



**THE DIVINE LITURGY**  
**OF**  
**SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

Saturday, December 26th  
Plenary Memorial of the Mother of God

*~ Please Stand*

*Priest:* Blessed be the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*~ Please be Seated*

*Priest:* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For the peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For peace throughout the world, for the well-being of God's holy churches and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For our most holy universal Pontiff *Francis*, Pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For our beatitude Patriarch *Sviatoslav*, our most reverend Metropolitan *Lawrence*, our God loving Bishop *Bryan*, the reverend priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For our nation under God, for our government, and for all those engaged in the service and protection of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For this city, for every city and country and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For the seafarers and travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for those held captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

*[Special petitions may be inserted at this point.]*

**Priest:** That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Remembering our most Holy and Immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**All: To you, O Lord.**

**Priest:** For all glory, honor, and worship befit You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

***THE FIRST ANTIPHON:***

I will confess You with all my heart, O Lord,\* I will tell all your marvels.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

In the counsels of rightful men and in the assemblies,\* great are the works of the Lord.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

They are sought\* in order to accomplish his will.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

*~ Please Stand*

**All:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

**Only begotten Son and Word of God, You are immortal, and You willed for our salvation to be made flesh of the holy Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, and without change you became man. You were crucified, O Christ our God, and trampled death by death. You are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.**

*Priest:* Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God by Your grace.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**All:** To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* For you are a good and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* Amen.

*THE THIRD ANTIPHON:*

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.

Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!  
Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!  
For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.  
Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

*Priest:* Wisdom! Stand aright!

*All:* Come let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Christmas Tropar, tone 4: Your birth, O Christ our God,\* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge;\* for through it, those who worshipped the stars\* have learned from a star to worship You, the Sun of Justice,\* and to recognize You as the Orient from on high.\* Glory be to You, O Lord!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

Kondak of Christmas, tone 3: Today the Virgin gives birth to Perfect Essence,\* and the earth offers a cave to the Inaccessible.\* The angels sing his glory with the shepherds,\*

the wise men journey with the star,\* for there is born for us an infant child, God Eternal.

*Priest:* For You, our God, are holy, and we give glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

+ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen. Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

+ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

*Priest:* Let us be attentive! +Peace be with all. Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

**\*\*PROKIMENON\*\***

*All:* My soul magnifies the Lord,\* and my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.

Because He has regarded the humility of His handmaid;\* for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

My soul magnifies the Lord,\* and my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* A reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews. (2: 11 - 18)

**Priest:** Let us be attentive!

*~ Please be Seated*

**Reader:** *Brothers and Sisters! He who consecrates and those who are consecrated have one and the same Father. Therefore he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, “I will announce your name to my brothers, I will sing your praise in the midst of the assembly”; and, “I will put my trust in him”; and again, “Here am I, and the children God has given me?” Now since the children are men of blood and flesh, Jesus likewise had a full share in ours, that by his death he might rob the devil, the prince of death, of his power, and free those who through fear of death had been slaves their whole life long. Surely he did not come to help angels, but rather the children of Abraham; therefore he had to become like his brothers in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God on their behalf, to expiate the sins of the people. Since he was himself tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are tempted.*

**Priest:** + Peace be with you. Wisdom! Let us be attentive!!

*~ Please Stand*

**All:** **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Verses:** Advance, O Lord, to your resting place\*, you and the ark of your majesty.

The Lord swore to David a firm promise from which he will not withdraw.

**Priest:** Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. +  
Peace be with all.

**All:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to [Saint Matthew 2: 13 - 23](#).

**All:** + **Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.**

**Priest:** Let us be attentive!

### **Reading of the GOSPEL:**

*After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command: “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him.” Joseph got up and took the child and his mother and left that night for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” Once Herod realized that he had been deceived by the wise men, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys two years old and under in Bethlehem and its environs, making his calculations on the basis of the date he had learned from the wise men. What was said through Jeremiah the prophet was then fulfilled: “A cry was heard at Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentations: Rachel bewailing her children; no comfort for her, since they are no more.” But after Herod’s death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt with the command: “Get up, take the child and his mother, and set out for the land*

*of Israel. Those who had designs on the life of the child are dead.” He got up, took the child and his mother, and returned to the land of Israel. He heard however, that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea, and he was afraid to go back there. Instead, because of a warning received in a dream, Joseph went to the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way what was said through the prophet was fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazorean.”*

**All: +Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.**

*~ Please be Seated*

**\*\*HOMILY\*\***

**Priest:** Let us all say with our whole soul and our whole mind, let us say.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Almighty Lord, God of our Fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of Your compassion, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

**Priest:** We also pray for our most holy universal Pontiff, *Francis*, Pope of Rome; for our most beatitude Patriarch *Sviatoslav*; our most reverend Metropolitan, *Lawrence*; our God-loving Bishop, *Bryan*, for those who serve and have served in this holy church,

for our spiritual fathers and mothers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

**Priest:** We also pray for our nation under God, for our government, and all those engaged in the service and protection of our country.

**All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

*[Special petitions may be inserted at this point.]*

**Priest:** We also pray for the people here present who await Your great and bountiful mercies, for those who have been kind to us, and for all orthodox Christians.

**All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

**Priest:** For You are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Priest:** Again and again in peace let the faithful pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Wisdom! So that always protected by Your might, we may give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*~ Please Stand*

**All: Amen. Let us who mystically represent the cherubim and sing the Thrice-holy Hymn to the lifegiving Trinity, now lay aside all cares of life.**

**Priest:** May the Lord God remember in His kingdom our most holy universal Pontiff, *Francis*, Pope of Rome; our most blessed Patriarch, *Sviatoslav*, our most reverend Metropolitan, *Lawrence*, our God loving Bishop, *Bryan*, all the priestly, diaconal and religious orders; our nation under God, our government, and all those engaged in the service and protection of our country; the noble and ever-to-be remembered founders and benefactors of this holy church; and all you, orthodox Christians, always, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen. That we may receive the king of all, escorted invisibly by ranks of angels, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Priest:** Let us complete our prayer to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** For the precious gifts that have been presented, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy**

*Priest:* Through the mercies of Your only-begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* + Peace be with all.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Let us love one another so that we may be of one mind in confessing.

