

Welcome To All Saints Orthodox Church

The Orthodox Church is the oldest Christian Church in the world. With 225 million members worldwide, it is second only to the Roman Catholic Church in size. However, in spite of its size, relatively few Americans are aware that it exists.

You need to know about the Orthodox Church — and the Orthodox Church needs to know about you. Our Church has deep and lasting roots in Christian antiquity and is steeped in a rich Biblical tradition. It has been the context of Christian living for millions of Christians for almost twenty centuries.

All Saints Antiochian Orthodox Church began in October of 1992. It is a parish within the ancient Patriarchate of Antioch — where the disciples of Christ “were first called Christians.” The parish is under the jurisdiction of the Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, lead by Metropolitan Philip Saliba. We belong to the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast overseen by Bishop Antoun. In November of 2010, our parish completed a one year building project to add a new temple and education wing to our property and to remodel the parish hall. In November of 2011, Bishop Antoun consecrated our Temple, Iconostasis, altar, and icons to the glory of God, and during the consecration service, the bishop placed a relic of St. Raphael of Brooklyn in our new altar. We thank God for this great blessing of spiritual and physical growth!

An important goal of All Saints is to provide the Raleigh area with a completely American, English speaking, multi-ethnic, Traditional parish with an emphasis on worship and education. Our congregation is very open, active, and loving. We welcome visitors to our worship services and genuinely enjoy sharing our Orthodox faith with others.

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If you are a visitor please introduce yourself to the priest after the service. We all have been blessed by your presence among us today.

* * *

*May the blessings of God and His mercy be upon you always,
now and ever and unto the ages of ages.*

Amen.

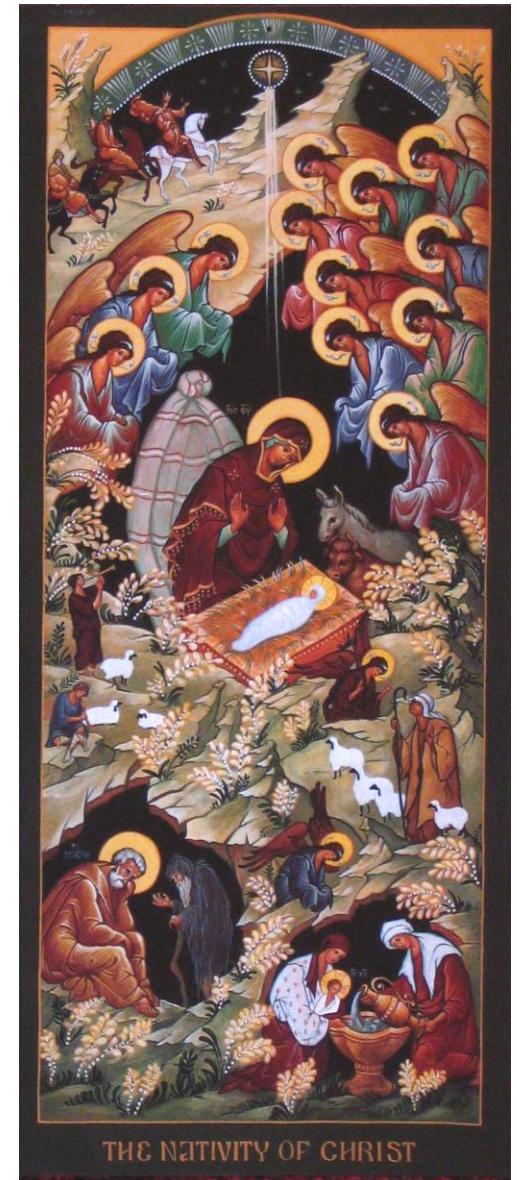


ALL SAINTS
ORTHODOX CHURCH
(Antiochian Archdiocese)
520 Buck Jones Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27606
(919) 859-1352

The Nativity of Christ

December 25, 2011

Christ Is Born
Glorify Him



THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST



The Nativity of Christ

Christ is Born! Glorify Him

All Saints Orthodox Church, Raleigh NC
www.all saintsnc.org
 919-859-1332

The V. Rev. Fr. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Pastor
 The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

December 25, 2011



This Week's Schedule

(www.all saintsnc.org)

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Divine Liturgy
 Monday-Tues: **Church Office Closed**
 Wednesday: 9:15a 3rd Hour Prayers; 6:30p Daily Vespers
 Saturday: 5:30p Great Vespers
 Next Sunday: 9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy



Second Antiphon

Refrain: "Save us, O Son of God, *Who wast born of a Virgin . . .*"

Third Antiphon: *Troparion of the Nativity* Tone 4

Verse: The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints.

Troparion of the Nativity: 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.

Entrance Hymn

Out of the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee: The Lord hath sworn and will not repent: Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizidech. O Son of God, who wast born of a Virgin, save us who sing unto Thee. Alleluia.

Little Entrance

* *Troparion of the Nativity* Tone 4

See above.

* *Kontakion of the Nativity* Tone 3

Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One; the angels with the shepherds glorify Him; and the Magi with the star travel on the way; for a new child hath

been born for our sakes, God before the ages.

Instead of Trisagion

"As many as have been baptized . . ."

Epistle and Gospel Readings

Today: (See Insert)

Megalynarion

In thee rejoiceth all creation, O thou who art full of grace: the hierarchy of the angels, and all mankind, O consecrated temple and paradise endowed with speech; glory of virginity, of whom God, Who is our God before the ages, was incarnate and became a little child. For He made thy womb a throne, and thy belly did He make more spacious than the heavens. In thee doth all creation rejoice, O thou who art full of grace, and it glorifieth thee.

Koinonikon

"The Lord hath sent redemption to His people. Alleluia."

Post-Communion Hymn

Troparion of the Nativity (See above)

Parish Notes

Altar Servers Today:

Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen, Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg, Aidan Labrozzi.

Special Attention:

- * **SOYO Can Goods Drive.** Please remember to bring your non-perishable food items to the church so that the SOYO group can distribute them to the Raleigh Food Bank.
- * **Thank You to Church School Students and Teachers.** We thank all of the children and teachers of our Church School for their beautiful and meaningful presentation this Christmas morning.
- * **Church Office Closed Monday-Tuesday This Week.**
- * **No Fasting from Today Through January 4th.**
- * **No Church School Next Sunday**
- * **Special Christmas Offering.** his year your Parish Council has directed that the Special Christmas offering this year be used for the purchase of new candle stands for the front of the nave and for new vestments for Fr. Nicholas and Dr. David. **Please note that the Special Christmas Offering is an offering over and above your regular giving to All Saint's General and Building Funds.** A Special Christmas offering envelope has been placed in your bulletin and is available on the narthex table. **Please do not use this envelope for your regular offering.**

May God Give to Each of You a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!



Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Let all the earth worship you,
and sing to you.

*Shout with joy to God, all the
earth.*

tEpistle: Gal. 4:4–7 (RSV)

Brethren, when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of a 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!” Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

tGospel: Matt. 2:1–12 (RSV)

Now 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 Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; 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, until 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.

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