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ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA
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DECEMBER 25, 2025

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

ميلاد ربنا ومخلصنا يسوع المسيح

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. In the council of the upright, and in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

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

They are sought out in all the things that He hath willed. Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

Glory... Both now...

الأتيفونا الأولى

أَعْتَرِفُ لَكَ يَا رَبُّ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِي، وَأُحَدِّثُ بِجَمِيعِ عَجَائِبِكَ. فِي مَجْلِسِ الْمُسْتَقِيمِينَ وَفِي مَجْمَعِهِمْ، عَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ أَعْمَالُ الرَّبِّ.

بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.

مُدَبِّرَةٌ طَبَقاً لِكُلِّ مُرَادِهِ بِهَا. صُنْعُهُ الْإِعْتِرَافُ وَعِظَمُ الْجَلَالِ، وَعَدْلُهُ يَدُومُ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ

المجد ... الآن.....

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; in His commandments shall he greatly delight. His seed shall be mighty upon the earth. The generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee.
Alleluia.

Glory and riches shall be in his house, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

There hath risen up in darkness a light for the upright; he is merciful and compassionate and righteous.

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

الأنتيفونا الثانية

طُوبَى لِلرَّجُلِ الَّذِي يَتَّقِي الرَّبَّ وَيَهْوَى وَصَايَاهُ جَدًّا. تَكُونُ ذُرِّيَّتُهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ مُقْتَدِرَةً.

خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ يَا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا.//اللازمَة
الْمَجْدُ وَالْغِنَى فِي بَيْتِهِ، وَعَدْلُهُ يَدُومُ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ.

أَشْرَقَ النُّورُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ لِلْمُسْتَقِيمِينَ، النُّورُ يُشْرِقُ فِي الظُّلَامِ لِلْأَبْرَارِ، لِأَنَّهُ الرَّؤُوفُ وَالرَّحِيمُ وَالصِّدِّيقُ.
يَا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الْإِبْنَ الْوَحِيد... الْمَجْدُ ... الْآنَ

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints.

الأنتيفونا الثالثة

قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِرَبِّي: اجْلِسْ عَنْ يَمِينِي حَتَّى أَجْعَلَ أَعْدَاءَكَ مَوْطِنًا لِقَدَمَيْكَ. عَصَا قُوَّةٍ يُرْسِلُ لَكَ الرَّبُّ مِنْ مَعَكَ الرِّئَاسَةَ فِي يَوْمِ قُوَّتِكَ، فِي بَهَاءِ قَدِّيسِيكَ. صَهْيُونَ.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

From the womb before the morning star have I begotten Thee. The Lord hath sworn, and He will not repent; thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

إيسوديكون (ترنيمة الدخول) لعيد ميلاد المسيح

مِنَ الْبَطْنِ قَبْلَ كَوْكَبِ الصُّبْحِ وَلِدْتُكَ، خَلَفَ الرَّبُّ وَلَنْ يَنْدَمَ، أَنْتَ الْكَاهِنُ إِلَى الدَّهْرِ عَلَى تَرْتِيبِ مُلْكِيصَادَق. خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ،
لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ هَلْلُويَا.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

أبوليتيكيون ميلاد المسيح بالحن الرابع

مِلَادُكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا قَدْ أَطْلَعَ نَوْرَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ فِي الْعَالَمِ، لِأَنَّ السَّاجِدِينَ لِلْكَوَاكِبِ، بِهِ تَعَلَّمُوا مِنْ الْكَوْكَبِ السُّجُودَ لَكَ يَا شَمْسَ الْعَدْلِ، وَأَنْ يَعْرِفُوا أَنَّكَ مِنْ مَشَارِقِ الْعُلُوِّ أَتَيْتَ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE THREE

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He Who existed before the ages as God.

