

# St. Jacob Melkite Catholic Community

Serving San Diego Since 1990



Feast of the Nativity according to the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior

JESUS CHRIST

The birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ was first liturgically commemorated in Egypt where it was celebrated during the night of January 5 to the 6. It took the place, among the Christians, of the nativity Ayon, the god of Alexandria, that the pagans celebrated during the winter solstice, established on January 6 according to the Egyptian calendar established by Amenemhet I, around 1991 before Jesus Christ. In the process of time, the date of the solstice was trans-

ferred to December 25, and it is upon this day that the Romans celebrated the "Natalis solis invicti", a feast instituted in 274 after Jesus Christ by Emperor Aurelian. In other regions of the empire, similar feasts were celebrated on the same date. For example, in Petra the Arab Nebataeans had the nativity of their god Dusara. The Hebrews celebrated the new dedication of the Temple on the twenty-fifth day of the month of Kislev, which also corresponded to the winter solstice.

The Nativity of Jesus was in fact commemorated in the East as at Rome from the beginning of the Fourth century, but not an historic commemoration but above all a feast of notions; the Theophanies, that is the diverse "manifestations" of Christ: His birth, manifestation to the Magi, baptism. It remains thus today in the Coptic Church.

It is then in Rome that it first was made a separate feast apart from January 6, and established on December 25, without any doubt to "baptize" the Feast of the Sun mentioned above. At what date is this institution placed? It was certainly established in 354, perhaps even from the conclusion of the Council of Ephesus (431). But if Rome was the first to separate the Nativity from the Theophanies, it is from the liturgy of Jerusalem that she borrows the outline of its ceremonies as well as a great number of prayers. Jerusalem celebrated Theophany like Easter, by two Eucharistic sacrifices: one after the vigil, in the middle of the night, in the Basilica of Bethlehem; the other, on the day, in the Martyrion of the Holy Resurrection. In Rome also the Eucharist was celebrated first in the middle of the night, at Saint Mary Major, then on the day, at the tomb of Saint Peter. Later, a third Divine Liturgy was added to it. Other borrowings by Rome from the original Theophany exist as well.

At Antioch, the feast of Christmas was introduced for the first time in the East by Saint John Chrysostom himself, as he attests in his homily for the day of the Savior's Nativity. It was from the beginning, much more than at Rome, a solemnity commemorative of an historic fact. Above all the marvel of the Virgin birth was insisted upon. This idea inspired a considerable part of the hymns of the Office, without doubt in repercussion of the Council of Ephesus. It did not take long to establish a special concomitant feast of the Theotokos, on December 26, a common synaxis feast in the Byzantine and Syrian Churches.

# St. Jacob brings you San Diego's BEST New Year's Party for 2018

✓ Best People - YOU! ✓ Best Singer & DJ! ✓
Best Dinner Menu! ✓ Best Raffle Prizes! ✓













**Please remember in your prayers:** Those who are sick, suffering or recovering from illness or injury, especially Madeline Maria and Deacon Michael Maria.

**Know someone in need of a prayer?** Please notify Fr. Rezkallah by Wednesday to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's special intentions. Reach Fr. Rezkallah online by visiting stjacobmelkite.org/prayer-request or by telephone at 858-987-2864.

Forgot your envelope? Not to worry! Visitor envelopes are now available in the narthex.

**Easy your tax burden!** See page 7 for end of year giving options at St. Jacob Melkite Community and reduce your taxable income for 2017 before the end of the year.

**Bishop's Appeal 2018:** Bishop Nicholas needs your help! Please make sure to write "St. Jacob, San Diego" on your donations and make your checks out to "Diocese of Newton" for this year's Bishop's Appeal. Donations may also be made easily online at <a href="https://www.melkite.org">www.melkite.org</a>.

Youth / Young Adults: Please see Dani Maria if you are interested in joining Living In Truth.

Choir Group: Please see Suha Maria if you would like to join the English or Arabic choirs.

**New Year's Eve 2018:** Time is running out for you to get your tickets. We must give the venue our final number after Christmas. **Tomorrow is the last day to get your tickets!** See <a href="mailto:stjacobmelkite.org/nye">stjacobmelkite.org/nye</a> to get your tickets now!

Can't go to the New Year's Party? If you can't attend the party but still want a chance to win one of our amazing prizes, you still can. Raffle tickets for non-attendees are being sold at <a href="mailto:mkt.com/st-jacob">mkt.com/st-jacob</a> now. Or see Rami Maria to buy them in person. Don't miss your shot!

