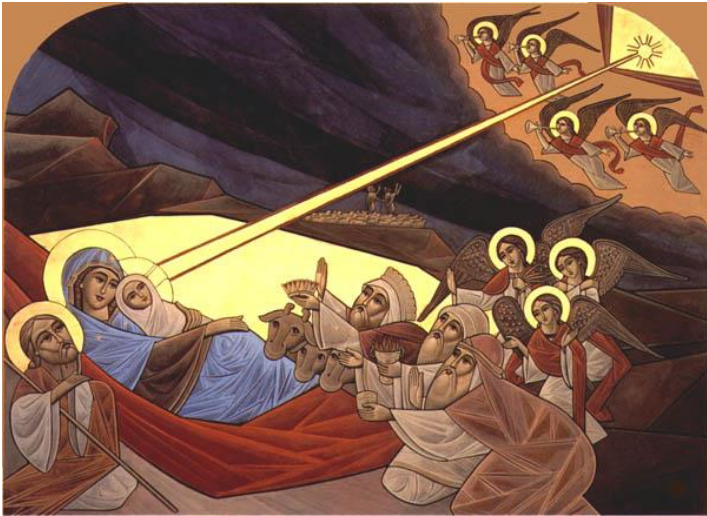


The Nativity of Our Lord

English Service Booklet



Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

DRAFT VERSION – 2020

Liturgical Resource Development

[DRAFT VERSION]

By the grace of God, this work was completed for the benefit of the English-speaking faithful through the help of St. Gregorios Parish, Spokane, WA.

The work is adapted from prose translations from the original Syriac by Rev. Fr. Baby Varghese and Bede Griffiths found in *The Order of the Prayers of the Major Feasts* (Malankara Orthodox Church Publications, 2013) and *The Book of Common Prayer of the Syrian Church* (Gorgias Press, 2005), respectively. The Eniyono *Emo d'Kitho* of Evening Prayer was adapted from a prose translation from Malayalam by Mrs. Ceena Varghese.

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EVENING PRAYER of NATIVITY

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
one true God;

Glory be to Him, and may His mercy and compassion be upon us
forever. Amin.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, by whose glory, the heaven
and earth are filled. Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is He, who has come and is to come in the name of the Lord;
Glory be to Him in the Highest!

QAUMO
(Trisagion)

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty!

Holy art Thou, Immortal!

† Crucified for us, have mercy on us! *(Three times)*

Lord, have mercy on us!

Lord, be kind and have mercy!

Lord, accept our service and our prayers!

Have mercy on us!

Glory be to Thee, O God!

Glory be to Thee, O Creator!

Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King

Who has compassion on His sinful servants...*Barekmor.*

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts and sins as we
also have forgiven our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil one. † For Thine is the kingdom, the power
and the glory, forever and ever. Amin.

† Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds forever and ever. Amin.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

Priest: O Lord God, make us worthy to sanctify You with the holy seraphim without reservation; to bless You with the blessed cherubim without hesitation; to exalt You with the heavenly hosts above without blame; to sing praise to You unceasingly with the innocent shepherds; to worship You with the discerning wise men, and rejoice eternally in You, with Mary who bore You, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin.

Psalm of Repentance

[Psalm 51] Have mercy upon me, O God, in Your loving kindness;/ in the abundance of Your mercy blot out my sin.

Wash me thoroughly from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin./ For I acknowledge my fault and my sins are before me always.

Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight, / that You may be justified in Your words and vindicated in Your judgment. / For I was born in guilt and in sin did my mother conceive me.

But you take pleasure in truth and You have made known to me the secrets of Your wisdom. / Sprinkle me with Your hyssop and I shall be clean; / wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Give me the comfort of Your joy and gladness, and the bones, which have been humbled shall rejoice. / Turn away Your face from my sins and blot out all my faults.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, / and renew Your steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me from Your presence / and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

But restore to me Your joy and Your salvation / and let Your glorious spirit sustain me;/ that I may teach the wicked Your way / and sinners may return to You.

Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation / and my tongue shall praise Your justice. / Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall sing Your praise.

For you do not take pleasure in sacrifices;/ by burnt offerings You are not appeased./ The sacrifice of God is a humble spirit,/ a heart that is contrite God will not despise.

Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion and build up the walls of Jerusalem. / Then shall You be satisfied with sacrifices of truth and with whole burnt-offerings; / then shall they offer bullocks upon Your altar.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'ENYONO
(Emo d'Khitho)

The One Who – was born of the Virgin
Without breaking the bless'd Virgin's seal,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One Whom – the Magi from the east
Honored with gifts and the shepherds praised,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One Who – was born of His own will
In Bethlehem, and crawled as a child,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One Who – was born of His own will
In Bethlehem, wrapped in swaddling clothes,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One born – in the fullness of time
From the Father – and from the Virgin,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One Who – drew wise men from the east
To worship His honor and glory,
O God, have mercy on us!

The One Who – gladdened those in heaven
And on the earth, the Lord of Glory,
O God, have mercy on us...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Let us bow, – worship, and exalt Him
Who, by His birth, – saved us from error!
O God, have mercy on us!

Psalms of Evening

[Psalm 141] Kurielaison / Lord, I have called upon You, / answer me; hear and receive my words.

Let my prayer be like incense in Your sight, / the offering of my hands like the evening offering. / Set a guard, Lord, before my mouth, / a guard before my lips, / that my heart may not turn to evil words / and I may not do deeds of wickedness.

Let me not take salt with impious men; / let the just man teach me and reprove me; / let not the oil of the impious anoint my head / because my prayer was against their evil-doing. / Their judges have been restrained by the side of the rock, / and they have heard how gentle are my words.

