In Olden Days

Based on the Troparion for Vespers
Forefeast of the Nativity
adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

Simply, meditatively

1. In olden days, pure Mary came to be enroll'd in Beth-le-

hem, With Joseph, now a quite old man, Thus, travell'd they, the two of near; The cave to Mary did appear, A palace full of home-ly them. For Mary was of David's seed, and in her womb, of no man's seed, She carried cheer. And in the cave shall Christ be born, For Him, the mystic curtain torn, The likeness there the Holy Lamb, the Son of God, now Son of Man.

that had suffer'd fall, Now He shall raise to save us all.

* Altos and Basses may either sing text or hum.

FOR PARALITURGICAL USE ONLY - NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS PART OF THE VESPER SERVICE.

Now Christ is Born Upon the Earth

Matins for The Nativity of Christ
Based on Canon I, Ode I
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

With joyful vigor

1. Now Christ is born upon the earth, Come, sing his glory
2. Come, sing your praises to the Lord For He is glorious

bright! From heaven Christ has come by birth, Come meet Him in the
fied! Yes, Christ is on the earth today, Lord, be exalted

high! Let all the earth in every way, Lift up the joyful cry:

FOR PARALITURGICAL USE ONLY. NOT INTENDED FOR USE AS PART OF THE MATINS SERVICE.

Now Christ is Born Upon the Earth

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT Rev.0, 11/18/04.
Now hear, O Bethlehem

Based on the Troparion for Vespers
Forefeast of the Nativity
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks, altered, R.T.

Sweetly, not too fast  (Soprano and Tenor: Optional soli, as indicated.)

1. Now hear, O Bethlehem, the call, For
   Eden opens wide for all; Prepare, O

2. For eating from the Plant is life, And
   not the death that Adam died; For Christ will
   Ephra-ta, for the birth, The Tree of Life has blos-som'd
   now be born for all, To raise the race from Adam's

   forth. For to a cave the Virgin comes, A Par-a-dise
   fall. So hear, O Bethlehem, the call, And Eden, o-


Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.
Now hear, O Bethlehem

- is now her womb, In which is plant ed all di -

pen now for all, And glo ri fy this ho ly -

vine, The Plant from which we all shall dine.
birth, Where by our Lord has come to earth.

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY-NOT INTENDED TO BE USED AS PART OF THE VESPERS SERVICE.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev 0 11/18/04.
The Virgin, as was Said of Old

Richard Toensing

Matins of the Nativity
Based on Canon I, Ode 5, Stanza 3
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Not too fast p poco a poco cresc. al fine

The Virgin, as was said of old, in visions ancients prophets told, Has now conceived as

God had planned, And brought forth God on earth made man

Let us praise the Virgin mild, Who us to God has recon-

let us praise the Virgin mild, who us to God had recon-

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.
The Virgin, as was Said of Old

"cil'd And let us sinners sing her praise, The
The o to kos' honor raise.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.0, 11/18/04.
The Shepherds in the Fields Receiv'd

The Nativity of Christ
Based on the Troparion for Matins
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Brisk, rhythmic!

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY-NOT INTENDED FOR USE AS PART OF MATINS SERVICE.
Allegretto; gently and not too fast

1. The choir of shepherds in the field was o'whelm'd by grace revealed For they were
2. Their eyes be held the all blest Child of Mary pure and un de fil'd The Bride who
sang in praise and heart felt thanks Of Christ the
3. They saw as well the angel ranks, Who priv' leg'd to be hold a strange and glorious scene un
never knew a man And bore the Son by sac red
King divine on earth, In car nate through the Vir gin

REFRAIN (louder and more joyful each time!)

fold: plan. Christ is born, Christ is born, glo ri fy Him!

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY - NOT INTENDED FOR USE IN THE MATINS SERVICE.
A Star the Magi Plainly Showed
Serenely

1. A star ______ the Magi plainly showed, the
2. They saw ______ You wrapp'd in swaddling clothes, Who

Word ______ of Life and Light ______ be-stow'd, Who
shares ______ our sufferings and ______ our woes; With

was ______ before the stars and sun, And now ______ becomes the
in ______ a lowly stable cave, The Lord ______ of grace who

Vir-gin's Son, On earth ______ to make transgression
came ______ to save; In joy ______ they gazed upon your

cease, And bring ______ our race to life and peace.
form, Both God ______ and Man, a baby born.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 1, 12/16/08.
With awe and wonder $d = 52$

The altos and Basses may hum the first nine bars (quasi-ison) and begin singing text on beat 4 of bar 9.

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY - NOT INTENDED FOR USE IN THE MATINS SERVICE.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.1, 11.24/04.
lift our praises high. And Him we magnify.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.1, 11/24/04.
The Lord is Virgin-born Today

From the Praises
Matins of the Nativity of Christ
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

With gentle joy

1. The Lord is Virgin-born today, In Bethlehem, to grace convey, And He who no beginning knows, be-
2. The pow'rs of heaven all rejoice, The earth, with man-kind finds its voice, The Magi offer gifts of wealth, And gins to be in earthly clothes, The Lord made flesh by shepherds sing His grace as well, While we unceasing glory be to God on high, And peace on earth by human birth To live with us on humble earth, raise our cry: "All glory be to God on high." all our race, Good will to all by God's own grace."

Richard Toensing


Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/23/04.
Make Glad, You Righteous

From the Praises, Matins of the Nativity of Christ

Stichera I

Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Joyfully

REFRAIN

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY - NOT INTENDED FOR USE IN THE MATINS SERVICE.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/25/04.
O Let Creation All Rejoice
Compline of the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ
Canticle IX, Stanza IV
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks
Richard Toensing

Joyfully (in one)

1. O let Creation all rejoice And greatly
raise its hymns of joys, For our Creator makes Him-
self as human brings, Our God on earth in flesh re-
far to Bethlehem, And let the shepherds clap their
His imm mortal grace, And join the angel hosts who

2. And He who was before all things To earth Him-
selv'd as Almighty glory there concealed.

3. O let the Magi come to Him, And travel
self To be created here to dwell.

4. let our humble, mortal race Re joice in
veal'd Almighty come to earth lands.
sing, Their praises to the Savior bring.

FOR PARA-LITURGICAL USE ONLY - NOT INTENDED FOR USE IN COMPLINE SERVICE.


Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/27/04.

Richard Toensing
With Majesty; not too fast!

The Kings Arrive From Persia's East

The Kings arrive from Persia's East, Their error now forever ceased, To Christ the great almighty

King Their gifts to Him at birth to bring, Of myrrh and frankincense and gold, Remembering prophecies of old; O children, bless, and call Him Lord And all ex.
The Kings Arrive From Persia's East

alt Him ever more.

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