**Volunteers wanted!** Please sign up online at <a href="www.stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer">www.stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer</a> or with Fr. Rezkallah or Rami Maria for the unassigned tasks below. For social hour preparation and clean-up, please see Hala Shahtout.

# **Volunteer Schedule**

Please sign up at stjacobmelkite.org/volunteer if you would like to help!

Date	Task	Responsible Member(s)		
Monday 12/25/2017	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR:	
	Welcoming Visitors	Dani Maria		
	Gospel Bearing	EN: Emile Shahtout	AR: Adli Hanna	
	Social hour	No Social Hour		
Sunday 12/31/2017	Epistle Reading	EN:	AR:	
	Welcoming Visitors	Rami Maria		
	Gospel Bearing	EN:	AR:	
	Social hour	No Social Hour		

#### **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**

# <u> طلبات خاصة بالعيد:</u>

To be said immediately after 5th petition: "For our Most Rev. Father& Bishop…" بعد الطلبة السلامية الخامسة " من أجل رئيس كهنتنا….

6. That the Nativity of Christ may be a realization of the hymn of the Angels, glory to God, peace on earth and joy for mankind, let us pray to the Lord.

6- لأجل أن يكونَ عيدُ الميلاد تحقيقًا لأنشودة الملائكة: مجدًا لله، وسلامًا للأرض، ومسرَّةً للبشر، إلى الربَّ نطلب

7. That Christ may restore us to our Paradise dwelling and grant us the grace of divine adoption, let us pray to the Lord.

7- لأجل أن يُعيدَنا المسيحُ بميلادِه الى سُكنى الفِردوس، ويُنعِمَ علينا بنعمةِ التبنّي، إلى الرب نطلب

8. That through the salvific Nativity of Christ, the world may be enlightened by justice, reconciliation and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

8- لأجل أن يَستنيرَ العالمُ في ميلاد المسيح الخلاصيّ، بأنوار العدالة والمصالحة والسلام، إلى الربَّ نطلب

9. That we may advance in age, wisdom and grace; and that the civilization of Christian love may grow in the world, so that we may attain the full stature of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

9- لأجل أن ننمو في السنِّ والحِكمةِ والنِعمة، وتنمو في العالم حضارةُ المحبَّة، فنبلغَ الى ملء قامةِ المسيح، إلى الربّ نطلب

10. For our deliverance from all affliction...

10- لأجل نجاتنا من كل ضيق وغضب وخطر وشدَّة إلى الربّ نطلب

# Variable parts of the Liturgy:

#### **Antiphon Prayer**

O Christ, Eternal God, by Your birth from the Virgin, You appeared on earth as a man and enlightened the whole Creation. Steady our footsteps in the way of your Commandments. Infuse in our hearts the grace of knowing You and loving You, through the intercession of Your All-pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary and all your Saints.

For You are our Light and our Redemption, O Christ God, and to You we render glory and to Your Eternal Father and Your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

# صلاة الأنديفونة

أيها المسيخ ألالهُ الأزليّ، يا من بميلاده من البتول، ظهر َ على الارض إنساناً، فأنار الخليقة كلها، وطَد خطواتنا في سبيل وصاياك، وأهدنا الى معرفَتِكَ ومحبَّتك، بشفاعة والدتِكَ الكاملةِ الطهارة الدائمةِ البتوليّة مريم، وجميع قديسيك،

لأنكَ أنتَ نورُنا وفداؤنا، أيها المسيحُ الإله، واليك نرفع المجد وإلى ابيكَ الأزلي وروحك القدّوس، ألآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين

# **Antiphons of the Feast**

#### Second antiphon

- 1- Blessed is the man who fears the Lord: he will establish himself firmly within his commandments.
  - \*\* O Son of God Who were born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You Alleluia
- 2- Powerful on earth shall be his race; the descendence of the righteous ones shall be blessed
- 3- Glory and wealth shall abide in his house, and his justice shall stand from age to age.

#### انديفونات العيد - الأنديفونة الثانية

1- طوبي للرجل الذي يتقى الرب، ويهوى وصاياه جدأ

\*\* خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من وُلد من البتول، نحن المرنمين لك هللويا

2- المجدُ والغنى في بيته

3 وبرُّه يدوم الى الأبد

<u>Entrance Hymn</u>: "From the womb before the morning star I begot You. The Lord has sworn and He will not repent: You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek." O Son of God, Who were born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You Alleluia."

# <u> زنيمة الدخول</u>

من البطن قبل كوكب الصبُّح ولدتُك. حلف الربُّ ولن يَندَم: أنتَ كاهنٌ إلى الأبد على رُتبةِ مليكصاق خُلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من وُلدَ من البتول، نحن المرنِّمين لك هللويا.

