became a golden censer,/for the Fire made His tabernacle in your womb:/the Word from the Holy Spirit,/and He was seen in the form of a man, pure Theotokos. [OCA]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

From Octoechos - - -

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode 3.

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy. [SD]

For the Feast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

Your Nativity, O Theotokos, imparted joy to the entire earth, for out of you has risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He nullified the curse and instead gave His blessing; and causing death to be neutralized, He granted us eternal life. [SD]

From Menaion - - -

Kontakion.

Mode 4.

Both Joachim and Anna from their sterility's stigma, and Adam and Eve from their mortality's ruin have been set free, O immaculate Maid, by your holy nativity. For this do your people hold celebration, redeemed from the guilt of transgression as they cry to you, "The barren one bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life." [GKD]

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.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross

Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 2. Psalm 27.

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance. [SAAS]

Verse: *To You, O Lord, I cry; O my God.*

[SAAS]

Gal. 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen. [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode 1. Psalm 88.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *I raised up a chosen one from My people.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *For My hand shall support him.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

Sunday Before the Elevation of the Cross

Jn. 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." [RSV]

Hymn to the Theotokos.

Ode ix. Heirmos.

Mode pl. 4.

Virginité is a state alien to mothers, * and childbirth is foreign to those who are virgins.

* But in you, Theotokos, have both of these been accomplished. * Indeed all generations everywhere * now call you blessed evermore.

[SD]

Communion Hymn. Psalm 115.

I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia. [SAAS]

Selected Psalm Verses for the Birth of our Lady Theotokos

1. Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness. (131:1) [SAAS]

2. How he swore to the Lord, how he vowed to the God of Jacob. (131:2) [SAAS]

3. I shall not enter my dwelling, I shall not recline on my bed. (131:3) [SAAS]

4. I shall not close my eyes in sleep nor my eyelids for dozing, nor give any rest to my temples. (131:4) [SAAS]

5. Until I find a place for the Lord, a tabernacle for the God of Jacob. (131:5) [SAAS]

6. Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah. (131:6) [SAAS]

7. We found it in the plains of the wood. (131:6) [SAAS]

8. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall go in through it. (117:20) [SAAS]

9. Glorious things were said concerning you, O city of God. (86:3) [SAAS]

10. God is in her midst; she shall not be shaken. (45:6) [SAAS]

11. The Lord swore to David this truth, and He shall not reject it. (131:11) [SAAS]

12. I shall set upon your throne one from the fruit of your loins. (131:11) [SAAS]

13. For the Lord has chosen Zion; He chose her for His dwelling. (131:13) [SAAS]

14. Here I shall dwell, for I have chosen her. (131:14) [SAAS]

15. The Most High sanctified His tabernacle. (45:5) [SAAS]

16. Holiness and majesty are in His holy place. (95:6) [SAAS]

17. Holy is Your temple, wondrous in righteousness. (64:5) [SAAS]

18. Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days. (92:5) [SAAS]

19. I will remember your name from generation to generation. (44:18) [SAAS]

20. Therefore, peoples shall give thanks to you forever and unto ages of ages. (44:18) [SAAS]

Hymn after Holy Communion.

Mode 2.

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

THE DISMISSAL

May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, whose nativity we celebrate; 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, 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.