قنذاق ميلاد المسيح بالحن الثالث

الْيَوْمَ الْبَتُولُ تَلِدُ الْفَائِقَ الْجَوْهَرَ، وَالْأَرْضُ تُقَرِّبُ الْمَغَارَةَ لِمَنْ هُوَ غَيْرُ مُقْتَرَبٍ إِلَيْهِ. الْمَلَائِكَةُ مَعَ الرُّعَاةِ يُمَجِّدُونَ، وَالْمَجُوسُ مَعَ الْكَوْكَبِ فِي الطَّرِيقِ يَسِيرُونَ، لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ وُلِدَ مِنْ أَجْلِنَا صَبِيٌّ جَدِيدٌ، إِلَهُ الَّذِي قَبْلَ الدَّهْرِ.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Alleluia. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Dynamis!

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Alleluia.

بَدَلًا مِنْ قُدُوسِ اللَّهِ

أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ. الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا. (ثلاثا)
الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.
الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا.
قُوَّة!

أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ. الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا.

THE EPISTLE

Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee.

Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (4:4-7)

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

الرسالة

لِيَسْجُدَ لَكَ كُلُّ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ وَيُرْتَلُوا لَكَ. هَلْلُوا لِلَّهِ يَا جَمِيعَ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرُّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ غَلَاطِيَّةِ.

يَا إِخْوَةُ، لَمَّا حَانَ مِلْءُ الزَّمَانِ، أَرْسَلَ اللَّهُ ابْنَهُ مَوْلُودًا مِنْ امْرَأَةٍ، مَوْلُودًا تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِيَقْتَدِيَ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِنَنَالَ النَّبِيِّ. وَبِمَا أَنْتُمْ أَبْنَاءُ، أَرْسَلَ اللَّهُ رُوحَ ابْنِهِ إِلَى قُلُوبِكُمْ صَارِخًا: «يَا أَبَا الْآبِ». فَلَسْتُ بَعْدُ عَبْدًا بَلِ ابْنٌ، وَإِنْ كُنْتُ ابْنًا فَأَنْتَ وَارِثٌ لِلَّهِ بِالْمَسِيحِ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (2:1-12)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him.” When Herod the king heard this, he

was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern My people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

الإنجيل المقدس

فَصْلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّمْئِذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

لَمَّا وُلِدَ يَسُوعُ فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ فِي أَيَّامِ هِيرُودُسَ الْمَلِكِ، إِذَا مَجُوسٌ قَدْ أَقْبَلُوا مِنَ الْمَشْرِقِ إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ قَائِلِينَ: أَيَنَّ الْمَوْلُودُ مَلِكُ الْيَهُودِ؟ فَإِنَّا رَأَيْنَا نَجْمَهُ فِي الْمَشْرِقِ، فَوَاقِنَا لِنَسْجُدَ لَهُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ هِيرُودُسُ الْمَلِكُ اضْطَرَبَ هُوَ وَكُلُّ أُورَشَلِيمَ مَعَهُ. وَجَمَعَ كُلَّ رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وَكُتَّابَةِ الشَّعْبِ، وَاسْتَحْبَرَهُمْ أَيَنَّ يُولَدُ الْمَسِيحُ. فَقَالُوا لَهُ "فِي بَيْتِ لَحْمِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ، لِأَنَّهُ هَكَذَا قَدْ كُتِبَ بِالنَّبِيِّ: وَأَنْتِ يَا بَيْتَ لَحْمِ أَرْضِ يَهُودَا، لَسْتِ بِصَغْرَى فِي رُؤَسَاءِ يَهُودَا، لِأَنَّهُ مِنْكِ يَخْرُجُ الْمُدَبِّرُ الَّذِي يَرْعَى شَعْبِي إِسْرَائِيلَ." حِينَئِذٍ دَعَا هِيرُودُسُ الْمَجُوسَ سِرًّا وَتَحَقَّقَ مِنْهُمْ زَمَانَ النَّجْمِ الَّذِي ظَهَرَ. ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَهُمْ إِلَى بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ، قَائِلًا: انْطَلِقُوا وَابْحَثُوا عَنِ الصَّبِيِّ بِنَدَقِي، وَمَتَى وَجَدْتُمُوهُ، فَأَخْبِرُونِي لِكَيْ آتِيَ أَنَا أَيْضًا وَأَسْجُدَ لَهُ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا مِنَ الْمَلِكِ، ذَهَبُوا، فَإِذَا النَّجْمُ الَّذِي كَانُوا رَأَوْهُ فِي الْمَشْرِقِ يَتَقَدَّمُهُمْ، حَتَّى جَاءَ وَوَقَفَ فَوْقَ الْمَوْضِعِ الَّذِي كَانَ فِيهِ الصَّبِيُّ. فَلَمَّا رَأَوْا النَّجْمَ فَرَحُوا فَرَحًا عَظِيمًا جَدًّا، وَأَتَوْا إِلَى الْبَيْتِ، فَوَجَدُوا