As when a plough cleaves the earth, their bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol. / I have lifted up my eyes to You, Lord, / and in You have I put my trust; / do not cast away my soul.

Keep me from the hand of the proud, who have laid snares for me; / let the wicked fall into their nets, while I pass on.

[Psalm 142] With my voice I cried to the Lord; / with my voice I besought the Lord and poured out my prayer before him; / I showed him my affliction, when my spirit was troubled, / but You know my path.

In the way of my walking they have laid a snare for me; / I look to the right and see none that knows me; / the way of escape has gone from me and there is none who cares for my soul. / I cried to You, Lord, and said: / You are my hope and my portion in the land of the living.

Hear my petition because I am brought very low; / deliver me from my persecutors because they are too strong for me. / Lead me forth from prison that I may give thanks to Your name; / Your just ones shall have hope when You shall reward me.

[Psalm 119, 105-112] Your word is a lamp to my feet and light to my path; / I have sworn and am resolved to keep the judgments of Your justice. / I am greatly brought low, Lord, / give me life according to Your word; / be pleased with the words of my mouth, Lord, / and teach me Your judgments.

My soul is ever in my hands, and I have not forgotten Your law; / sinners have laid snares for me and I have not strayed from Your commands. / I shall inherit Your testimony forever because it is dear to my heart; / I have turned my heart to do Your commands forever in truth.

[Psalm 117] **Praise the Lord, all you nations; praise him, all you peoples, / for His grace is strong over us; / truly the Lord is forever.**

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

QOLO (*Mshilo Ethiled*)

The Messiah was – born in Bethlehem
And the Magi came – from the east to honor Him
The wise men sought Him – and they inquired:
“Where is born this King?” – Let us bow and worship Him!

The luminous star – announced to those men:
There in Bethlehem – dwells the King who has been born.
Behold this infant, – He is the True Light,
And He is the Lord, – The Lord and God Almighty!

They reached Bethlehem – and found in the cave
The King who was born, – with Mary, the God-Bearer;
The hosts of angels – were cry`ing aloud:
“Holy, holy, ho-ly is the Lord who is born!”

He lay in the cave – wrapped in swaddling clothes;
The Lord of the worlds – is fed with his mother’s milk;
The Ancient of Days – is held as a child;
O come all gentiles, let us bow and worship Him!

O, how beautiful – was the hymn sung there,
By angels and men – in the cave at Bethlehem!
Mary marveled and – Joseph stood in awe;
Christ was glorified! – Let us bow and worship Him!

A hymn of wonder – was sung on this feast,
 The Nativity – of the Christ, the Son of God!
 The angels cried out: – “Glory be to God,
 And peace and good hope – to the sons of men on earth!” ...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Watchers and angels – along with shepherds
 Sang praise to the Son – who had been born in the cave;
 Let us give thanks on – His Nativity!
 Let us worship Him – who set us free from error!

Staumen Kalos, Kurielaison

PRUMIYON

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and compassion.

People: O merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Priest: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and unceasing exaltation truly at all times and all hours, may we ascribe unto You, O Lord.

Glory to the Holy One Who is sanctified with His Father and His Holy Spirit, Who sanctified the pure womb of the virgin and came down to dwell in it and was born from it in Bethlehem of Judea in poverty, as it was pleasing to Him, to that Rich One, Who, by His nature, wrapped Himself in swaddling clothes and, by His compassion, lay down in a manger made for animals in a small cave; Who, being the sustainer of creation, nursed milk from the young maiden as an infant; Who, being the Invisible and Exalted One, guided the Magi from their country for His worship and to honor Him with gifts and offerings on the day of His Nativity. To Him belongs glory, honor, and worship at this time of evening and at all times, seasons, hours, and all the days of our life, forever.

People: Amin.

SEDRO

Priest: Glory to You, the Self-existent Child, the Only Begotten of the Father, Who manifested from the holy and virgin womb while remaining with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit as three, undivided Persons in one essence. The righteous ones of old prefigured You with their mysteries, O Exalted Child Who descended to Your creation on this day. In their revelations, all the prophets spoke of Your invisible nature and with their voices, all the preachers revealed Your existence and with the eyes of the Spirit saw Your human birth from the holy virgin. Abraham, the father of innumerable generations prefigured You by the tree that bore the ram. Jacob, the chief among the fathers prefigured You, saying: "The gentiles will look, seeing the day of His nativity." Job, the just and upright spoke of this wondrous Child, saying, "I know that my Savior is living and He will be seen on earth at the end." Moses saw this glorious Child in the fire that dwelt in the bush without burning it, which is the fire of divinity that dwelt in the womb of the holy virgin while preserving her.

Isaiah, the son of Amos, foretold of this Child Who manifested from the holy virgin and Whose authority does not pass away, and Whose Kingdom is everlasting. The prophet Ezekiel saw this hidden Child on the chariot with four faces and preached that He would appear to the world in the flesh. The prophet Isaiah saw this holy Child and cried out: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and He will be called the Wonderful,' for He is God and man. David sang of this Child of wonder, saying that He shall descend like rain upon the fleece which is the holy virgin, and again when he sang, "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." Jeremiah represented this beloved Child, saying, 'The Lord shall raise a ray from David.' Daniel saw this compassionate Child and called Him the stone hewn without hands. The Archangel

Gabriel announced this True Child to the virgin, the daughter of David, saying: 'Peace be to you, O full of grace! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and the Lord of creation shall manifest from You.' The watchers glorified this mighty child in Bethlehem with spiritual songs, hymns, and shouts and cried out, "Glory to God in the highest and peace to those below, for the Savior is born in the city of David." The shepherds saw this Child of wonder and glorified and confessed and worshipped Him with offerings. The star announced this Child in all regions and quarters of the earth and attracted the Magi to Him for His worship and they offered Him gold, myrrh, and incense.

