Andante

The Nativity of Christ

December 25

Vespers Stichera

Second Mode

Verse #1

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord;

O Lord, ______ hear my____ voice.
Stichera A

Δεῦτε ἀγαλλιασόμεθα

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord as we declare this present mystery. The middle wall of partition is broken a-sunless order; the flaming sword is turned back, the Cherubim withdraw from the Tree of Life, and I partake of the Paradise of Delight, whence I was
cast out before through disobedience. For the identical likeness of the

Fa - ther, the Express Image of His eternity, taketh the form of

a servant, and without undergoing change He cometh forth from a Mother

that knew not wedlock. For that which He

was, He hath remained, even true
God; and that which He was not, He hath taken upon Himself, becoming man out of love for man. Unto Him let us cry: O God, Who art born of a Virgin, have mercy on us.

Verse #2

Γενηθήτω τά ὄτα σου

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.
Verse #3

Εὰν ἁνομίας παρατηρήσης

If Thou should-est mark in-iqui-ties, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

For with Thee there is ______________ forgive-ness.

Stichera B

Τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ

When the Lord Je-sus was born of the ho-ly Vir-gin, all things were _______ en-light-ened. Yet while the shep-herds were a-bid-ing in
the field, while the Magi did worship,

ship, while the Angels sang praises,

es, Herod was troubled.

For God hath appeared in the flesh, the Saviour of our souls.

Verse #4

"Ενεκεν τοῦ ὄνοματός σου

For Thy Name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord;

my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul
E Un.
hath hoped in the Lord.

Verse #5

'Ἀπὸ φυλακῆς προίας

FG FG
From the morn - ing watch un - til night, from the morn - ing watch

FE Un.
let Is - ra - el hope in the Lord.

Stichera C

'Ἡ βασιλεία σου Χριστὲ

G
Thy King - dom, O Christ God, is the King - dom of all

the ag - es, and Thy sov - 'reign - ty

is in ev - ery gen - era - tion and gen - -
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

In incarnation of the Holy Spirit and become man of the Ever-virgin Mary, Thou hast shined light upon us by Thy coming, O Christ.

O Light of Light, Fulgence of the Father, Thou hast made all creation radiant. Every breath praiseth Thee, the Express Image of the Father's glory.

www.stanthonsmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
Verse #6

'Ōtì para τò Kuriò

For with the Lord there is mer-cy, and with Him is plen-te-ous re-demp-tion; and He shall re-deem Is-ra-el out of all his in-iqu-i-ties.

(Repeat Stichera C "Thy Kingdom, O Christ God...")
Verse #7

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

Stichera D

What shall we offer Thee, O Christ? for Thou hast appeared on earth as man for our sakes. Of all the creatures made by Thee, each offers Thee thanks giving.

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

www.stanthonymsmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
The Angels of Thee
  offer

The hymn; the Heavens, the star; the Magi,

their gifts; the shepherds, their wonder;

the earth, her cave; the wilderness, the manager; and we

of Thee a Virgin Mother.

O God, Who wast before

the ages, have mercy.
Verse #8

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us,

and the truth of the Lord abideth for ever.

(Repeat Stichera D "What shall we offer Thee...")

Glory...

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it.
Both now...

Vespers Stichera Doxasticon

When Augustus reigned alone up on the earth, the many kingdoms of men came to an end; and when Thou be -

Kαι νῦν

Both now and ever, and un -

to the ages of ages. Amen.
camest man of the pure Virgin, the many gods of idolatry were destroyed. The cities came under one earthly kingdom; and the nations came to believe in one sovereign Godhead. The nations were enthroned by the decree of Cæsar; and we, the faithful, were
enrolled in the Name of the

God - head, when Thou, our God, wast

made man. Great is Thy mercy:

cy: Glory be to Thee.

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ
Thou wast born secretly in the cave, O Saviour; but

Heaven announced Thee unto all, using the star

as its voice. And it brought to Thee the Magi, who worshipped

Thee in faith. With them, have mercy on us.

