## SUNDAY OF THE NATIVITY

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul Letter to the Galatians Chapter 4, Verses 4-7:** BRETHREN, when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of 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!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir of God through Christ.

Ο Ἀπόστολος Ποος Γαλάτας κεφ. 4 ἐδάφ. 4-7

GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY: This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 2, Verses 1-12: 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 Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; 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, till 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.

Ή σημεφινή εὐαγγελική πεφικοπή ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Ματθαῖον κεφ. 2 ἐδάφ. 1-12

**MERRY CHRISTMAS:** We extend our heartfelt wishes for a blessed Christmas to you and your loved ones today. May the peace, joy, and love of the Christ Child be with you all.

**CONGRATS BOYS BASKETBALL:** Congratulations to our boys high school basketball team for winning their OYAA League Championship this past Sunday in Oakland! Well done to the players and their coaches, **Deno Konstantinidis** and **Jason Polyzos**. The Cathedral is proud of you all!

**INTRODUCTION TO ORTHODOXY CLASSES:** We provide classes over Zoom for people who are considering converting to Orthodox Christianity and for Orthodox people who want to refresh their knowledge of the faith. Please reach out to Alex Kozak at <u>https://agkozak.com/intro</u> to learn more.

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:** Instagram: @the\_cathedral\_sf, Twitter: @annunciationsf, Facebook: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

**PAVER PROJECT UPDATE:** It is time to get more pavers inscribed in our courtyard! Join our "Adopt a Paver" program. To learn more, pick up a brochure at the *pangari*, call **Jim Vorrises**, Chair, at 650-464-1616 or email at jim.vorrises@annunciation.org

**APOLYTIKION OF THE FEAST:** (Mode 4) Η Γέννησίς σου Χριστὲ ο Θεὸς ήμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῶ κόσμω τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῆ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἅλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν έξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.



"The Church shall be a home for Orthodox Christians from every ethnic and national background. It shall be a house of prayer for all humankind, in which the Holy Name of our Triune God shall be extolled and all of creation sanctified."