

VESPER/LITURGY FOR THE NATIVITY

ALL STAND

PR: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

R: Amen.

-Come, let us adore the King, our God.

-Come, let us adore Christ, the King and our God.

-Come, let us adore and bow down to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

PSALM 103

Praise of God's Creation

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

You are very great, O Lord, my God;
clothed in pomp and brilliance;
arrayed with light as with a cloak.

Stretching out the sky as a tent-cloth,
covering Your lofty halls with water,
You make the clouds Your conveyance;
You surge on the wings of the wind.

You make spirits Your messengers,
and flaming fires Your attendants.
You settle the earth on its firm foundation;
it shall stand unmoved from age to age.

The abyss covers it like a garment;
waters stand over the mountains.

At your rebuke they will take flight;
at the peal of Your thunder they will fear.

They hurdle the hills and run down the dales,
to the place You have chosen for them.
You have set up a boundary not to be passed;
they shall never return to cover the earth.

Down in the gullies You make springs to rise;
water shall go down between the mountains.
They shall give drink to the beast of the field;
wild asses will seek them to quench their thirst.

May the Lord's glory endure forever:
may the Lord rejoice in His works;
He looks upon the earth and makes it quake;
He touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will praise my God as long as I last.
Would that my thoughts be pleasing to Him:
and I will rejoice in the Lord.

May sinners vanish from the earth,
and may the wicked be no more.
Bless the Lord,
O my soul!

The sun knows the time of its setting.
You establish darkness, and it is night.
How great are Your works, O Lord!
In wisdom You have wrought them all.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. Amen.

And then, three times with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory be to You, O God!

LITANY OF PEACE

--SIT--

The deacon stands in his usual place and intones the Litany. If there is no deacon, the priest intones the Litany before the closed royal doors.

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, have mercy. *(and after each petition)*

-For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

-For peace in the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Churches of God and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

-For this holy Church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

-For our holy ecumenical Pontiff *(name)*, the Pope of Rome, and for our First-Bishop, his Beatitude *(name)*, let us pray to the Lord.

-For our most reverend Archbishop and Metropolitan *(name)*, for our God-loving Bishop *(name)*, for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

-For our civil authorities and all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

-For this city, for every city and countryside, and for those living within them in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

-For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth,
and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

-For those who travel by sea, air, and land; for the sick, the suffering,
the captive, and for their safety and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

-That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to
the Lord.

-Protect us, save us, have mercy on us and preserve us, O God, by
Your grace.

-Remembering our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious
Lady, the Mother of God and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us
commend ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our
God.

R: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For to You is due all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

R: Amen.

LAMP-LIGHTING PSALMS

*Stand until the priest or deacon incenses the people, then you may
be seated.*

O Lord, I have called to You, hear me;

-Hear me O Lord.

O Lord, I have cried to You, hear me;

-receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon You.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You;

-the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

(Samohlas Tone 2)

From the morning watch until night, let Is-ra-el trust in the Lord.

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; / let us proclaim the present mystery /

by which the partition has been broken / and the flaming sword with-

held. / Now shall the Cherubim let us all come to the Tree of Life. / As

for me, I am returning to the bliss of Paradise, / from which I had been

banished by disobedience. / Behold, the Image of the Father and His


unchangeable eternity / has taken the form of a servant! / Without

suffering, He has come forth to us from an all-pure Virgin / and yet He


has remained unchanged. / He is true God, as He was before, / and He

has taken on what He had not been, / becoming man out of His love for

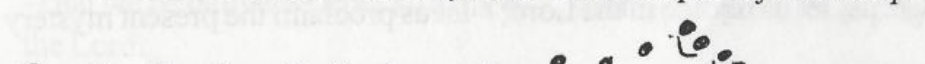
all. / Therefore, let us raise our voices in hymns, singing: /




"O God born of the Virgin, have mercy on us!"




For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him plentiful redemp-




tion and He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.