*All:* **The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity one in being and undivided.**

***SIGN OF PEACE:***

*Greeting:* ***Christ Is Born!***

*Response:* ***Let Us Glorify Him!***

*Priest:* The doors, the doors! In wisdom let us be attentive!

*All:* **I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the**

**Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

*Priest:* Let us stand well, let us stand with awe; let us be attentive to offer in peace the holy oblation.

*All:* **The mercy of peace, the sacrifice of praise.**

*Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit + be with all of you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Let us lift up our hearts.

*All:* **We have lifted them to the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord.

*All:* **It is right and just to worship the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity one in being and undivided.**

*Priest:* Singing, crying, exclaiming, and saying the triumphal hymn.

*All:* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

*Priest:* Take, eat, this is my body, which is broken for you for the forgiveness of sins.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* Drink of it, all of you. This is my blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* We offer to You, Yours of Your own, in behalf of all and for all.

*All:* **We sing of You, we bless You, we thank You, O Lord, and we pray to You, our God.**

*Priest:* Especially, for our most Holy and Immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary.

*All:* My soul, praise Christ the King\* born in a cave.\* Behold a strange and wonderful mystery:\* the cave has become heaven,\* the Virgin a throne of the Cherubim,\* and the manger a noble place where Christ our God reposes.\* Wherefore let us praise and exalt Him!

*Priest:* Among the first, remember, O Lord, our most holy universal Pontiff, *Francis*, Pope of Rome; our most blessed Patriarch *Sviatoslav*; our most reverend Metropolitan, *Lawrence*, our God-loving Bishop *Bryan*. For the sake of Your holy churches grant that they may live in peace, safety, honor and health for many years, and rightly impart the word of Your truth.

*All:* **And remember all men and all women.**

*Priest:* And grant that with one voice and one heart we may glorify and sing the praises of Your most honored and magnificent name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* And may the mercies of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, + be with all of you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*~ Please be Seated*

*Priest:* Having remembered all the saints, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* For the precious Gifts which have been presented and consecrated, let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* That our loving God, Who has received them as a spiritual fragrance upon His holy, heavenly and mystical altar, may send

down on us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Priest:** That this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** For all that is good and beneficial for our souls and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** For a Christian end to our lives, one that is painless, unashamed, and peaceful; and for a good defense at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

**All: Grant this, O Lord.**

**Priest:** Having asked for unity of faith and for the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**All: To You, O Lord.**

*~ Please Stand*

**Priest:** Make us worthy, O Master, with confidence and without condemnation to dare call You, the heavenly God, Father, and say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**Priest:** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Priest: + Peace be with all.**

**All: And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Bow your heads to the Lord.

*All:* **To You, O Lord.**

*Priest:* Through the grace, mercies and loving-kindness of Your only-begotten Son with whom You are blessed together with Your most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* Let us be attentive! The holy Things for the holy!

*All:* **One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**\*\*COMMUNION VERSE\*\***

*All:* The Lord has sent salvation to his people.

*All:* Alleluia (3x).

**I believe, O Lord, and confess that You are truly Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first.**

**Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical Supper. I will not tell the mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief, I confess to You:**

**Remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom.**

**Remember me, O Master, when You come into Your kingdom.**

**Remember me, O Holy One, when You come into Your kingdom.**

**May the partaking of Your Holy Mysteries, O Lord, be unto me not for judgment or condemnation but for the healing of soul and body.**

**God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

**God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.**

**I have sinned without number, forgive me, O Lord.**

*Priest:* Approach with the fear of God and with faith.

*All:* **Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, God the Lord has appeared to us.**

The servant of God, "N", partakes of the precious, most holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ; for the forgiveness of his/her sins and life everlasting. Amen.
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*Priest:* + Save Your people, O God, and bless Your inheritance.

*All:* **We have seen the true light. We have received the heavenly Spirit. We have found the true faith. We worship the undivided Trinity for having saved us.**

*Priest:* Always, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen. May our mouths be filled with your praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Your glory. For You made us worthy to partake of Your holy, divine, immortal and life-giving Mysteries. Preserve us in Your holiness that we may meditate all day upon Your justice.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Priest:* Stand aright! Having received the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, and life-giving awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us rightly give thanks to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* Having asked that this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

*All:* **To You, O Lord.**

*Priest:* For You are our sanctification and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* Let us go forth in peace.

*All:* **In the name of the Lord.**

*Priest:* Let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:* You bless those who bless You, O Lord, and sanctify those who trust in You. Save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Protect the fullness of Your Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house and glorify them by Your divine power.

Do not forsake us who hope in You. Grant peace to Your world, to Your churches, to the priests, to our nation under God, to our government, and to all Your people. For all good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of Lights. And we give glory, thanks, and worship to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Blessed be the name of the Lord now and for ever. (3x)**

**Priest: +** The blessing of the Lord be upon you with His grace and love for mankind, always, now and for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**Priest:** Glory be to You, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to You.

**All: + Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Give the blessing.**

**Priest:** Christ our true God, Risen from the dead, through the prayers of His Immaculate Mother, of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, of saint N (*whose church it is*), and of saint “N” (*whose day it is*), and of all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

**All: Amen.**