The old Simeon beseeched this divine Child to let him depart from this life, saying, "Let Your servant now depart in peace, for my eyes have seen Your salvation." Today, all things indicated in the Law and spoken by the prophets have been fulfilled. Today, the One Who kindled the fire at the burning bush manifested from the virgin. Today, the One Who represented His mystery, by the rain on the fleece, has revealed Himself. Today, the One Who was prophesied to come from the south has appeared.

Today was born the One Whom David called the Son that sits at the right hand. Today descended the rain of consolation, which sprouted the green herb in the cave. Today appeared the scepter and the shoot from the stump of Jesse. Today, a Child is born to us and a Son has been given to us. Today, the virgin gave birth to Almighty God, and His name was called the Wonderful. Today, God manifested on earth and enlightened the world for all time. Today came forth the Bread of Life from Bethlehem of Judea. Today was seen the closed door and the Lord who entered through it. Today, the mystery was fulfilled. Hands held Him Whom the heavenly minds cannot comprehend. Fingers touched Him, whom the senses of angels cannot perceive. Knees bore the One Whom the Cherubim bear upon the fiery chariot.

Therefore, we worship You as John did from his mother Elizabeth's womb, and as David did before the Ark, we worship before the manger in which You lay. We, weak and sinful servants, who are made worthy to celebrate the day of Your glorious Nativity in the flesh, beseech You: Make us worthy with the righteous to glorify You; with the just to honor You; with the prophets to praise You; with the Apostles to rejoice in you; and with the heavenly and spiritual ranks to shout in praise before You. May we be made worthy on the day of Your second revelation for the absolution of all our hateful deeds, and for the forgiveness and the purification of all our impurities and the cleansing of all our stains. Deal with us according to Your mercy. Do not reward us according to our guilt. By Your compassion, give rest and make good remembrance upon Your exalted altar above in Heaven of all the faithful departed who have fallen asleep in Your hope and await Your second coming. We and they will offer up glory and thanksgiving to You, and to Your Father, and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin.

QOLO

(Mshihō Naṭreh l' Eedtokh – Tone 1)

Bless'd is He who manifested Himself as an infant!
 When He came to save Adam, He lived and walked among men;
 He crawled as a little child,
 He who directs all of creation
 The One who taught men the Word was quiet like a newborn
Praise to His humility, for He had so lowered His greatness
 That He left the praises of the Cherubim, and lay
 Wrapped in swaddling clothes

Barekmor...† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Joseph held and cherished You. Mary_, who bore You, sang praise;
 The hosts of heaven came and drew near to the earthly ones.
 They saw Your honor on earth,
 You, whom angels had never beheld!
 They praised and glorified Your honor_ and they worshipped You
For they had seen You, their Lord, as an infant laid in a manger,
 And they praised Adam's children, for they were made worthy
 To see Your greatness

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Why did martyrs taste death if there was_ no Resurrection?
 Why did the righteous labor if there_ was no other world?
 If Resurrection was false,
 Christ did not rise from among the dead
 O you, departed, look at the Son_ for true is His hope
 When the living voice of God calls out to all the departed ones,
 The tombs will open and they will rise up and go forth
 To meet their Savior

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

‘ETRO

Priest: Glory to You, the holy blossom of sweet fragrance of the exalted knowledge of the magnificent mind of God the Father. From Blessed Mary, that dry earth, You sprouted in creation in order to gladden us, who were corrupted by sin, by Your holy fragrance. Receive, O Lord, from our sinful hands this incense that we offer to Your compassionate magnificence. May we attain the spiritual and luminous vision that is the steady, unwavering gaze at the fragrant and invisible beauty of Your exalted majesty, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

QOLO

(Tubayk 'Idto – Tone 1)

O, who can speak of the wonder that occurred?_
 On this day in Bethlehem
 The Magi saw and were struck!_
 Behold the child wrapped in cloth_
 And laid down in the manger.
 He is seen like a poor child,
 But before Him angels quake_;
 He is truly God's own Son_
 Who has become incarnate...*Barekmor*.

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

The joyous news was announced in Bethlehem_,
 And it drew the Magi there;
 It tread the way before them_
 They took their gifts in their hands_
 And they took faith in their hearts;
 The Magi entered the cave
 And worshipped Christ, who forgives_,
 Whose light dawned in creation_
 From one end to the other!

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

May dew of life which the Father had sent forth_
 And sprinkled on the three youths
 In the fire of Babylon_
 Rain upon the departed_
 In the dwellings of She`ol;
 May it absolve all their sins,
 For they have slept in His hope_,
 And make them to inherit_
 The everlasting Kingdom!

GOSPEL

Pethgomo for the Gospel

Halleluyah, Halleluyah

The Lord has said to Me, "You are My Son
On this day I have begotten You" (Ps. 2:7)
 Halleluyah

Deacon: *Barekmor.* With stillness, fear and purity, let us give heed and listen to the Good News of the living words of God, in the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ that is read to us.

Priest: † Peace be unto you all.

People: Make us worthy, O Lord God, with your spirit.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving proclamation from St. John the Apostle, who preaches the good news of life and salvation to the world.

People: Blessed is He who has come and is to come: Glory be to Him who sent Him for our salvation, and may His mercy be upon us all, forever.

