



St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
Sunday, December 29, 2024  
After-feast of & Sunday after the Nativity of  
Christ

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY - Diocese of LA & the West  
V. Rev. Fr. Dr. Christopher Salamy, Pastor  
Rev. Dn. Raphael Abrahams • Rev. Dn. Serafim Grove  
Rev. Dn. Basil Ritchie • Rev. Dn. Michael Haddad • Rev. Dn. Peter Samore  
Dr. Gregory Abdalah, Pastoral Assistant • Christian Farradj, Youth Pastor  
Harpreet Kaur, Executive Assistant to the Pastor  
Jane Romley, Parish Administrator • Matthew Peters, Ministry Lead  
Valerie Haddad, Director of Ministry, Growth & Development

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE TWO)**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (TONE FOUR)**

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 to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

**APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (ONE TWO)**

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

**APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE (TONE FOUR)**

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings, victorious Great Martyr George intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

**KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST (TONE THREE)**

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; to the Unapproachable, the earth doth offer a small cave; Angels join in choir with shepherds in giving glory; with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; for our sakes is born a young Child, He Who existed before the ages as God.

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**THE EPISTLE**

(For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ)

*God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (1:11-19)**

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

**THE GOSPEL**

(For the Sunday after Nativity of Christ)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (2:13-23)**

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

***THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER...***

**Living:** Romy, Chase, Paul, Mary, Joshua, Peter, Richard, Anthony, Moira, Mac, Laila, Michael, Ray, Pam, Amal, Nejwa, Randa, Regan, Theresa, Kristine, Sherry, Samira, Robert, Daniel, Jane, Jillian, Sandy, Iyad, Nicholas.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Ian Isaac Degrasee and Shaden Handal On the baptism of their son Giovanni. May God grant them many years.