

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
SATURDAY BEFORE & PARAMON (EVE) OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST
THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS MARTYR EUGENIA & HER COMPANIONS**

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *During the Little Entrance, sing the apolytikion of the Paramon. Then, the following:*

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY WEEKDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *Now sing these hymns in the following order.*

APOLYTIKION FOR PARAMON OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST IN TONE FOUR

(***Joseph was amazed***—soft chromatic)

As the fruit of David's seed, Mary was registered of old * with the Elder Joseph in the little town of Bethlehem, * when she conceived with a seedless and pure conception. * Behold, the time was come that she should bear her Child, * but no place was found within the inn for them; * yet the cave proved a delightful palace * for the pure Lady and Queen of all. * For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforeside.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY IN TONE THREE

(***The original melody***)(CHANT)(CHORAL)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome 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.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Saturday before the Nativity)

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O ye righteous.

Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (3:8-12)

Brethren, the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." So then, those

who are men of faith are blessed with Abraham who had faith. For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, and do them.” Now it is evident that no man is justified before God by the law; for “He who through faith is righteous shall live”; but the law does not rest on faith, for “He who does them shall live by them.”

THE GOSPEL

(For the Saturday before the Nativity)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:18-29)

The Lord said: “What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his garden; and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.” And again He said, “To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.” He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to Him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And He said to them, “Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying: ‘Lord, open to us.’ He will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Thy presence, and Thou didst teach in our streets.’ But He will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity!’ There you will weep and gnash your teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves thrust out. And men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the Kingdom of God.”

THE SATURDAY KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) IN TONE EIGHT

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright. Alleluia.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the Martyrs Eugenia and her companions Basilla, Philip her father, Protas and Hyacinthus, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

Pronunciation Guide

Eugenia: ev-geh-NEE-ah OR yoo-JEE-nee-ah

Hyacinthus: hy-ah-SIN-thus

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