الصَّبِيِّ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ أُمِّهِ، فَخَرَّوْا سَاجِدِينَ لَهُ، وَفَتَحُوا كُنُوزَهُمْ وَقَدَّمُوا لَهُ هَدَايَا مِنْ ذَهَبٍ وَلُبَانٍ وَمُرٍّ . ثُمَّ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْهِمْ فِي الْحُلُمِ أَنْ لَا يَرْجِعُوا إِلَى هِيرُودَسَ، فَأَنْصَرَفُوا فِي طَرِيقٍ أُخْرَى إِلَى بِلَادِهِمْ.

MEGALYNARION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Magnify, O my soul, her who is more honorable and more exalted in glory than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave a heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, and the manger a noble place in which hath laid Christ the uncontained God. Let us, therefore, praise and magnify Him.

تَعْظِيمَةُ لَعِيدِ مِيلَادِ الْمَسِيحِ بِاللَّحْنِ الْأَوَّلِ

عَظِّمِي يَا نَفْسِي مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ قَدْرًا، وَأَرْفَعُ مَجْدًا مِنَ الْأَجْنَادِ الْعُلَوِيَّةِ.
إِنِّي أَشَاهِدُ سِرًّا عَجِيبًا مُسْتَعْرَبًا، الْمَغَارَةَ سَمَاءً وَالْبَتُولَ عَرْشًا شَارُوبِيمِيًّا، وَالْمِدْوَدَ مَحَلًّا شَرِيفًا، الَّذِي
اتَّكَأَ فِيهِ الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، غَيْرُ الْمَوْسُوعِ فِي مَكَانٍ، فَلْنُسَبِّحْهُ مُعْظَمِينَ.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE EIGHT

The Lord hath sent redemption to His people. Alleluia.

كِينُونِيكون (تَرَنِيمَةُ الْمُنَاوَلَةِ) لِلْمِيلَادِ بِاللَّحْنِ الثَّامِنِ

لَقَدْ أَرْسَلَ الرَّبُّ فِدَاءً لِشَعْبِهِ. هَلِّلُويَا.



HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

OFFERED BY: Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good of the parish council members, the building committee and the Ladies Auxiliary and their families. Many Years!

OFFERED BY: Fr. Samer, the Clergy and the parishioners for the good health of all the families in Gaza, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Ukraine and all the countries has the unrest in the world. Many Years!



COFFEE HOUR

Offered By: Ladies Auxiliary

(To host the Coffee Hour, please contact Wardeh Asfour @408-718-3339)

office@orthodoxredeemer.org

Online Link: <https://holytransfiguration.breezechms.com/form/26c422>

Services Schedule Every Week

Matins @ 9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 AM

Vespers: Every Saturday @ 5:00 PM

(Please check your email in case of any cancellations for Vespers)

Christmas Eve Service December 24th.

