**3. JANUARY. 2021. 30-th. SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. TONE-5. SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY. SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS.**

**FOREFEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST.**

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**TROPAR OF SUNDAY IN TONE – 5.**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation of the Virgin. For in His Good will He was lifted up on the Cross in the flesh to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**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 OF THE FOREFEAST IN TONE – 4.**

Prepare O Bethlehem, O Eden open unto all. Rejoice O Ephratha, for in the cave the tree of life has blossomed forth from the Virgin. Her womb has proven to be a spiritual paradise, in which is found the divine garden. Partaking of it we shall live and not die as Adam. Christ is born, to renew the image which had fallen of old.

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

**KONDAK OF THE FATHERS IN TONE – 6.**

You would not worship a hand-made image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the boundless essence of God, You were glorified in a trial by fire. Standing in the midst of unbearable flames You called on God: Hasten, O Compassionate One, come quickly to our defense, since You are merciful; for You are able if it be Your will.

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

**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.

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**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.”

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**MATINS:** John: 8. Reading 64. Jn. 20 : 11 - 18.

**EPISTLE:** Hebrews. Reading 328. Heb. 11 : 9-10, 17-23, 32-40.

**GOSPEL:** Matthew. Reading 1. Mt. 1 : 1 - 25.

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**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.”

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**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.”

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