With them, have mercy on us.
And it brought to Thee the Ma-gi, who wor-shipped Thee in faith. With them, have mer-cy on us.

Thou hast dawned forth from a Vir-gin, O Christ, Thou no-etic Sun of Right-eous-ness. And a star-point-ed to Thee, the Un-con-tain-a-ble, con-tained with-in a cave. Thou hast led the Ma-gi to wor-ship Thee; to-

Refrain for the First Set of Troparia

Koî mágous σου

Troparia for the Prophecies

Second Set

Intonation: #17 or #18

Allegro ♩=150

Plagal Second Mode

'Anéteilaς Χριστέ
Refrain for the Second Set of Troparia

Mάγους ώδηγήσας

Thou hast led the Ma­gi to wor­ship Thee; to­geth­er with them we mag­ni­fy Thee: O Giv­er of Life,

glo­ry be to Thee.
Andante

Let Heaven and earth be glad to-day according to the prophecy. Ye Angels and men, let us spiritually keep festival. For unto them that sit in darkness and shadow, God hath appeared in the flesh, born of a
wom - - - an. A cave and a man - ger have re - ceived Him; shep - herds pro - claim the won - der; Ma - gi from the East of - fer gifts in Beth - - le - - hem.

And let us, with our un - wor - thy lips, of - fer Him praise like the An - gels: Glo - ry to God in the high - - - est, and on earth peace. For the Ex - pec -
Entreaty #2
First Mode

O ωρναός και ἡ γῆ

Heaven and earth are made one today, for

Christ is born. Today God is

come upon the earth,

and man is gone up into Heavenly
ens. To-day He Who by nature is invisible, for man's sake is seen in the flesh. For this cause let us also give glory and cry out to Him: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, which Thy coming hath bestowed upon us; O our Saviour, glory be
Thee.

Entreaty #3
First Mode

Δόξα ἐν ὑψίστοις Θεῷ

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

www.stanthonysmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
for light hath shone upon those in darkness, and hath exalted those of low degree who sing like the Angels:

Glory to God in the highest.

Entreaty #4

First Mode

Τὸν κατ' εἰκόνα

Beholding him that was in God's image and likeness fallen because of the transgress
sion, Jesus bowed the heavens and

came down; and without suffering change,

He made His dwelling in the

womb of a Virgin,

that therein He might refashion corrupted

Ad- am, who cri- eth out: Glory to

Thine Epiph- a- ny, O my Deliv-

er- er and my God.
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Glory...

Intonation: #14 or #15

Plagal First Mode

Andante \( \text{♩} \ 88 \)

Δόξα Πατρί

Entreaty Doxasticon

Mάγοι Περσών βασιλείς

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Glory...

Intonation: #14 or #15

Plagal First Mode

Andante \( \text{♩} \ 88 \)

Δόξα Πατρί

Entreaty Doxasticon

Mάγοι Περσών βασιλείς

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Glory...

Intonation: #14 or #15

Plagal First Mode

Andante \( \text{♩} \ 88 \)

Δόξα Πατρί

Entreaty Doxasticon

Mάγοι Περσών βασιλείς
by a bright star, they came to
Bethlehem, offering choice gifts, gold and frankincense
and myrrh; and falling down, they worshipped. For in the cave they held the Timeless One
lying as a babe.
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Both now...

Intonation: #20
Plagal Second Mode

Entreaty Theotokion

www.stanthonymsmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
for joy, because of Him that is born

in Bethlehem, even the

Saviour and Lord; for every error of the idols

hath ceased, and Christ reigneth unto

the ages.
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Aposticha #1

Intonation: #7

Second Mode

Andante  \( \frac{1}{3} \cdot 94 \)

Un.

The Word becometh flesh, and is not separated from the Father. Angels and shepherds give glory togeth-

A great and marvelous wonder is brought to pass this day. A Virgin giveth birth, and her womb suffereth no corruption.

