



# The Messenger

Sunday, December 25, 2022  
Κυριακή, 25 Δεκέμβριος

Merry Christmas  
Καλά Χριστούγεννα

## Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
The Adoration of the Magi, the Commemoration of the Worship of the Shepherds in Bethlehem



Today we are blessed to have our Spiritual Father,  
His Eminence Alexios, Metropolitan of Atlanta  
celebrating the Divine Liturgy



St. Athanasius the Apostolic, *On the Incarnation of the Word*



You know what happens when a portrait that has been painted on a panel becomes obliterated through external stains. The artist does not throw away the panel, but the subject of the portrait has to come and sit for it again, and then the likeness is re-drawn on the same material. Even so was it with the All-holy Son of God. He, the Image of the Father, came and dwelt in our midst, in order that He might renew mankind made after Himself, and seek out His lost sheep, even as He says in the Gospel: "I came to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)

*Father Paul, Father Christos, the Pastoral Assistants, the Parish Council, and the Cathedral staff would like to wish everyone a Merry and Blessed Christmas!*

# Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

## Απολυτίκιον Τῆς Ἐορτῆς Ἦχος δ'.

Ἡ γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ, τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἀστροῖς λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο· σέ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σέ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

I Gennisis sou Hriste o Theos imon, anetile to kosmo, to fos to tis gnoseos; en afti gar I tis astris latrevodes, ipo asteros edidaskonto, se proskinvn, to Ilion tis dikeosinis, ke se ginoskin ex ipsous Anatolin. Kivrie doxa si.

## Κοντάκιον Τῆς Ἐορτῆς Ἦχος γ'.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος ὁδοιποροῦσι δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

I Parthenvos sivmeron to IperouvSION tivkti, ke I gi to Spivleon, to aprosivto prosavgi. Avngeli, metav Pimevnon doxologouvsi, Mavgi de, metav astevros odiporouvsi; di imavs gar egennivthi pedivon nevon, o pro eovnon Theovs

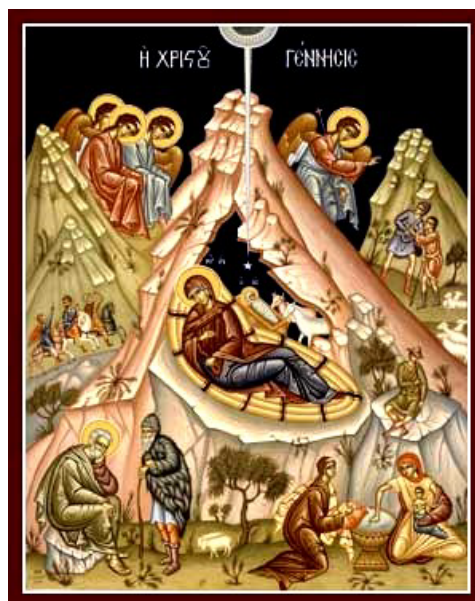
## Apolytikion of the Feast Mode 4.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.



## Kontakion of the Feast Mode 3.

On this day the Virgin gives birth unto the Super-essential. To the Unapproachable, earth is providing the grotto. Angels sing and with the shepherds offer up glory. Following a star the Magi are still proceeding. He was born for our salvation,\* a newborn Child,\* the pre-eternal God.



Merry Christmas  
Καλά Χριστούγεννα

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 4:4-7

Matthew 2:1-12

# Readings

## Epistle

Reader: Anastasia Lamas

PROKEIMENON: Let the earth worship you, and sing praises to you.

VERSE: Shout with joy to God, all the earth.

**Brethren**, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of 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!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

## Gospel

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 Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; 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, till 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.

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 51 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

### Reminders for Receiving Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and/or chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion. Please let parents with their babies and the elderly approach first. Thank you.

# Support our Cathedral

Welcome, everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for our fellowship following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our hospitality table and sign the register in the Narthex.

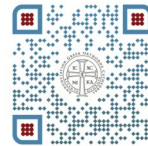
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## Thank you to our volunteers

### Acolytes

#### Group 4

Constantine Dallis  
George Adams  
William Adams  
Dimitri Pumphrey  
Peter Soulimiotis  
Lucas Tiliakos  
Niko Tiliakos

### Handmaidens

#### Group 4

Christina Dallis  
Paraskevi Baker  
Marina Dallis  
Stavroula Dallis  
Gabriella Mayes  
Saiah Murray  
Maria Nikolov  
Zoe Tiliakos

### Parish Council

#### St. Basil the Great

George Koulouris  
Christina Callesis  
Ted Kipreos  
Toni Taggart  
Stacie Nefos  
Athanasios Tiliakos

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