#### Troparion of the Nativity (Tone 4) (Three times)

Your Nativity, O Christ our God, has shed the light of knowledge upon the world. Through it, those who had been star-worshipers learned through a star to worship You, O Sun of Justice, and to recognize in You the One Who rises and Who comes from on high. O Lord glory to You!

# نشيد الميلاد بالحن الرابع (3 مرات)

ميلاً ذُكَ أَيُّها المسيحُ الهُنا، قد أظهر ثورَ المعرفةِ للعالم لأن الساجدين للكواكِب، فيه تعلموا من الكوكبِ السُّجود لك يا شمسَ العدل، وعرفوا أنَّكَ من المشرقُ الذي منَ العَلاء يا ربُّ المجد لك.

#### Hypakoi of the Nativity (Tone 8)

O Little Child lying in a manger, by means of a star, heaven has called and led to You the Magi, the first-fruits of the Gentiles, astounded to behold, not scepters and thrones, but extreme poverty. What, indeed, is lower than a cave? What is humbler than swaddling clothesand yet the splendor of your divinity shone forth in them resplendently. O Lord, glory to You!

## نشيد (ايباكوئي) بالحن الثامن

أيُّها الطُفلُ المَضَّجَعُ في مِذود، إنَّ السماءَ قدَّمت لك باكورةَ الأَمَم، إدْ دَعتِ المجوسَ بالكوكب. فأخَذهُم الدَّهَش، لا من صوالجةٍ وعروش، بل من المسكنةِ القصوى. إدْ أيُّ شيءٍ أحقرُ من المغارة، أم أيُّ شيءٍ أوضعُ من القُمُطِ التي تَلألأ فيها غِني لاهوتِك؟ فيا ربُّ المجدُ لك

#### Kondakion of the Nativity (Tone 3)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the One Who surpasses all essences, and the earth offers a cave to God, the Inaccessible One. Angels sing His glory together with the shepherds: for to us is born a Child, God in all eternity

# نشيد الختام (قنداق العيد) بالحن الثالث

اليومَ البتول تلدُ الفائقَ الجوهر، والأرضُ ثقدَّمُ المغارة لِمَنْ لا يُدنى منه. الملائكةُ مع الرُّعاة يُمجَّدون، والمجوسُ مع الكوكب يسيرون. لأنَّه من أجلنا ولد طفلٌ جديد، وهو الإله الذي قبلَ الدهور.

## **Instead of the Trisagion:**

بدل النشيد المثلث التقديس – يقال: أنتم الذين بالمسيح اعتمدتم...

All of you who have been baptized...

**EPISTLE of the Feast** Galatians 4: 4-7 - Page 452 (English) – Page 508 (Arabic)

PROKIMENON (Tone 8) ps. 65:4,1

**Reader:** Let all on earth worship and sing praise to You, sing praise to Your name.

People: Let all on earth worship and sing praise to You, sing praise to Your name.

**Reader:** Shout joyfully to God, all you on earth; sing praise to the glory of His name.

People: Let all on earth worship and sing praise to You, sing praise to Your name.

Reader: Let all on earth worship and sing praise to You...

People: ...sing praise to Your name.

A READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians

BRETHREN, when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, that He might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!" So that one is no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, an heir also of God through Jesus Christ.

**ALLELUIA** (Tone 1) Ps. 18:2,3

The heavens declare God's glory, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.

**Stichon:** Day pours out the word to day, and night to night imparts knowledge.

رسالة العيد

مقدمة الرسالة

القارىء: لتسجُد لك جميعُ الأرض ولتشد لك

الشعب: لتسجُد لكَ جميعُ الأرضِ ولتشدِ لك

القاريء: لأنكَ عادلُ في جميع ما صنعت بنا، وأعمالكَ كُلُها صدقٌ، وطُرُقُكَ استِقامَة الشعبُ: لتسجُد لكَ جميعُ الأرضُ ولتشدِ لك

القاريء: لتسجُد لكَ جميعُ الأرض...

الشعب ... ولتشد لك

الرسالة (غلا طية 4: 4-7)

يا إخوة، لمَّا بلغَ مِلءُ الزمان، أرْسلَ الله ابنَه مولُوداً من امرأة، مولُوداً تحتَ النَّاموس، ليَفتديَ الذين تحتَ الناموس لننالَ التَبَنّي. وبما أنَّكم أبناء، أرسلَ الله روحَ ابنهِ إلى قلويكُم صارحًا أبَّا أيهُّا الآب. فلستَ بعدُ عبداً بل ابنٌ. وإذا كُنتَ ابناً فأنتَ أيضاً وارثٌ لله بيسوعَ المسيح.