Virgin giveth birth, and her womb suffereth no corruption.
er, and with them we cry out: Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace.

Verse #2

Intonation: #8

The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit Thou at My right hand, until I

make Thine enemies the footstool of Thy feet.

Aposticha #2
Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Creator of all.

Eden offereth a cave, and a star revealeth Christ, the Sun, unto those in darkness. The Magi, enlightened by faith, worshipped with gifts; and shepherds beheld the wonder, while
An - gels sang prais - es, say - ing: Glo - ry to
God in the high - est.

Verse #3

Third Mode
Ex γαστρός πρὸ ἐωσφόρου

From the womb be - fore the morn - ing star have I be - got -
ten_ Thee._

Aposticha #3

Τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ

When the Lord_ Je - - - sus_ was_ born_
in Beth - le - hem of_ Ju -
de - a, Ma - gi com - ing from the
East wor - shipped God be - come
man. And ea - ger - ly o - pen - ing their treas - ures, they of - fered
Him pre - cious gifts:
proven gold, as to the King of the
ag - es; and frank - in - cense, as to
the God of all; and myrrh to

www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Intonation: #11

Andante 1/8

Fourth Mode

Δόξα Πατρι

Glo - ry... to the Fa - ther,____ and to____

the the Im - mor - tal, as____
to one three days dead.

Come, all ye na - tions, let us wor - ship Him that was born to save____ our souls.

save____

Glory...
Aposticha Doxasticon

Εὐφράνθητι Ἱεροσολήμ

Be glad, O Jerusalem; keep feast, all ye that love Simon. Today the enumation is loosed. Paradise is opened unto us; the ser...
pent is destroyed: for woman, whom he had formerly been guiled in Paradise,

he hath now seen become the Moth - er of the Creator.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! The

in - stru - ment of sin that had brought death upon all flesh, is become the first - fruit of sal - va -
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God is born of her as a babe; by His birth, He setteth the seal on her virginity, while loosing the cords of sin with His swaddling bands. And by becoming a child He healeth Eve's transgressions. Therefore, let
all creation dance and leap for joy, for Christ is come to call it back again, and to save our souls.

Both now...

Fourth Mode

Kai vòv

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Aposticha Theotokion

Σπηλαίῳ παρώκησας

Thou hast sojourned in a cave,
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

O Christ God; a manger received Thee, and shepherds and Magi worshipped.

Then indeed was the preaching of the Prophets fulfilled, and the hosts of Angels marvelled, crying and saying: Glory to Thy condescension, O only Friend of man.
Apolytikion

Intonation: #10

Fourth Mode (soft chromatic)

Allegro \( \frac{1}{140} \)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath shined the light of knowledge upon the world; for thereby they that worshipped the stars were instructed by a star to worship Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Day-spring from on high. O Lord, glory be to Thee.

Finale:

O Lord, glory be to Thee.
From the womb before the morning star have I be -
got - ten Thee. The Lord hath sworn and will not re -pent.

The Lord said un - to my Lord: Sit Thou at My right hand, un -til I
make Thine en - e - mies the foot -stool of Thy feet.

* This Prokeimenon is chanted after the First Antiphon in Fourth Mode "From my youth..." Sticheraric (long) and himirologic (brief) melodies for the First Antiphon are available online at: http://www.stanthonysmonastery.org/music/OrthrosSpecial.htm
Second Choir:

The Lord hath sworn and will not repent.
Andante

Pentecostaria

Second Mode

Intonation: #7

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and

to the Son, and to the Ho - - - ly

Spir - - - it.

All things are filled with joy

to - day; Christ is born of the

Vir - - - gin.

Δόξα Πατρί

Τὰ σύμπαντα σήμερον

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

www.stanthonysonymonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
Both now...

Kαί νῦν

(Repeat "All things are filled...") on previous page

Orthros Idiomelon

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression.

