

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
LEAVETAKING OF THE NATIVITY OF THE
THEOTOKOS
SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

GREAT VESPERS

LORD I CALL: Four stikhera of the resurrection in tone 3 (spiral bound Vespers Book), followed by six stikhera of the Feast

FEAST, tone 6:

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones,
has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth.
He, Who in wisdom established the heavens,
has fashioned a living heaven in His love for mankind;
for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch
spring up for us, even His Mother.
O God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless,//
O Lord, glory to You!

This is the day of the Lord!
Rejoice, O peoples,
for, behold, the bridal chamber of the Light, the book of the
Word of Life, has come forth from the womb!
The gate that faces the East is born
and awaits the entry of the Great Priest.
She alone admits Christ into the world//
for the salvation of our souls.

Although by God's will other barren women
have brought forth famous offspring,
yet, of all those children Mary shines brightest, as is fitting to
God.

For she herself was born wondrously of a barren mother,
and gave birth in the flesh to the God of all,
in a manner surpassing nature, from a womb without seed.
She is the only gateway of the only-begotten Son of God,
Who passed through this gate yet kept it closed,
and, having ordered all things in His own wisdom, //
has wrought salvation for all mankind.

Today the gates of barrenness are opened,
and the virgin gate of God comes forth.
Today grace begins to bear its first fruit,
revealing to the world the Mother of God.
Through her things on earth are joined with the heavens//
for the salvation of our souls.

Today is the prelude of universal joy;
today breezes blow that herald salvation,
and the barrenness of our nature is dispelled;
for the barren woman is revealed as the mother
of her who remained a virgin
after giving birth to the Creator.
From her the One Who is God by nature
takes what is foreign to Him and makes it His own;
and works salvation through the flesh for those who have
gone astray.//
He is Christ, the Lover of mankind and the Redeemer of
our souls.

Today the barren Anna gives birth to the handmaid of God,
who was chosen from all generations
to become the abode of the King and Creator of all,
Christ our God
in fulfillment of the divine plan.
Through her we earth-born have been fashioned anew//
and restored from corruption to life eternal.

GLORY... Feast, tone 6:

Today God, Who rests upon the spiritual thrones,
has prepared for Himself a holy throne on earth.
He, Who in wisdom established the heavens,
has fashioned a living heaven in His love for mankind;
for, from a barren root He has made a life-bearing branch
spring up for us, even His Mother.
O God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless,//
O Lord, glory to You!

***NOW & EVER... the Dogmatikon of the resurrection
in tone 3 (spiral bound Vespers Book)***

***APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the resurrection in
tone 3 (spiral bound Vespers Book)***

GLORY... NOW AND EVER... Feast, tone 8:

Come, all you faithful, let us run to the Virgin!
For, behold, today she is born, who was foreordained
before the womb, as the Mother of our God,
the treasure of virginity, the rod of Aaron that budded,
springing from the root of Jesse,
the preaching of the Prophets, the offspring of the
righteous Joachim and Anna.
She is born and with her the world is renewed.
She is comes from the womb and the Church is adorned
in her majesty.
She is the holy temple, the vessel of the Godhead,
the virgin instrument and bridal chamber of the King,
in which has come to pass the strange mystery of the
union of the natures that came together in Christ.//
As we worship Him, we praise the birth of the all-pure Virgin.

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

Feast, tone 4

Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.//
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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