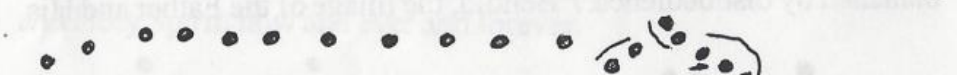
Because the Lord Jesus was born of the holy Virgin, / all creation is




enlightened. / Behold, the shepherds keep watch and the Magi are




adoring; / the angels are singing hymns of praise and Herod is trembling;




/ for the Savior of our souls has revealed Himself in flesh.



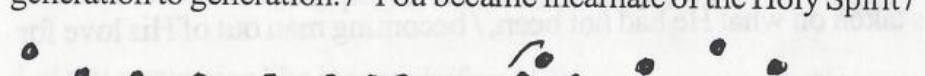
Praise the Lord, all the nations, eternally will His truth endure.



O Christ our God Your kingdom is eternal, / and Your reign is from



generation to generation. / You became incarnate of the Holy Spirit /



and became man from the ever-virgin Mary. / Your coming O Christ,

has shed a great light upon us. / You are the Light of light and the

radiance of the Father, / You have illumined the whole of creation. /

Therefore, everything that breathes sings a hymn of praise to You. /

You are the image of the Father's glory. / You are the eternal God

existing before all time, / Who has shown forth from the Virgin. /

O, Lord Our God, have mercy on us!


Strong is the love of the Lord for us; eternally will His truth endure.

O Christ what shall we offer You, / for Your coming on the earth in our


humanity for our sake? / Every creature that has its being from You

gives thanks to You, / the angels offer hymns of praise, the heavens give

a star; / the Magi present their gifts and the shepherds their wonder; /




the earth provides a cave and the desert a manger. / As for us, we offer



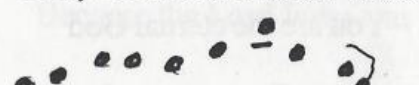
a Virgin Mother. / O God Who Are from all eternity, have mercy on us!

---STAND---


(as the Priest makes the entrance with Gospel and incense)



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Now




and ever and forever. Amen.




When Augustus became supreme ruler of the world, / the many king-




doms of the people came to an end. / Likewise, when You became



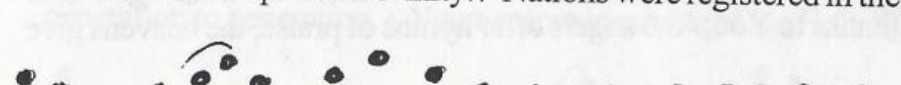
incarnate of the Immaculate One, / the worship of many gods came to



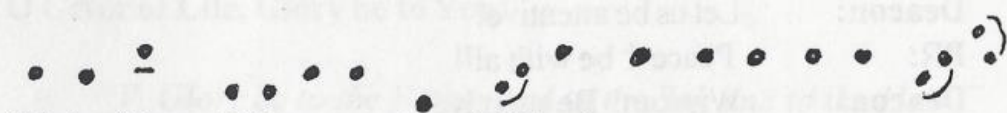
an end. / The cities came under a universal power, / and the Gentiles



believed in one Supreme Divinity. / Nations were registered in the name



of Caesar Augustus, / and we, the faithful, were registered in Your



Divine Name, O Incarnate One. / O Lord, great is Your mercy; Glory

to You!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be Attentive!

Moderately

O Joy-ful Light! Light and Ho-ly Glo-ry of the Fa-ther Im-

mor - tal, the hea-ven-ly, ho-ly, the Bless-ed One; O Je -

sus Christ. Now that we have reached the set-ting of the sun

and see the eve-ning light, we sing to God, Fa-ther, Son and

Ho-ly Spl - rit. It is fit-ting at all times to raise a song of

praise in meas-ured mel-o - dy to You, O Son of God, the giv-

er of life. Be-hold the u - ni-verse sings your glo - ry.

Prokimenon

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

PR: Peace † be with all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

(Tone 4) My help is from the Lord, Who made Heaven and earth, Who made Heaven and earth, *from where my help shall come.*

Deacon: Wisdom!

