

DECEMBER 26

Second Day of the Feast of the Nativity, Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, the Brother of the Lord (*sung today; next Sunday is the Sunday before Theophany*)

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 4 Troparion (*Feast*)

Your 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 You,
the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know You, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to You!

Tone 2 Troparion (*Righteous Ones*)

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,
to David, the ancestor of God;
you have seen a Virgin great with child;
and you gave glory with the shepherds;
you worshipped with the Magi,
and received the news from the Angel.//
Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 3 Kontakion (*Righteous Ones*)

Today godly David is filled with joy;
Joseph and James offer praise.
The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.
They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,//
and they cry out: "O Compassionate One, save those who honor You!"

Tone 6 Kontakion (*Synaxis of the Theotokos*)

He Who was begotten before the Morning Star of the Father without a mother,
today is made flesh of you upon the earth without a father.
A star announces the good tidings to the Wise Men,//
while Angels and shepherds sing the praises of your most pure childbearing, O
Full of Grace!

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*

V. For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon *(Righteous Ones)*

God is wonderful in His saints, / the God of Israel. *(Ps. 67:35a)*

Epistle

(306) Hebrews 2:11-18 *(Theotokos)*

(200) Galatians 1:11-19 *(Sunday After)*

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Arise, O Lord, into Your resting place: You and the Ark of Your sanctification! (Ps. 131:8)

V. The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back. (Ps. 131:11a)

Tone 4

V. Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness! (Ps. 131:1)

Gospel

(4) Matthew 2:13-23 *(Theotokos and Sunday After)*

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery:
heaven – the cave;
the cherubic throne – the Virgin;
the manger – the place where Christ lay;
the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

Communion Hymn

The Lord has sent redemption to His people. *(Ps. 110:8a)*

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!