MATINS at 6:00 PM and DIVINE LITURGY at 7:00 PM

St. Nicholas will come on the 24th Evening

After the Divine Liturgy

And pass out gifts to all the children...



OFFERED BY:

Fr. Samer & Kh. Julianna Youssef: For the good health of the Youssef & Neyman families. In memory of Elias Youssef and V. Rv. Fr. Nicholas Neyman.

Salem & Samia Aweiss: For the good health of the Aweiss family. In memory of Thurayah Aweiss and Zakieh Emsis.

Chip & Jennifer Lutton: For the good health of the Lutton family. In memory of Gladys and Richard Lutton, Michael Smith, Helen and Elias Bodron.

John & Linda Salah: For the good health of the Salah family. In memory of Martha, George, Nuha and Essa Sackllah.

Osama & Hala Elmasu: For the good health of Elmasu, Kazaleh and Zuniga families. In memory of Bahiyeh, Hanna, Emile and Amal.

Horn family: For the good health of John, Mihaela and Florih. In memory of Alexahdru.

James & Gretchen Stroud: For the good health of the Stroud family. In memory of Bronnie and Annabella Stroud.

Ibtisam Kreitem: For the good health of Laila, Pierre, Samer, Sara, and Yasmin Kreitem. In memory of Issam Kreitem, Michael and Laila Halteh.

Hiyam Fasheh: For the good health of the Fasheh family. In memory of George Fasheh.

Diana Fasheh: For the good health of the Fasheh & Mukhar families. In memory of Suleiman Fasheh.

Yvonne Hanhan: For the good health of her daughters and their families. In memory of Simon Hanhan.

Gus & Cristina Anagnos: For the good health of the Anagnos family. In memory of Chris Skoby, Helen Skoby, Louie Skoby and George Anagnos.

Mitch & Maria Segal: For the good health of the Segal, McCrea and Snowden families. In memory of Andrew Segal.

Nuha Naser: For the good health of Cynthia, Randa & Ronnie, Lora and their families. In memory of John, Bolus and Nabiha.

Peter & Maria Jammal: For the good health of Peter and Maria Jammal and family. In memory of Mansour, Hanne, Laila and Tony Jammal.

Rima & Michel Gannage: For the good health of the Gannage and Smine families. In memory of Hind, Wadad, Edouard and Randa.

Roula Haddad: For the good health of Roula's siblings and their families. In memory of Bahij and Afaf Haddad.

Johnny & Juliana Khamis: For the good health of all the people who are suffering in Palestine..

George & Jeanette Omran: For the good health of George, Jeanette, Desiree and Hend Omran. In memory of George Jr. Omran, Dib & Arifeh Totah, Saleem & Fareedeh Totah, Showki Jadallah, Elias Botto, Audi Dudum, Kamel Totah and Bruce Haste.

Nawal Jaber: For the good health of the Jaber family. In memory of Salwa Kahou, James, Nicola, Maria and Said Jaber.

Marwan & Mona Awad: For the good health of the Awad and Eid families.

Nicolas & Sonia Azar: For the good health of the Azar, Mansour, Halaby and Baillou families. In memory of Jameel, Ssayha, Basil, Valery, Mike and Johnny.

Dania & Jonathan Baker: For the good health of the Amireh, Rizkallah, Baker, Mitri, Hina and Saba families. In memory of Mahfouz Amireh and Shyla Baker.

Hanna & Suad Eideh: For the good health of the Eideh, Khoury and Hanhan families. In memory of Imad Eideh.

George & Rowida Barghouth: For the good health of the Barghouth, Mansour and Jurac families.

Jad & Elaine Bateh: For the good health of the Bateh family. In memory of Bob, John, Nadia and Issa Bateh.

George & Adele Kreitem: For the good health of the kreitem, Sakhel, Smith, Sheils and ElHihi families. In memory of Tina, Andoni and Virginia Kreitem, Michael and Margaret Sakhel.

