

December 2021

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Rejoice! He who created the universe willed to be born by the Virgin Mary.

Rejoice! He who is timeless voluntarily chose to enter this world bound by the time to elevate us above time.

Rejoice! He who is immortal voluntarily accepted the mortal flesh to open the door of immortality for us.

As we are taught through the liturgical hymns, the Birth of Christ is not a mere historical fact. He is the coming one and accomplishes his coming, his birth, in those who are worthy. Liturgical hymns lead us into the mystery of deification. We, as a Church, are His body through which he is eternally being born and revealed into this world. Therefore, we are constantly reminded about the power of now. “Today,” says the hymns, “the virgin comes to the cave where she will give birth to the Eternal Word.” So, today we are again given a chance to accept the birth of Christ in us. As St. Maximus says, the incarnation of Christ is “a power that divinizes man through his love for God, and humanizes God through His love for man. And by this beautiful exchange, it renders God man by reason of the divinization of man, and man God by reason of the Incarnation of God. For the Word of God [Christ] wills always and in all things to accomplish the mystery of His embodiment.”

So, let us prepare our hearts and minds so that the Son of God could find it as the place of His birth and be born in us. Through the ceaseless prayer, let us humble ourselves and imitate the manger in which the eternal Son of God wills to be born as a little child.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and many blessed years!

+ Fr. Giorgi

- *Friday, December 24th 5:00 pm Vigil*
- *Saturday, December 25th 10:00 am Christmas Liturgy*
- *Sunday, December 26th 10:00 am Divine Liturgy*