#### هلله با

السَّماواتُ تَذيعُ مجدَ الله، والفَلكُ يُخبرُ بأعمال يَدَيه يومٌ ليومٍ يُبدي قولاً. وليلٌ اليلٍ يُخبرُ عِلْمًا

#### **GOSPEL of the Feast** Matthew 2:1-12 (Visit of the Magi)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, Magi came from the East to Jerusalem saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." But when King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and so was all Jerusalem with him. And gathering together all the chief priests and Scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. And they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, 'And you, Bethlehem, of the land of Judah are by no means least among the princes of Judah; for from you shall come forth a leader who shall shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod summoned the Magi secretly, and carefully ascertained from them the time when the star had appeared to them. And sending them to Bethlehem he said, "Go and make careful inquiry concerning the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may go and worship Him." Now they, having heard the king, went their way. And behold, the star they had seen in the East went before them, until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. And when they saw the star they rejoiced exceedingly. And entering the house, they found the Child with Mary His mother, and falling down they worshipped Him. And opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another way.

# انجيل العيد (متى 2: 1-12)

لما وُلِدَ يسوعُ في بيت لحم اليهودية، في أيام هيرودس الملك، اذا مجوسٌ قد أقبلوا من المشارق الى اورشليم قائلين: أين المولودُ ملكُ اليهود؟ فإنّا رأينا نجمهُ في المشرق، فوافينا لنسجد له؟ فلما سمع هيرودسُ الملكُ اضطرب، هو وكلُ اورشليمَ معه. وجمع كلَّ رؤساء الكهنةِ وكتبةِ الشعبِ واستخبرهم أين يولدُ المسيح: فقالوا له في بيت لحم اليهودية، فانه هكذا كُتِبَ بالنبيّ: وأنت يا بيت لحمُ أرضَ يهوذا، لست الصغرى في مُدُن يهوذا الرئيسيَّة، لأنه منكِ يخرجُ المدبرُ الذي يرعى شعبي إسرائيل. حينذ دعا هيرودسُ المجوس سرا، وتحقق منهم زمانَ النجم الذي ظهر. ثم أرسلهم الى بيت لحمَ وقال: اذهبوا وابحثوا بتدقيق عن الصبي، وإذا وجدتموه فأخبروني لأذهب انا أيضاً وأسجدَ له. فلما سَمِعوا هذا من الملكِ ذهبوا، فاذا النجمُ الذي رأوه في المشرق يتقدَّمُهم، حتى جاءَ ووقفَ فوقَ الموضع الذي كان فيه الصبي. فلمّا رأوا النجمَ فرحوا فرحاً عظيماً جداً. وأتوا الى البيت، فوجدوا الصبيَّ مع مريم أمِهِ، فخرُوا وسجدوا له، وفتحوا كنوزَهم وقدموا له هدايا من ذهبٍ ولبانٍ ومُر. ثم أوعِزَ اليهم في الحُلم بأن لا يرجعوا إلى هيرودُس، فانصرفوا في طريقٍ أخرى إلى بلادهم.

#### SAINT JACOB MELKITE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Sunday Divine Liturgy 11 a.m. at Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church

Worship address: 2235 Galahad Road, San Diego, CA 92123 Mailing address: PO Box 231328, San Diego, CA 92193

Pastor office address: 4772 Felton Street, San Diego, CA 92116

E-mail: rsamaan@stjacobmelkite.org Web site: stjacobmelkite.org Phone: 858-987-2864

Fr. Rezkallah Samaan, Pastor/Administrator Deacon Antoine Kabbane, Associate

Saint Jacob Melkite Community is a Greek-Catholic (Eastern Catholic) Community of the Eparchy of Newton, headed by His Grace, Bishop Nicholas. Liturgical services are celebrated in Arabic and English. The Eparchy (Diocese) is a part of the Patriarchate of Antioch, headed by His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph. "...and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians" (Acts 11:26). The Melkite Greek-Catholic Church professes the Orthodox faith and maintains communion with the Church of Rome.

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# December 2017

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
3 Divine Liturgy	4 Great-martyr Barbara	5 Sabas the Sanctified	6 Nicholas the Wonderworker LIT Bible Study	7	8	9 Maternity of Anne			
10 Divine Liturgy Nativity Fast Begins	11	12 Spiridon the Wonderworker	13	14 Choir Practice	15 Eleutherius, Bishop of Illyricum	16			
Divine Liturgy Ancestors of Christ	18	19	20	21 Choir Practice	22 Bible Study	23			
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31 Divine Liturgy NYE 2018 Party									