Priest: Now, in the time of the Incarnation of our Lord and our God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Word of Life, † God, who took flesh of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things thus came to pass.

People: We believe and confess.

(Priest reads from the Gospel of St. John 1:1-17)

Priest: † Peace be unto you all.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS - QUQLIYON

Pethgomo

(Tone 1)

As a father shows mercy to His children – Halleluyah
So the Lord shows mercy to those – who fear Him

As for man his days are like grass - Halleluyah
Like the flower of the field – so he blooms. *Barekmor.*

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

‘Eqbo

(*Mor Ephrem*)

May Your Living voice awake,
From the graves to Paradise,
Your servants who slept in hope
And trusted in Your mercy.
Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison

Qolo

(*l’Maryam Yoldath Aloho*)

O Savior, raise up_ the dead who ate Your Flesh
And drank Your Blood, the Chalice of Salvation
Raise them up from the_ grave without corruption
And clothe them in glory, those who wait for You...*Barekmor.*

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

The Son of the King_ who gives life to the dead
Will be carried above the clouds of beauty
The righteous who hear_ the trumpet before Him
Will be clothed in glorious garments and meet Him

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB

Sing praise, - sing Halleluyah and - Halleluyah
As the shepherds in - Bethlehem - sang praise to Him!

Behold, - He who sits on the throne - of the heavens
Is carried at the - side of the - bless`ed virgin;

The One - before whom Gabr`i`el - and angels bow
Is praised in the arms - of Joseph - and his family_

(Shuhlofo)

Glory to Him_ who fills - heaven with His greatness
Earth rejoices_ with peace - on His Nativity;

Glory to Him_ who gla-ddened the earth by His birth,
To the Father who sent - Him, and to the Spirit!

(End of Shuhlofo)

Sing praise, - sing Halleluyah and - Halleluyah
As the shepherds in - Bethlehem - sang praise to Him_!

Trisagion
(Sung in the 1st Tone)

Holy art_ Thou, O God_!
 Holy art_ Thou, Almighty!
 Holy art Thou, Immortal!
 † Crucified for us_, have mercy on us! *(Repeat Three Times)*

Lord, have me_rcy on us_,
 Lord be kind_ and have mercy,
 Lord, accept o`ur service and o`ur prayers_
 Have mercy on us!

Glory to_ Thee, O God_!
 Glory to_ Thee, Creator!
 Glory to Thee, Christ the King
 Who has mercy_ upon us sinners...*Barekmor.*

Our Father, who art in heaven...

PROTECTION PRAYER

Compline/Sutoro

Qaumo

QOLO

(Mo Rhimin – Tone 1)

I am afraid of_ my sins
 That they may be – a wall, which keeps me
 From the – Garden of delight
 Which is – kept for all the saints
 Rescue me, O Lord_, from hell
 And where You will, – there, Lord, let me dwell...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Glory to You, Christ_ our King,
 Who opens doors – to those who repent;
 I am – a sinner who begs
 Of You, - Giver of good things,
 Gladden my heart by_ Your grace
 That I may sing – as a harp to You

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR BALAI

(Tone 1)

Lord, who has mercy, even on sinners,
 Have mercy on us on Your Judgement Day!

At Your door, O Lord, the afflicted knock
 Answer their requests in Your compassion

Father in heaven, we do beseech You!
 Accept our service; have mercy on us.

Lord of those above! Hope of those below!
 Accept this service; have mercy on us

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

Psalms of Sutoro

[Psalm 91] Barekmor. / He who sits under the protection of the Most High / and glories in the shelter of God will say to the Lord,

"My trust is in You, / God is my refuge in whom I trust".

For the Lord shall deliver you from the snare, which makes you stumble / and from talk of vain things.

He will keep you safe under his feathers / and you shall be protected beneath His wings. / His truth shall enclose you as an armor.

You shall not be afraid of the terror of the night / nor of the arrow, which flies by day.

Nor of the word, which walks in the darkness/ nor of the spirit that destroys at midday.

Thousands shall fall at your side / and ten thousand at your right hand, / but it shall not come near you

But with your eyes alone / you shall see the reward of the wicked

Because You have made the Lord your trust; / You have made Your dwelling in the heights

Evil shall not come near you, / affliction shall not come near your tent

Because He has commanded his angels concerning you; / that they should keep you in all your ways

And receive you in their arms; / that you may not stumble with your foot

You shall tread upon the adder and the basilisk; / You shall trample upon the lion and the dragon

"Because he has cried to Me", says the Lord, / "I will deliver him and strengthen him.

Because he has known My Name, he shall call upon Me and I will answer him, / I will be with him in distress.

I will strengthen him and honor him; / With length of days I will satisfy him and show him My salvation".

[Psalm 121] I have lifted up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?

My help is from the Lord, / who made heaven and earth

He will not suffer your foot to slip, / your guardian shall not sleep.

Indeed, He neither slumbers nor sleeps, / the Guardian of Israel.

The Lord is your guardian. / The Lord shall shelter you with His right hand.

By day the sun shall not harm you, / nor the moon by night,

The Lord shall guard you from all evil, / the Lord shall guard your soul.

The Lord shall guard your going out and your coming in. / From henceforth and forevermore.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

Prayer of St. Severus

He who sits under the protection of the Most High, / beneath the shadow of the wings of Your loving kindness will say,

“Protect us, O Lord, and have mercy upon us; / You who hear all, / hear the prayer of Your servants in Your loving kindness.

Grant us, O Christ our Savior, / an evening full of peace and a night of holiness, / for You are the King of Glory.