DECEMBER 25 - THE NativITy OF CHrist
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace. Today Beth - le - hem receiveth Him that sit -
theth at all times with the Fa - ther. Today An - gels glor - i - fy in a man - ner be - fit - t - ing God the Babe that hath been born: Glo - ry to God
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

in the highest,

and on earth peace, good will

towards men.
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 that existed before the
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

ages as God.
Ninth Ode*

First Mode

Verse #1

Megálunon, psychi mou, tìn tímiothéravn

Intonation: #1

December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

D

Allegro \( \frac{1}{4} \cdot 150 \)

A strange and marvelous mystery do I behold; the
cave is a Heaven; the Virgin a cherubic throne; the
man-ager a space wherein Christ God the Un-con-
tain-able One hath reclined. Him do we praise and

* The music for the other odes is available online at: http://www.stanthonsmonastery.org/music/Menaion/Finale%202003%20-%20%5B5325kata%5D.pdf
Mag - ni - fy. (Repeat Verse #1 and Troparion A on previous page.)

Verse #3

Verse #3

Mag - ni - fy, O my soul, God. Who was born in the

flesh of a Vir - gin.

Troparion B

Troparion B

When the Ma - gi be - held the strange course of a new_

and un - com - mon star, which had but now be - gun to shine

bright - er than all the light in the Heav - ens,
they were given a sure sign that Christ the King had been born on earth in Bethlehem for our salvation.

Verse #4

Megálulôn, psuchê mou, tôn én tô stpilaiô

Mag­ni­fy, O my soul, the King Who was born in a cave.

(Repeat Troparion B on previous page.)

Verse #5

Megálulôn, psuchê mou, tôn úpô tôn mághon

Mag­ni­fy, O my soul, God Who was worshiped by the Magi.
When the Magi said, Where is the new-born Child and King, Whose star hath appeared in the Heavens? for we are come to worship Him; then was Herod troubled and beside himself with fury, and the enemy of God madly sought to destroy Christ.

Verse #6

Magnify, O my soul, Him that was made known by a star to the Magi.
Verse #7

Magnify, O my soul, the pure Virgin, who hath given birth unto Christ the King.

Troparion D

Herod diligently inquired what time that star had appeared, by whose guidance the Wise Men were come to Bethlehem, to worship Christ with gifts; and led back to their country by the same star, they left the wicked
slayer of children behind in mockery.

Verse #8

The Magi and the shepherds came to worship Christ, Who was born in the city of Bethlehem.

(Repeat Troparion D on previous page.)

Verse #9

Today the Virgin giveth birth unto the Master in the cave.
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Troparion E

Σπέργειν μὲν ἡμᾶς

Being well content, out of fear, to be silent would be easier, since silence hath no danger; O Virgin, it is hard to compose hymns with love framed in harmony, but we pray thee, O Mother: Do thou grant us strength as great as our vol-

www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
Verse #10

Σήμερον ὁ Δεσπότης

Today the Master is born as an infant of a Virgin Mother.

(Repeat Troparion E on previous page.)

Verse #11

Σήμερον οἱ ποιμένες

Today the shepherds behold the Saviour wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Verse #11a

Σήμερον ὁ Δεσπότης

Today the Master, Who cannot be touched, is wrapped as a
babe in swaddling bands.

Troparion F

O thou Mother pure, we have seen the dark figures of the Word of God, with the shadows that vanished; For He hath shined forth newly from thee, the shut gate; wherefore, seeing we have been thought to be worthy of the Light of Truth, we bless thy womb as is meet.
Verse #12

Σήμερον ή κτίσις

Today all creation rejoiceth and exulteth, for Christ is born from a Virgin Maiden.

Verse #12a

Οὐράνιαι δυνάμεις

The Powers of the Heavens declare unto the whole world the new-born Child as Saviour and Lord and Sovereign Master.

(Repeat Troparion F on previous page.)
Verse #13

Δόξα Πατρί... Μεγάλουνον, ψυχή μου, τὴν τρισυποστάτου

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.

Mag-ni-fy, O my soul, the do-min-ion of the Un-di-vid-ed God-head of Three._ Hy-pos-ta-ses.

