

**EVE OF NATIVITY.
SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY. SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS.**

TROPAR OF SUNDAY IN TONE-7.

You destroyed death by Your Cross. You opened paradise to the thief. You changed the Myrrh-Bearers weeping and commanded Your apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ God, granting the world great mercy.

TROPAR TO THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE – 2.

Great are the achievements of faith, In the fountain of flames the Three Holy Children rejoice as in refreshing waters, and the prophet Daniel in the midst of lions is like a shepherd among his sheep. Through their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

TROPAR IN TONE – 4.

Mary of the seed of David was registered of the old with the elder Joseph in Bethlehem, bearing in her womb a seedless conception. Behold, the time of the Nativity had come and there was no place for them at the inn. But the cave proved a delightful palace for the Queen of all. Christ is born to raise the image that had fallen of old.

GLORY to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

KONDAK OF THE FOREFEAST IN TONE – 1.

Rejoice O Bethlehem, Ephratha prepare, for the Ewe hurries to give birth to the Great Shepherd whom she carries in her womb. Seeing Him, the God-bearing fathers rejoice, and with the shepherds hymn the Virgin who nursed a child.

NOW and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

KONDAK OF NATIVITY EVE IN TONE – 3.

Today the Virgin comes to the cave to give birth ineffably to the Word, Who existed from before the ages. Rejoice all the earth, on hearing this news. With the angels and the shepherds glorify Him, Who is willing to appear as a young Child, the Pre-eternal God.

COMMUNION VERSE:

“ Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.”

“ Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, praise befits the upright. Alleluia.”

MATINS: John: 10. Reading 66. Jn. 21 : 1 - 14.
EPISTLE: Hebrews. Reading 328. Heb. 11 : 9-10, 17-23, 32-40.
GOSPEL: Matthew. Reading 1. Mt. 1 : 1 - 25.

PRIEST : “ Let us be attentive – Peace be unto all.”

CHOIR : “ And to your spirit.”

PRIEST : “ Wisdom.”

READER : “ **PROKIMEN IN TONE – 4.** Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.”

CHOIR : “ Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.”

READER : “ For You are righteous in all that You have done for us.”

CHOIR : “ Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.”

READER : “ Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers.”

CHOIR : “ And praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.”

THE EPISTLE

PRIEST : “ Peace be unto you reader.”

READER : “ And to your spirit.”

PRIEST : “ Wisdom.”

READER : “ **ALLELUIA IN TONE – 4.** Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

READER : “ We have heard with our ears O God, and our fathers have told us what deeds You performed. Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

READER : “ You have saved us from them that afflict us and have put those who hate us to shame. Alleluia.”

CHOIR : “ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”