Our eyes are turned to You. / Pardon our offences and our sins; / Have mercy upon us / both in this world and in the world to come;

O Lord, / may Your mercy protect us / and Your grace rest upon our faces. / May Your † Cross guard us from the evil one and his powers.

May your right hand rest upon us / all the days of our lives, / and Your peace reign among us / and give hope and salvation to the souls of those who pray to You.

By the prayer of Mary, who bore You and of all Your saints, / pardon me and have mercy on me, O God”. Amen.

Praise of the Cherubim

We make the sign of the Cross and kneel as we pray:

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever and ever!

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us;

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us;

Holy and glorious Trinity, have compassion and mercy upon us.

You are holy and glorious forever

You are holy and glorious forever

You are holy and blessed is Your name, forever and ever.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

Glory be to You, O Lord;

Glory be to You, our hope forever. *Barekmor.*

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Nicene Creed & Quqliyons

ALTERNATE

Psalms of Compline

[Psalm 91] Barekmor. He who sits under the protection of the Most High
Halleluyah
and glories in the shelter of God will say to the Lord:

Barekmor. "My trust is in You, - Halleluyah
God is my refuge in whom I trust."

For the Lord shall deliver you - Halleluyah
from the snare which makes you stumble and from talk of vain things.

He will keep you safe under his feathers and you shall be protected
beneath His wings - Halleluyah
His truth shall enclose you as an armor.

You shall not be afraid of the terror of the night - Halleluyah
Nor of the arrow, which flies by day.

Nor of the word, which walks in the darkness - Halleluyah
nor of the spirit that destroys at midday.

Thousands shall fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand
Halleluyah
but it shall not come near you

But with your eyes alone - Halleluyah
you shall see the reward of the wicked

Because You have made the Lord your trust; - Halleluyah
You have made Your dwelling in the heights

Evil shall not come near you, - Halleluyah
affliction shall not come near your tent

Because He has commanded his angels concerning you, - Halleluyah
That they should keep you in all your ways

And receive you in their arms, - Halleluyah
that you may not stumble with your foot

You shall tread upon the adder and the basilisk; - Halleluyah
 You shall trample upon the lion and the dragon

"Because he has cried to me," says the Lord, - Halleluyah
 "I will deliver him and strengthen him."

Because he has known My Name, He shall call upon Me and I will
 answer him - Halleluyah
 I will be with him in distress.

I will strengthen him and honor him; - Halleluyah
 I will satisfy him with length of days and show him My salvation."

[Psalm 121] I have lifted up my eyes to the hills - Halleluyah
 From where will my help come?

My help is from the Lord, - Halleluyah
 who made heaven and the earth

He will not suffer your foot to slip, - Halleluyah
 your guardian shall not sleep.

Indeed, He neither slumbers nor sleeps, - Halleluyah
 the Guardian of Isr`a`el.

The Lord is your guardian. - Halleluyah
 The Lord shall shelter you with His right hand

The sun shall not harm you by day, - Halleluyah
 Nor shall the moon harm you by night,

The Lord shall guard you from all evil - Halleluyah
 And the Lord shall guard your soul

The Lord shall guard your going out - Halleluyah
 The Lord shall guard your coming in,

From henceforth and forevermore - Halleluyah
 And to You belongs the praise, O God...*Barekmor.*

† *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

Prayer of Mor Severus

He who sits under the protection / of the Most High, / beneath
the shadow of the wings of Your loving kindness will say,

“Protect us, O Lord; / and have mercy; / You who hear all, /
hear Your servants’ pray’r in Your loving kindness.

Grant us, O Christ our Savior, / an evening full of peace /
and a night of holiness, / for You are the King of Glory.

Our eyes are turned to You, Lord, / Pardon our offences /
Have mercy upon us in / this world and the world to come;

May Your mercy protect us. / May Your grace rest upon us. /
May Your † Cross guard us from the evil one and his pow’ers.

May Your right hand rest on us / all the days of our lives. / May
Your peace reign among us. / Give hope and salvation to the
souls of those who pray to You.

By the pray’r of Your mother / and those of all Your saints, /
forgive us our debts and sins. / Have mercy on us, O God.”

Praise of the Cherubim
(Ezekiel 3:12)

† Bless`ed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!
 † Bless`ed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!
 † Bless`ed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever and ever!

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us all;
 Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us all;
 Holy and glorious Trinity, have compassion and have mercy on us all!

You are holy and glorious forever
 You are holy and glorious forever
 You are holy and bless`ed is Your name, forever and ever.

Glory to You, O Lord.
Glory to You, O Lord;
Glory to You, our hope forever. *Barekmor*.

Our Father, who art in Heaven...

NIGHT VIGIL of NATIVITY

Qaumo

Introductory Prayer

Awaken us, Lord, from our sleep in the sloth of sin that we may praise Your watchfulness, You who watch and do not sleep; give life to our death in the sleep of death and corruption, that we may adore Your compassion, You who live and do not die; grant us in the glorious company of the angels who praise You in heaven, to praise You and bless You in holiness, because You are praised and blessed in heaven and on earth, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever. Amin.

Introductory Psalms of Night Vigil

[Psalm 134] Barekmor. **Bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, / you who stand by night in the house of the Lord.**

Barekmor. Lift up your hands to the holy place / and bless the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion, / He who made heaven and earth.

[Psalm 119, 169-176] Let my praise enter before You, Lord, / and give me life by Your Word; / let my cry enter before You, Lord, / and deliver me by Your Word.

My tongue shall pour forth Your word, / because all Your commands are just.