Troparion G

Πόθου τετευχώς

Hav-ing been vouch-safed_ God's own ad-vent, the peo-ple that de-light-eth Christ_ hath ob-tained_ what it longed_ for; now it mak-eth prayer for that re-gen-er-
At this point, to conclude the ninth ode each Heirmos is chanted with its verse. That is, Verse #1 and Troparion A are chanted by the first choir, and then Verse #9 and Troparion E are chanted by the second choir with a final cadence.
The Praises*

Fourth Mode (Legetos)

Intonation: #7

Verse #1

Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

Praises #1

Be glad, O ye righteous; ye heavens, rejoice exceedingly; ye mountains, skip for joy, as Christ is born.

Imitating the Cherubim, the Virgin become

* Before the Praises, the Exapostilarion is chanted three times. The music for this is on pages 25-26 in the Byzantine Prosomia Book that is available for free online at: http://www.homb.org/prospdf/Prosomia%20Book.pdf Recordings of this and other prosomia can be downloaded from: http://philokalia.org/music/
eth a throne, carrying in her bosom

God the Word incarnate. Shepherds glorify Him

that is born; Magi offer gifts unto the Master;

and Angels sing praises, saying: O incomprehensible Lord, glory be to Thee.

Verse #2

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the psaltery and harp.
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Praises #2

The Father was well pleased: the Word is become flesh, and the Virgin hath given birth unto God become man. A star is the herald; Magi worship; shep-herds marvel; and creation doth rejoice.

Verse #3

Praise Him with tim-brel and dance, praise Him with strings and flute.
O Virgin Theotokos, who hast given birth unto the Saviour, thou hast over-turned the ancient curse of Eve. For thou art become the Mother of Him that is the Good Will of the Father, and hast carried in thy bosom God the Word incarnate. This mystery cannot be searched out; we all glorify it with faith alone, cry...
ing with thee and say - ing: O Lord, Who art past in -

ter - pre - ta - tion, glo - ry be to Thee.

Verse #4

Aiveíte Aútón én
cymbálous éuyhóis

Praise Him with tune-ful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of ju-bi-

la - tion. Let ev - ery breath praise the Lord.

Praises #4

Deúte ánymínísowmen

Come, let us sing hymns un - to the Mother of the Sav -
iour, who af - ter child-birth still re - mained a vir - gin. Re -

www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
joice, thou Living City of our King and God, wherein Christ hath dwelt and hath wrought salvation. Together with Gabriel we praise thee; with the shepherds we glorify thee, crying: O Theotokos intercede with Him that was incarnate of thee, that we be saved.

Glory...

Intonation: #20

Plagal Second Mode

Andante

Δόξα Πατρί

Neh Glory to the Fa

www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Menaion.htm
Doxasticon of the Praises

"Ὅτε καιρός"

When it was time for Thy coming up on

earth, the world was enrolled to

be taxed for the first
time; then wast Thou minded to en -
roll the names of them that believed
in Thy Birth. For this cause was such
a decree pronounced by Cæsar, since Thy timeless
and everlast ing King-

dom was inaugurated ed. Wherefore we also,
in the stead of tribute mon-
December 25 - The Nativity of Christ

Both now...

Intonation: #7

Second Mode

Andante \( \downarrow \cdot 88 \)

Kai vuv

Both now and ever, and unto Thee, the God and Saviour of our souls.

Amen.
Today Christ is born of the Virgin in Bethlehem. Today the Beginningless beginneth, and the Word is made flesh. The powers of the Heavens rejoice, and the earth together with men is glad. The Magi
Continue immediately with the Great Doxology in second mode. Music for this doxology is available online at: http://www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Doxo.htm Music for the Divine Liturgy of the Nativity (i.e., the second antiphon, the small entrance hymn, the "As Many of You as Were Baptized," the slow heirmos (katavasia) of the ninth ode, and the communion hymn) are available online at: http://www.stanthonyssmonastery.org/music/Johnchrys.htm