# The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

**Troparion (Tone 4)** *(Nativity of the Theotokos)*
Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Glory . . . Now and ever . . .

**Kontakion (Tone 4)** *(Nativity of the Theotokos)*
By your nativity, most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,
Adam and Eve -- from the corruption of death.
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you:
"The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, who sustains our Life."

**Prokeimenon (Tone 3)** *(Song of the Theotokos)*
My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*
*v. For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)*

**Epistle (Philippians 2:5-11)** *(Theotokos)*
Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!** (Tone 8)
*v. Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear! (Ps. 44:9a)*
*v. Even the rich among the people shall pray before your face. (Ps. 44:11b)*

**Gospel (Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28)** *(Theotokos)*
Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

**Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 8)**
Magnify, O my soul, the most glorious birth of the Mother of God!

Virginity is foreign to mothers;
childbearing is strange for virgins.
But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished.
Therefore all we nations of the earth unceasingly magnify you.

**Communion Hymn**
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!