READER: A Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (11:1-10)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

(and we may sit for the reading)

Tropar, Tone 6: (STAND)

**You have shown forth from the Virgin, O Christ, Son of Justice *
A star found You, Whom nothing can contain, contained in a
cave. * It led the Magi to adore You: * With them we also
worship You: * O Giver of Life, Glory be to You!**

*V. The Lord is King, robed in majesty. The Lord has robed
Himself with might, He has girded Himself with power.*

**-It led the Magi to adore You * with them we also worship You *
O Giver of Life, Glory be to You!**

*V. You made the world firm, not to be moved; Your throne
has stood firm from of old. From all eternity, You are.*

**-It led the Magi to adore You * with them we also worship You *
O Giver of Life, Glory be to You!**

*V. The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted
up their voice, the waters have lifted up their thunder.*

**-It led the Magi to adore You * with them we also worship You *
O Giver of Life, Glory be to You!**

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever Amen.

**You have shown forth from the Virgin, O Christ, Son of Justice *
A star found You, Whom nothing can contain, contained in a cave.
* It led the Magi to adore You: * With them we also worship
You: * O Giver of Life, Glory be to You!**

Prokimenon (Tone 1)

The Lord said to me: You are my son, this day have I begotten you.

V. Ask of me and I will give you the Gentiles as your inheritance.

The Epistle

Deacon: Wisdom!

READER: A reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews.
(Heb. 1:1-12)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

(and the Epistle is read)

The Alleluia

PR: Peace to you, Reader.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

(Tone 4): Alleluia (3x)

*V. The Lord's revelation to my master: Sit at my right hand,
your foes I will put beneath your feet.*

*V. Rule in the midst of your enemies; the Lord will wield
from Zion Your scepter of power.*

*V. Before the day-star, like the dew I have begotten
you; The Lord has sworn and He will not repent.*

The Holy Gospel

PR: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.
+Peace be with all!

R: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

R: Glory be to You, O Lord; glory be to You!

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

(and the Holy Gospel is read; Luke 2: 1-20)

*After the Gospel we continue with Liturgy, on pg. 14 (-page 11 in
the thin booklets).*

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING TWO SECTIONS FOR LATER
IN THE LITURGY:**

*(After the Consecration we sing the following instead of "Dostojno
jest"):*

O my soul, extol Christ the King born in a cave.

Hirmos: I contemplate a divine and marvelous mystery: heaven has
become a cave; the throne of Cherubim, a virgin; and the manger an

honorable place in which lays
Christ God, the Incomprehensible.
Let us praise and extol Him!

Near the end of Liturgy, after the AMBON PRAYER.

- The cantors sing the Tropar of the Nativity, the first time, alone.
- Then everyone sings it twice more, in both English, and then Slavonic)

Your birth, O Christ our God, * has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; * for through it, those who worshiped the stars * have learned from a star to worship You, the Sun of Justice, * and to recognize You as the Orient from on High. * Glory be to You, O Lord!

Roždestvo Tvoje Christe Bože naš, * vozsija mirovi sv'it razuma: * vo nem bo zv'izdam služaščii, zv'izdoju –učachu-sja, * Tebi klañatisja Solncu pravdy, * i Tebe v'iditi so vysoty Vostoka: * Hospodi slava Teb'i.

Рождество твоє Христе Боже наш, / возсія мірови світ разума:/ в нем бо зіздам служачії, зіздою учахуся, / тобі кланятися сонцю правди, / і тебе відіти со висоти востока: / Господи, слава тобі!

Tropario Tono 4: Para La Navidad

Con Tu nacimiento, Oh Cristo Señor nuestro Dios, * Tu haces derramado Tu luz de sabiduría sobre el mundo; * a causa de Tu nacimiento, aquellos que adoran las estrellas * han aprendido de la una estrella a adórate a Ti, Sol de Justicia, * Y te reconocen como el altísimo del Oriente. * Gloria a Ti Señor.

Then the Liturgy concludes as usual.

Christ is born! Glorify Him! Christos Razhdayetsya! Slavite Yeho!

Христос Рождается! Славите Його!

¡Cristo a nacido! ¡Glorificamos el Señor!