Reyad & Eva Katwan: For the good health of Reyad, Eva, Erica, Mousa, Rawan, Michael, Janelle, Zayn, Milan and Amira.

Richard & Nancy Godfrey: For the good health of the Godfrey, Bitar, and Sharkey families, the Redeemer Choir, the sick, suffering, and unhoused everywhere. In memory of Nicholas and Nelly Bitar, Virginia, and Emily.

Abdallah & Hala Saah: For the good health of the Saah and Mitri families.

Henry & Sheila Veizades: For the good health of Henry, Sheila, Gregory, Michael, Marge, the Veizades and Hanna families. In memory of Taft, Harrisis, Tancho, Tamara, Iskandar, Antonio, Tamra, Louis, Grace, Steliani, Nicholas and Ioanis.

Nayla Sleiman: For the good health of the Sleiman and Kawar families. In memory of Wajih Sleiman.

Victor & Inessa Vaisberg: For the good health of Victor, Inessa and their children and grandchildren and the Vaisberg family.

By the mercy of God Almighty John X the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

To My brethren, the pastors of the Holy Church of Antioch
And my sons and daughters, wherever they are across this Apostolic See:
"O heavens, rejoice and be glad, O mountains, at the birth of Christ."

By these words, borrowing from the hymnographer, the Church touches each of our hearts and invites us to contemplate the birth of that Child Who chose a cave, although the whole world is His. By these words, the hymnographer addresses not only human beings but even lifeless creation, asking it to break its silence, to rejoice with the angels, to exult with the shepherds, and to bow before the manger of Bethlehem. As if the joy of humanity alone is not enough to describe the encounter of mankind with Christ, the hymnographer calls upon creation itself to cast off its stillness and to be clothed with the joy of the Nativity—the joy of meeting that Child whose eyes ignite all our hope and whose serenity inspires ours.

Here is a call for each of us to cast off the burdens of the world and lay them before the manger of Bethlehem. Here is a call for each of us to rejoice despite the trials that surround us. Here is a call for man to rejoice even in the depths of distress. A call not to surrender to despair despite everything.

The Nativity of Christ is a call to wipe away the dust that has gathered over the spark of our hope, so that His hope may shine within us as hope, and His light as light.

Each year, humanity awakens from the slumber of its pride to behold this Child, humble and radiant in the darkness of His cave. He came silently, yet His silence spoke more eloquently than orators. He came in weakness, yet within Him was a strength that strips weakness off the weak. He came resting in the womb of the Virgin, though He rides upon the shoulders of the cherubim. He came as a Child lying upon the straw of a manger, though He is the eternal God resting upon the glory of His heights. He went into a cave to dig into the cave of the human heart and place within it something of the sweetness of His Gospel and the fragrance of His humility, while it suffers from the bitterness of its pride.

His Nativity evokes the memory of hope that is born in our hearts. It reminds us of every poor and needy person—not a memory in words, but using the language of action. We recall the Nativity today while being aware, in the Church of Antioch, that we are the cradle of His Gospel, just as Bethlehem and Jerusalem are the place of His Nativity, His Crucifixion, and His Tomb. We contemplate the light of His countenance within the cave and pray that this light may be incarnate in our lives, in the life of His Church, and all over His world.

During these days, we remember our departed brothers, who have preceded us and met with the bright countenance of that Child. We ask Him, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, to embrace them and cover them with His mercy.

May God grant many happy returns of these blessed days to all of you—our children in the homeland and overseas, and to all peoples. May He fill you with goodness, prosperity, and blessings from the Father of lights and the Source of gifts, the Child of the cave, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the Lord of mercies and the God of all consolation. Amen.

