

**Sunday After Nativity of Christ**  
**Ss Joseph the Betrothed, David the King,**  
**and James the Brother of the Lord**  
**Galatians 1: 11 - 19      Matthew 2: 13 – 23**

**Beatitude Verses**

4 from Octoechos for Resurrection  
4 from Festal Menaion Matins Canon Ode 7 for the Feast of Nativity  
4 from Menaion Matins Canon Ode 6 for the Saints

**People:** In Your kingdom remember us, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom.  
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Reader:** O Christ, believing You to be God, the robber on the cross confessed You in a pure manner, crying out from the depths of his heart: O Lord, remember me in Your kingdom!

**People:** Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted!

**Reader:** Let us all praise as Savior and Creator, Him who on the Cross sprouted life for our race and caused the condemnation which originated from the tree to wither up.

**People:** Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth!

**Reader:** O Christ, through Your own death You have destroyed the power of death, and You raise up with Yourself the dead from the past, who now praise You as our true God and Savior.

**People:** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled!

**Reader:** O Christ the Giver of Life, the honorable women arriving at Your tomb, wanted to anoint You with myrrh; but an angel appeared to them, crying out: The Lord is risen!

**People:** Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy!

**Reader:** Shepherds piping in the fields received an awesome vision of light; for the glory of the Lord shone around them, and an angel cried aloud: Sing praises, for Christ is born! Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers!

**People:** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God!

**Reader:** Suddenly, at the word of the angel, the ranks of Heaven cried: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men; Christ has shone forth! Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers!

**People:** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God!

**Reader:** The furnace which had been raised to a sevenfold heat savagely burnt the servants of the king, but spared the youths; and the Lord crowned them by flames and abundantly shed dew upon them for their piety.

**People:** Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven!

**Reader:** O Benefactor by Your almighty power You have overthrown the fierce sin that raised its head in reckless pride, which had been raging blasphemously through a world gone mad. Today by willingly becoming incarnate You have saved from the traps of sin those who were once dragged down.

**People:** Blessed are you when people revile you, persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake!

**Reader:** O Christ, the heavenly ranks were awe-struck as they stood before the cave. Unable to keep silent, they praised Your most pure Nativity, chanting: Glory in the highest to the newborn God!

**People:** Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven!

**Reader:** O Master, You sit upon Your throne, as You promised to the prophet David, from whom You have come forth from the fruit of his loins. O Christ You also committed the throne of the Church to James.

**People:** **Glory** to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**Reader:** David the king is shown to be a wondrous prophet and forefather of the incarnation of God; and James, the disciple of Jesus, is shown forth as the first bishop of Jerusalem.

**People:** **Now** and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Reader:** O Virgin Theotokos, we beseech you on behalf of your servants: Entreat Him who was incarnate of you, for we know you to be our only intercessor.

## **Troparia & Kontakia**

### **Resurrection Troparion Tone 4**

**People:**

When the women disciples of the Lord /  
learned from the Angel /  
the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection /  
And of the dismissal of the ancestral judgment /  
They boasted to the apostles /  
Death is overthrown, Christ our God has risen //  
Granting to the world His great mercy.

### **Troparion of the Nativity of Christ Tone 4**

**People:**

Your Nativity O Christ our God,  
has dawned upon the world the Light of Knowledge,  
for by it those who worshipped the stars,  
were taught by a star,  
to worship You the Sun of Righteousness,  
and to know You the Sunrise from above.  
O Lord glory to You.

### **Troparion of the Kinsmen of the Lord Tone 2**

**People:**

O Joseph, proclaim the miracles to David the father of our Divine Lord. /  
You have seen the Virgin conceive; /  
you have given glory with the shepherds; /  
you have worshipped with the Magi; /  
and you have been warned by an angel. //  
Entreat Christ our God to save our souls.

**People:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

### **Kontakion of the Kinsmen of the Lord Tone 3**

**People:**

Today David is filled with divine gladness, /  
and along with James and Joseph they offer praise; /  
for they rejoice at receiving a crown as kinsmen of Christ, /  
and they praise Him who is inexpressibly born on earth and they cry: //  
O Compassionate One, save those who honor You.

**People:** Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Kontakion of Nativity  
Tone 3**

***People:***

Today the Virgin gives birth to Him who is above all essence,  
and the earth offers a cave to Him whom no one can approach.  
Angels with shepherds glorify Him,  
and Magi journey with the star.  
For to us a new Child is born:  
the pre-eternal God.

**Resurrection Prokeimenon  
Tone 4**

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

***Priest:*** Peace be to all.

**Reader:** And to your spirit.

***Deacon:*** Wisdom!

**Reader:** The Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone: O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom.

***People:*** O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom.

**Reader:** Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, You are magnified exceedingly.

***People:*** O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom.

**Reader:** O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly.

***People:*** You made all things in wisdom.

***Deacon:*** Wisdom!

**Reader:** The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

***Deacon:*** Let us attend.

**Epistle**  
**Galatians 1: 11 - 19**

**Reader:** Brethren, regarding the Good News which I preached, I proclaimed this to you, that it is not of human origin. I did not receive it from man and I was not taught this Good News by man, but it came to me through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard about how I used to live in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure, and how I ravaged it. I advanced in the Jewish religion beyond many of my own age among my countrymen, as I was more extremely zealous for the traditions of my forefathers. But when it was the good pleasure of God (who had set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles), I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood: I did not go up to Jerusalem to visit those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia. Later on, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Peter, and I stayed with him for fifteen days. However, I did not see any of the other apostles, except James, 'the Lord's brother.'

**Priest:** Peace be to you the reader.

**Reader:** And to your spirit.

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Alleluiarion Tone 4**

**Reader:** Alleluia in the 4th Tone.

**People:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Reader:** Stretch Your bow, and grant prosperity, and reign, because of truth, gentleness, and righteousness.

**People:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Reader:** You loved righteousness and hated lawlessness.

**People:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Deacon:** Bless Master, him who proclaims the Holy Gospel of the Holy, Apostle and Evangelist Matthew.

**Priest:** May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious, all praised Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, enable you to proclaim the Good News with great power, for the fulfillment of the Gospel of His Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Deacon:** Amen.

**Priest:** Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

**People:** And to your spirit.

**Deacon:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

**People:** Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

**Priest:** Let us attend.

**Deacon:** **Matthew 2: 13 – 23**

**People:** Glory to You, Lord, glory to You.

### ***The Hymn to the Theotokos***

Instead of "It is truly right..." we chant the Irmos of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ode of the 2nd Canon of the Feast.

### ***Tone 1***

Magnify, O my soul, her who is more honourable and more glorious than the heavenly ranks.

O Virgin, it would be easier and more safe for us to prefer silence out of fear, for even with love it is difficult to sing praises to you fittingly. But, O Mother, give us strength, that we may fulfil our true intention.

### **Communion Verse (Koinonikon)**

**People:**

**Resurrection:** Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise Him in the highest!

**Kinsmen:**

O you righteous, rejoice in the Lord; praise is worthy for the upright.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.