



Celebrating our
100th Anniversary
St. George
Antiochian Orthodox Church of Lowell
Remember Our Past, Celebrate Our Present,
Secure Our Future



The Nativity of Christ



December 24 & 25, 2017

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Entrance Hymn

Ha-lum-mu lu li-nas-jud, wa-li-nar-ka' lil-ma-sih, khal-lis-na ya bna l-lah, ya man qa
-ma min bal-nil-am-wat, li-nu-rat-til la-ka, Hal-li-lu-ia

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 4 (repeated)

Troparion of Sunday Before the Nativity, Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

Troparion for the Paramon (Eve) of the Nativity, Tone 4

As the fruit of David's seed, Mary was registered of old *with the Elder Joseph in the little town of Bethlehem,*when she conceived with a seedless and pure conception.* Behold, the time was come that she should bear her Child,*but no place was found within the inn for them;* yet the cave proved a delightful palace*for the pure Lady and Queen of all.* For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforesime.

Troparion of St. George, Tone 4

As deliver of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirmed, champion of kings, victorious great martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

Kontakion of the Preparation of Christ's Nativity, Tone 3

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded; Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers. For Thou art justified in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of

Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.



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. Allelulia.

Troparion of the Nativity of Christ, 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 did learn there from worship Thee, O Sun of Justice and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ, Tone 3

Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify Him; and the Magi with the star travel on their way; for a new child hath been born for our sakes, God before the ages.

CHRISTMAS EVE ALTAR BREAD

The Christmas Eve Bread of Oblation is being offered in memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Ghareeb & Richard Steele.
May their memories be eternal.

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

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 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.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 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.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF A SYRIAN CHRISTMAS

On the first day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Some hummus and tabouli

On the second day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the third day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the fourth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the fifth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the sixth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the seventh day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the eighth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Eight plates of hushwee, seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the ninth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Nine pots of bammi, eight plates of hushwee, seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the tenth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

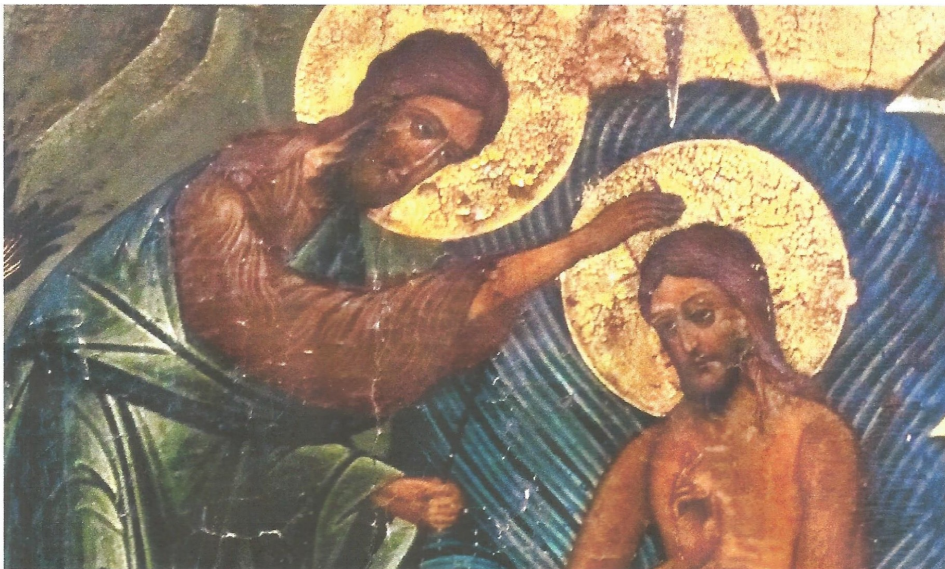
Ten sheikh-el-mahshi, nine pots of bammi, eight plates of hushwee, seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the eleventh day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Eleven trays of kibbe, ten sheikh-el-mahshi, nine pots of bammi, eight plates of hushwee, seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli

On the twelfth day of Christmas, Sitti made for me

Twelve bags of kahk, eleven trays of kibbe, ten sheikh-el-mahshi, nine pots of bammi, eight plates of hushwee, seven pots of loobey, six lahamishwee, five kufta balls!! Four spinach pies, three grape leaves, two loaves of bread and some hummus and tabouli



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Saturday, January 6

Orthros 8:30 am

Hierarchical Liturgy 10:00 am

We will also celebrate the Ordination
of Nicholas Mamie to the Diaconate and
Justin Wehbe to the Subdiaconate.

Services will be followed by Blessings of the Waters
and brunch in the Hall.

There will also be a Church School Teachers
Workshop led by Bishop John (Open to everyone)

ALTAR ARRANGEMENTS

The Floral Arrangements adorning the Altar are donated by Fr. Leonard Faris.

TREES

The two new trees adorning the entrance to the Altar are donated by Lisa Ansara for the health and safety of the Andrew & McCusker Families and in memory of Andrew Ansara.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the people who contributed to the Giving Tree. I am pleased and proud to say that all the children were provided gifts this Christmas.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. May God bless you always and especially during this Christmas Season.

*Thank you
William Ansara*

Christmas Flower Fund

Donated by:

Connie Abodeely

Steve & Robin Abodeely

Anonymous

Lisa Ansara

William & Katherine Ansara

Yvette Ansara

Lionel & Phyllis Arsenault

Tina Aswad

Hana Bahou

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Behrakis

For the Health & Safety of:

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Yvette Ansara and the Ansara/
McCusker Families

William, Katherine, Elena,
Kristina, Mark, Luke, Alex, Sam,
Drew & Andrew

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In Loving Memory of:

George Abodeely

George and all of our
departed love ones

Andrew Ansara

Andrew, Rev. Cosmo, Khourieh
Hazel, Ataya, Wadia, John,
Kaliopie & Maria

Andrew Ansara

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Eric & Rona Hassey
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Emerson Halligan
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Salvatore Boragine
Dorothy Boragine
Elaine Vieira

George & Elsie Faris
Kalil & Mary Ead
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George Habib

George & Elsie Faris
George P. Habib

Charles & Annie Hamwey
Henry & Charlotte Connolly
and all deceased Hamwey
and Connolly Family Members

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Joe Kadir

Patrick & Lindsay Kett

Debbie Koravos

Amanda Louh

Azar & Stephanie Louh

Zaki Louh

Lila & Marty Lorrey

Donald Mansur

H. John & Clemence Maria

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Lily Panagopoulos
Joseph & Stephen Kett
Yvette Ansara

Denise McCrady & Rose Lowe

Azar, Amanda,
Virginia, Nuha &
Jamil Louh

Louh and Gorman Families

Zaki & Juliette Louh
and Louh Family

Carlo, Dawnte, Ashley, Dawn
Don, Rick, & Sheehan Family

H. John & Clemence Maria
and Family

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Joseph & Elizabeth Ghareeb
Frederick & Matilda Noonan
Andrew Ansara
Stephen Skaff

George Lowe
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Assaly, Sheehan, Mansur Families
Saba, Ruiz Families
Aniya Ruiz

Our parents, sisters and brothers

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Team Simon

The Noonan Family
The Kett Family
The Steele Family
The Ghareeb Family
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Kristina Verras

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Lenny Elias

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Elizabeth & Joseph Ghareeb
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Richard Steele
Stephen Skaff

Christmas Flower Fund

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