My lips shall speak Your praise when You have taught me Your commands; / let Your hand help me / because I have taken pleasure in Your commands.

My soul has longed for Your salvation, / and I have meditated on Your law; / let my soul live and I will praise You / and Your judgments shall help me.

I have gone astray like a lost sheep; / seek for Your servant / because I have not forgotten all Your commands.

[Psalm 117] Praise the Lord, all you nations; praise Him, all you peoples, for His grace is strong over us; truly the Lord is forever.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'ENYONO
('Am Krube Nbarkokh)

O Lover of man,
 Along with the cherubim we will bless You;
With Seraphim – and with the angels – we praise Your Name;
 O Creator, glory to You!

Wise men from the east,
 Carried and brought gifts for the Son, the First-Born;
They entered and – worshipped Him in fear, – and they proclaimed:
 O Creator, glory to You!

O Lover of man,
 The Magi brought gifts for Your divinity;
The Church honors – this feast day of Your – Nativity;
 O Creator, glory to You!

O Lord, we praise You,
 The Light from the Light, the Son of the Father,
For by Your love – You were pleased, O Lord – to become man;
 O Creator, glory to You!

O Lover of man,
 Those men from Persia offered their gifts to You
And they cried out – in Jerusalem – and they proclaimed:
 O Creator, glory to You!...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Above in heaven
 And in the Church on the earth, Lord make mem'ry
Of Your servants – who've fallen asleep – trusting in You;
 O Creator, glory to You!

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

1st QAUMO**EQBO***(Ethqatal Hwaw Yalude)*

Glory to You, Lord, from every_ mouth
 This day of Your Nativity!

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

*Lord, have mercy upon us
 Lord, be kind and have mercy
 Answer Lord, and have mercy*

*Glory be to You, O Lord
 Glory be to You, O Lord
 Glory be to You, our hope forever! Barekmor.*

QOLO*(Quqoyo – Tone 1)*

Mary told Joseph, “The pains of labor strike me
 Let us depart for Bethlehem, O righteous man.

I have no bed – I have no dwelling,

For I am poor – as I walk this earth.

In the cave I give birth to the Ancient of Days;
 And place the Savior of the world in a manger”

Halleluyah w’Halleluyah...Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*Unto the ages of ages and forevermore*

The Father spoke to the generations of old
 Through the types and parables told by the prophets.

And now, again, – at the end of days

He has spoken – through His Only Son

Whom He has appointed as the Heir of all things,

And through whom the worlds were made, this same newborn child

Halleluyah w’Halleluyah

ANOTHER QOLO
(Thar Gabriel – Tone 1)

I am not able – to speak about You, O Lord_,
 For You are beyond my words!
But regarding – Your Nativity, I am in awe, Creator_,
 O, You, Maker of Adam_ – who has been born in the flesh!
While the angels – do shrink at Your flame, – O Lord God_,
 A womb of flesh contained You_ – and was not burned by Your rays

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

My mouth cannot – narrate Your magnificence_,
 O, You, Living Lamb of God!
Heaven and earth – are filled by You, Lord, yet Mary's womb carried You
 She nursed You as an infant_ – yet You sustain cre-ation!
O Lord, by Your – mediation You – reconciled_
 Those above with those below_, – and they offer praise to You!

MADROSHO

(*Ethqatal Hwaw Yalude*)

Glory to You, Lord, from every_ mouth
This day of Your Nativity!

Who is able to tell the story
Of the life-giving Lord of all?
He left the heights of His majesty,
And to the feeble ones He came

O, Lord, who magnifies all / by Your great Nativity_,
Magnify my feeble mind / that I may speak of Your birth_.
Bless`ed is the Lord who being hidden
Revealed Himself through history.

The wonder of the Son is so great
That completely He dwelt in flesh
He dwelt in it and it contained Him,
The Lord who is the Infinite.

He willed to dwell in the flesh / and yet remained limitless_;
Though He dwelt in the body, / He dwelt in divinity_.
On this Feast Day of Nativity
Bless`ed is the Infinite One!

Glory to Him who lowered Himself,
Though exalted by His nature!
While He is First-Born of the Father
By His love, He was Mary's son!

The Son of the Divine One / became, by name, Joseph's son_
While He is God by nature / He became man by His will_
Worshipped and exalted is Your will;
Bless`ed be Your nativity!

Glory to You from the beginning,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!
As I have begun in You, O Lord,
Grant me the strength to reach the end.

When my words come to an end / in the grave where beauty dies_
By Your grace, O Lord our God, / have compassion upon me_
That we may be delivered by You
From the fi`res of Gehenna.

QOLO
(Manu Bar Manu)

Behold the Bless'd Virgin,
 Mary the daughter of David,
 Standing among the crowds_
 Holding the First-Born in her arms!
 One questions Him - and one doubts Him;
 One confesses that He is God.

Behold the Bless'd Virgin,
 Mary the daughter of David,
 In her innocent love_
 Has called us today to this feast.
 Let us rejoice - and say with her
 That the fruit which she bore is God!

Who is she among us_
 Who gave birth in virginity?
 And who has ever seen_
 A virgin nursing her own son?
 See this wonder - and miracle!
 Let all those who doubt be silenced!

Behold, the Holy Church
 Glorifies Your revelation.
 She is proud of Your Name_,
 For You are God with Your Father.
 Grant her Your peace - Grant her Your love!
 Bless'd is the Father who sent You!

The glorious Isaiah
 Called Christ "Warrior" and a "Wonder"
 Because of the wonder_
 Of the birth of Christ in the flesh.
 Truly He is - the Wonderful!
 He is as Isaiah foretold!

