



SAINT ANTHONY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

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LEAVETAKING OF THE LORD'S NATIVITY

31 December 2017

Tone 5; Eothinon 8—Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. Ven. Melania the Younger of Rome (439). Blessed Theophylact, Archbishop of Ochrid (1055-1107). Ven. Chiriacos of Bisericani (Romanian—1660). Ven. Chiriacos of Tazlau (Romanian—1660).

FIRST ANTIPHON

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. **(Refrain): Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!** In the council of the upright, and in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord. Sought out in all the things that he has willed; confession and majesty are His works, and His righteousness abides unto the ages! **(Refrain)** Glory... Now and ever... **(Refrain)**

SECOND ANTIPHON

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights in His Law. His seed shall be mighty upon the earth; glory and riches shall be in his house, and his righteousness abides unto ages of ages. **(Refrain): Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of the Virgin, as we chant to Thee, "Alleluia"!** For the upright there arises a light in the darkness: He is gracious, full of compassion and righteous. **(Refrain)**
Glory... Now and ever... *(Only begotten ...)*

THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make Thine enemies the footstool of thy feet"
NATIVITY TROPARION. The Lord shall send to you a scepter of power from Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the splendor of Thy saints. TROPARION Glory ... Now and ever ... TROPARION

LITTLE ENTRANCE

Priest: 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 art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 5): Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

TROPARION OF THE SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY (Tone 2): Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the forefather of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

TROPARION OF THE NATIVITY (Tone 4): Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars from the star did learn to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know Thee, the East from on high. O Lord, glory to Thee!

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY (Tone 3): The Virgin brings forth today the Omnipotent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels give glory with shepherds, and the magi journey with the star. Since for our sakes was born as a new babe He Who is from eternity God.

TODAY'S APOSTLE READING

From the Second Epistle of Saint Paul to Timothy

Prokeimenon: All those on earth worship thee and sing unto Thee: Alleluia to God, O all the earth.

(2 Tim 4:5-8) Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the Faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.

TODAY'S GOSPEL READING

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

(Mark 1:1-8) The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, "Behold, I send My messenger before Thy face, who shall prepare Thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, January 6: Matins (9 AM) and Liturgy (10 AM) for the Feast of Theophany; Vespers (6:30 PM)

Sunday, January 7: Matins (9 AM) and Divine Liturgy (10 AM).

Sat/Sun, January 13-14: all services at Sts Peter and Paul (Bishop Daniel presiding). Following Divine Liturgy, Bishop Daniel will lead the blessing of Lake Arthur.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21: SAINT ANTHONY'S DAY! We will serve Matins and Divine Liturgy together with the priests and faithful of the other two Orthodox churches in Butler/Lyndora. Our guest speaker is Martie Johnson, who will address the topic of A CHURCH FOR ALL PEOPLE.