برحمة الله تعالى

يوحنا العاشر

بطريك أنطاكية وسائر المشرق

إلى

إخوتي رعاة الكنيسة الأنطاكية المقدسة

وأبنائي وبناتي حيثما حلوا في أرجاء هذا الكرسي الرسولي

"ويا سموات ابتهجي وتهلي يا جبال بميلاد المسيح"

بهذه الكلمات وبلسان ناظم التسابيح تطرق الكنيسة قلب كل منا وتناجيه ليتأمل ميلاد ذاك الطفل الذي اختار مغارةً وله ملء الدنيا. بهذه الكلمات يتوجه ناظم التسابيح لا إلى بشرٍ فقط بل إلى خليفة جامدة. يتوجه إليها طالباً إليها أن تكسر جمودها وتفرح مع الملائكة وتهلّل مع الرعاة وتسجد أمام مذود بيت لحم. وكأن فرح الدنيا لا يكفي لوصف لقيا البشرية بالمسيح. لذا يلجأ ناظم التسبّيح إلى الخليفة الجامدة ويطلب أن تخلع عنها جمودها وتكتسي بفرح الميلاد، بفرح لقيا ذاك الطفل الذي نستمد من عينيه كل رجاء ومن رويته كل روية .

هنا دعوة لكل واحد منا أن يطرح عنه أثقال الدنيا ويرميها أمام مذود بيت لحم. هنا دعوة لكل منا أن يفرح رغم كل ما يحيطه من محن. هنا دعوة لكي يفرح الإنسان ولو كان في قعر قعر الضيق. دعوة كيلا يستسلم ليأس رغم كل شيء. ميلاد المسيح دعوة كي نزيل الغبار المتكسد فوق شرارة رجائنا ليلتمع فينا رجاؤه رجاءً ونوره نوراً.

في كل عام تستفيق البشرية من غفلة كبريائها لتنظر هذا الطفل خاشعاً مضيقاً في عتمة مغارته. أتاها صامتاً لكن صمته أفصح من الخطباء. أتاها مستضعفاً لكن فيه من القوة ما يخلع ضعف المستضعفين. أتاها متوسداً حشا العذراء وهو الراكب على مناكب الشاروبيم. أتاها طفلاً مسترخياً على قش مذود وهو الإله الأزلي المسترخي على مجد عليائه. أتاها في مغارة لينقب مغارة قلبها ويضع فيها شيئاً من حلاوة إنجيله ومن رحيق تواضعه وهي المتلوعة من علقمية كبريائها .

نتذكر في ميلاده ميلاد الرجاء في قلوبنا. ونتذكر كل فقير ومحتاج لا بالقول بل بلغة الفعل. نستذكر ميلاد اليوم ونضع نصب أعيننا في كنيسة أنطاكية أنا كنا مهد بشارته كما كانت بيت

لحمُ والقدس مسقط رأسه وموضع صليبه وقبره. نتأمل نور وجهه داخل المغارة ونصلي أن
يتجسد ذاك النور في حياتنا وفي حياة كنيسته وفي رحاب عالمه.

نتذكر في هذه الأيام إخواننا الذين رقدوا فسبقونا إلى ملقى نور وجهه ذاك المولود. ونسأله بشفاعة
العذراء أن يضمهم إلى صدره ويغمرهم بمراحمه.

أعاده الله عليكم جميعاً أبناءنا في الوطن وفي الانتشار وعلى الناس أجمع أياماً مباركة ملؤها
الخير واليمن والبركات من لدن أبي الأنوار ونبع العطايا طفل المغارة، الطريق والحق والحياة
ورب المراحم وإله كل تعزية، آمين.

دمشق، ٢٠ ديسمبر ٢٠٢٥

SING WITH THE CHOIR AT THE END OF THE SERVICE

Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

*O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (*refrain*)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
O Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; (*refrain*)

The First Noel

The first noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,

Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. (*refrain*)

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. (*refrain*)

Tis star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay. (*refrain*)

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full rev'rently upon the knee

Joy To The World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.
Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild - God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see: hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night! holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and child, Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

CHRIST IS BORN, GLORIFY HIM!



MERRY CHRISTMAS