The Word entered through the_ ear
 And dwelt in the young virgin's womb.
 The Lord manifested_
 Bodily from the virgin's womb.

He is ancient – and yet, a child;
 Who will not be moved as He speaks?

Whose Son is this infant_
 The One who is born from Mary?
 He is God from true God_,
 And He is the Light from the Light.

He is true God – and is true man!
 Woe be those who would doubt Him!

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB

(Tone 1)

Sing praise, – sing Halleluyah and – Halleluyah
 As the shepherds in – Bethlehem – sang praise to Him!

The young – virgin was giving milk – to Him as an
Infant, He who sends – rain and dew – upon the earth!

If you – have a soul full of faith, – observe with your
 Mind that – truly He – is above – and is below_.

(Shuhlofo)

O speak and speak_, O you, who speak the Word of Life
 Even if they_ do not listen, be not silent!

Peace be to you_, ship, who carried the treasure of
 The Father and_ from whom the Son manifested!

(End of Shuhlofo)

Sing praise, – sing Halleluyah and – Halleluyah
 As the shepherds in – Bethlehem – sang praise to Him!

Praise of the Cherubim

Prayed at the conclusion of the 1st and 2nd Watches of Lilyo

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever!

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord, from His place forever and ever!

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us;

Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us;

Holy and glorious Trinity, have compassion and mercy upon us.

You are holy and glorious forever

You are holy and glorious forever

You are holy and blessed is Your name, forever and ever.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

Glory be to You, O Lord;

Glory be to You, our hope forever. *Barekmor.*

Our Father, who art in Heaven...

2nd QAUMO**EQBO***(Abo Kthab Hwo – Tone 1)*

Bless`ed is Mary who bore
 Christ, the Savior of the world!

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

*Lord, have mercy upon us
 Lord, be kind and have mercy
 Answer Lord, and have mercy*

*Glory be to You, O Lord
 Glory be to You, O Lord
 Glory be to You, our hope forever! Barekmor.*

QOLO*(Sohdaw Atun – Tone 1)*

Mary carried Him
 While He was seated at the right – of God the Father!
He dwelt in the womb
 While He was seated in Glory – upon the chariot!
O, what wonder
 That God became man in order to redeem Adam's race...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*Unto the ages of ages and forevermore*

The Virgin bore Him,
 The One who bears all creation – and she spoke to Him:
 “I am bless`ed, for
 I have been made worthy to be – the Mother of God
 Who, by His will,
 Lowered Himself and took on our flesh to give life to us!”

ANOTHER QOLO
(Ba'rubto Brishith – Tone 1)

The watchers from above
 And the choirs of angels
 Came down with shouts of praise
 They came to see their Lord
 Wrapped up in swaddling clothes
 And they honored His birth
 Halleluyah w' Halleluyah – for He lowered Himself...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

The angel had announced
 Great joy to the shepherds:
 “Depart for Bethlehem
 Behold the Messiah
 Who, from David's daughter,
 Manifested Himself,”
 Halleluyah w'Halleluyah – “to save all creation!”

MADROSHO

(Abo Kithab Htwo – Tone 1)

Bless`ed is Mary who bore
Christ, the Savior of the world!

The Son in His radiance – descended to cre-ation;
He manifested – Himself in the flesh
Without dazzling the seers – that he might walk among them.

The great Image of glory – was seen in mankind's likeness
To make man partake – in His great glory;
He is the image of God – and, yet, the image of man!

The Son of the Almighty – was sent from above to us
To make those on earth – ascend to the heights
And to bring humanity – into communion with God.

Seraphim cover themselves – from the brightness of His light.
With a holy voice – His mother whispered;
Mary, daughter of the poor, – cherished Him with lullabies.

The Lord carries the heavens; – They are held by His gesture;
He controls seasons – and the course of time,
Yet He crawls in Bethlehem, – which His birth has enlightened!

QOLO
(*Hdaw 'Amme*)

O come forth, all peoples and all nations,
And sing praise for the Son's Nativity!

Exalt Him! Exalt Him on this great feast
And sing praise for the Son's Nativity!

The watchers flew down from the heights above
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

The heaven of heavens glorified Him
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

The gentiles turned back from error and death
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

The Good News was announced to the shepherds;
They sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

Those above and below cried out to Him
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

On the day of the Lord' Nativity
They sang in Bethlehem: "Behold the joy!"

Behold, all creation is saved by Christ
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

The watchers from above came down in choirs
And sang praise for the Son's Nativity!

The Magi, with their gifts, and the shepherds
Sang praises for the Son's Nativity!

The faithful children of the Holy Church
Sang praises for the Son's Nativity!

Have mercy on us, O Wonderful Child!
We praise the day of Your Nativity!

May glory and praise be to the glorious
And adorable Trinity always!

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR EPHREM

(Tone 1)

Son, Who freed us by Your birth,
Have mercy upon us all!
Christ, who saved us by Your birth,
Have mercy upon our souls!

By His grace, God descended
And dwelt in the virgin's womb;
Her womb endured the power
Which makes the mountains tremble!

What wonder, that the manger
Endured the Creator's pow'r,
And the lion's cub dwelt there,
And the virgin bore the Lord!

Son, Who freed us by Your birth,
Have mercy upon us all!
Christ, who saved us by Your birth,
Have mercy upon our souls!

Praise of the Cherubim

Prayed at the conclusion of 1st and 2nd Watches of Lilyo

† Blessed is the glory of the Lord...
Holy and glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us...
You are holy and glorious, forever...
Glory be to You, O Lord...

