

September 7th

Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers

Byzantine Chant Tone 8
Special melody: *O strange wonder*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih
from various sources

D C

1) O strange won - der, great and mar - vel - lous! How from a

moth - er past age and from un - fruit - ful

G↓ C G↓

bar - ren - ness, now the Rod that bare the Flow'r

C

spring - eth from right - eous Jo - a - chim and the just

G↓

An - na up - on this ho - ly day;

C

she is that Vir - gin that giv - eth birth to God.

Un. G↓

Where - fore, up - on her birth, the great com - pa - ny of

C

of the right - eous Pa - tri - archs.

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Verse: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear; and forget thine own people and thy father's house; and the King shall great desire thy beauty.

2) Da - vid to - day is ex - ceed - ing glad; now Jes - se
 leap - eth for joy; sa - cred Le - vi is
 mag - ni - fied; just and right - eous Jo - a - chim
 doth in spir - it re - jice and dance, and An - na's
 child - less - ness hath been loosed at last,
 O spot - less Mar - y, on thy na - tiv - i - ty,
 O Maid - en graced of God; and the com - pa - ny of
 An - gels doth u - nite with us mor - tal men, and
 we all bless thy god - ly womb.

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Verse: The rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.



3) Re-joyce, thou stab - lish - ment of mor - tal men; O ho - ly
 moun - tain, re - joyce; O re - joyce, tem - ple
 of the Lord; re - joyce, thou lamp a - blaze with light,
 and di - vine ta - ble of the Lord; re - joyce, O
 glo - ry of all thē Or - tho - dox;
 re - joyce, O Mar - y, pure Moth - er of Christ God;
 O fier - y throne, re - joyce; re - joyce, O tab - er - na - cle
 and most blame - less Maid; re - joyce, thou flam - ing bush un -
 burnt; re - joyce, O hope of all.