

Order of the Divine Liturgy

Saturday after Nativity

Commemoration of 20,000 Martyrs burned in Nicomedia; Holy Martyr Glycerus; Simon the Myrrhbearer, Founder of Simonopetra, Monastery of Mount Athos; Afterfeast of the Nativity
December 28, 2013

APOLYTIKIA

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God

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 Dayspring from on high. O Lord, glory be to Thee.

Blessed is the earth

Blessed is the earth that drank your blood, O prizewinners of the Lord, and holy are the tabernacles that received your spirits; for in the stadium ye triumphed over the enemy, and ye proclaimed Christ with boldness. Beseech Him, we pray, since He is good, to save our souls.

Having seen the image

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

KONTAKION (*relating to the Season or Feast*)

On this day the Virgin beareth

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 ages as God.

EPISTLE

I Timothy 6:11-16

GOSPEL

Matthew 12:15-21