

December 20th-23rd
Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ
Apolytikion

Byzantine Tone 4
 Special Melody: *Joseph was amazed*

Ison adapted from the music of
 Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Be thou read - y, Beth - le - hem, E - den hath o - pened un - to all.

Eph - ra - tha, pre - pare thy - self, for now, be - hold, the Tree of Life

hath blos - somed forth in the cave from the ho - ly Vir - gin. Her

womb hath proved a true spir - it - ual Par - a - dise, where - in the di -

-vine and sav - ing Tree is found, and as we eat there - of we shall

all live, and shall not die as did Ad - am. For Christ is born

now to raise thē im - age that had fal - len a fore - time. - time.

Please note: In some places in the Antiochian Patriarchate, this hymn is sung using the hard chromatic version, or Palatine mode, of "Joseph was amazed." Properly, it should be done in this soft chromatic, Dismissal Hymn, version.