The Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ

December 20

Apolytikion

Fourth Mode (hard chromatic)
"Joseph was amazed"

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ʻΗχος Δι: 150
Intonation: #19

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ

B (π) e thou read- y, Beth- le- hem, Eden hath o- pened un- to (Δ)

all. Eph- ra- tha, pre- pare__ thy- self, for now, be- hold, the (π)

Tree of life hath blos- somed forth in the cave from the ho- ly Vir- (Δ)

- gin. Her womb hath proved_ a true spir- i- tual Par- (π)

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dise, where-in the divine and saving Tree is found, and as we eat thereof we shall all live, and shall not die as did Adam. For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforetime.
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Kontakion

Third Mode

"On this day the Virgin"

"Η Παρθένος σήμερον"

In this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all things. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the glad some tidings; with the Angels
and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing
to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.