Our Father, who art in Heaven...

3rd QAUMO

EQBO

(Abo Kthab Hwo – Tone 1)

Give rest to our departed – in Your glor`i`ous abodes;
 Lord, give rest to them – and mercy to us
 While You forgive and blot out – the faults of us and of them

QOLO

(Bkhul Medem Ethbaqith – Tone 1)

Grant rest, O Lord, unto them

Our fathers and our brethren – have departed from this life
 'til resurrection comes for those who sleep.

Give rest, O Lord, to their souls in abodes of light;
 May their bones quicken on the day of their mem'ry.

When your command raises up

All the children of Adam,

May they be clothed with glory, - enter the bridal chamber
 And offer praises to You, their Savior...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Bless`ed are the dead for whom – the living make off`e`rings
 For their mem'ries are written in heaven.

As Moses wrote the tribes' names on tablets of stone

That they might have eternal mem'ry before God,

Lord, on the Host full of life

Record the names of Your dead

That they may be remembered – in the Church and in heaven,
 And when the Lord comes they rejoice with him.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR BALAI

(Tone 1)

Renew Your creatures by the res'rrrection,
Your worshippers who have slept in Your hope.

Give rest and pardon to the dead, O Lord,
Who sleep in hope and await Your coming.

Lord, with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
Make Your servants rest, those who sleep in hope.

(Shuhlofo)

Their bodies and souls - shall cry together:
"Bless'd is He who will come and raise the dead."



† Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah!
Glory to You, O God! (*Repeat three times*)

Be compassionate towards us, in Your mercy, / O God of
compassion. / In our sacrifices and our prayers, / we make memory
of our fathers /who taught us while they were alive, / to be children
of God; / O Son of God, / raise them up in the heavenly kingdom /
with the just and the righteous / in the world, which does not pass
away.

ST. LUKE 1:46-55

(*"The Magnificat"*)

Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior / because He has looked upon the lowliness of His handmaid; / for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Because He who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is His name. / And His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him.

He has won victory with His arm, He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. / He has put down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich He has sent away empty. / He has given help to Israel, His servant, mindful of His mercy, / even as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed, forever." *Barekmor.*

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

MAWRBO

(*Tubayk Maryam Bath Dawid*)

Bless`ed – are you, Mary, daughter of David,
Who were counted worthy to bear our God,
And He – took flesh from you to save Adam's race!

Bless`ed – are you, Mother of God, on whose feast
The Church, with all her children, rejoices
And sings – praise to the Lord who magnified you!

Prophets, – holy apostles, bless`ed martyrs,
Just men, priests, and all you saints, pray to Christ
That He – may have mercy on all, by your prayers.

O Christ, – King of Glory, give rest by Your grace,
And make mem'ry of all the departed
Who ate – Your Flesh and Blood and slept in Your hope.

Let us – praise the Father, and worship the Son,
And offer thanks to the Holy Spirit,
One God; – to Him belongs glory, now and forever!

[Psalm 133] **How good and fair it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.**

Like the oil which descends upon the head and upon the beard, / even the beard of Aaron, and descends to the hem of his robe, / like the dew of Hermon, which descends on the mountain of Zion.

Because there the Lord promised a blessing and life forevermore.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

‘ENYONO

Let us make memory of Mary and may she help us by her prayers.

Let us make memory of the just and may they help us by their prayers.

Prophets, apostles, and martyrs, may your prayer be a stronghold to us.

Make us worthy, Lord, of the harbour of Your martyrs and of the dwelling of your friends.

Compassionate and full of mercy, on the day of Your judgment, have mercy on us.

Blessed is He who does not keep His mercy from the sinner who calls upon Him. Barekmor.

† Glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Make a good memory, Lord, of the children of the Faithful Church.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore. And let them stand at Your right hand on the day when Your Majesty appears.

ALTERNATE 'ENYONO

At all times and at all seasons, virgin Mother of God, / may your prayer be a stronghold for us.

By the prayers of Your saints, / keep from us the evil one who at all times lays snares for us.

Jesus, our Lord and our God, / may Your Cross be a stronghold for us, and may we be protected beneath it.

Jesus, Word of God, / guard the living by Your Cross, and pardon the dead in Your mercy.

On all the days of our life, / let us thank and worship and praise the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Our God, full of mercy, on the great day when You come, / raise us up at Your right hand.

You who have made us worthy to sing praise to You at this time, / make us worthy to inherit Your kingdom.

May Your mercy be upon us, Lord, / Lord of our death and our life; / have mercy on our souls.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

PSALMS OF NIGHT VIGIL

Awake, you that sleep, and rise and sing praise! [Psalm 148] Praise the Lord from the heavens, / praise Him in the heights.

Praise Him, all His angels; / praise Him, all His hosts.

Praise Him, sun and moon; / praise Him, all stars of light; / praise Him, heaven of heavens, / and the waters above the heavens; / let them praise the name of the Lord.

For He spoke and they were made; / He commanded and they were created; / He established them forever and ever; / He gave them a law, which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth; / sea-monsters and all depths; / fire and hail; snow and mist; / stormy winds that fulfill His word;

Mountains and all hills; / fruit trees and all cedars; / wild beasts and all cattle; / creeping things and birds that fly;

Kings of the earth and all peoples; / princes and all judges of the earth; / young men, too, and maidens; / old men and boys; / let them praise the name of the Lord.

For His name alone is exalted; / His praise is on earth and in heaven, / and He has lifted up the horn of His people; / praise for all the just, / the children of Israel, / the people who draw near to Him.

[Psalm 149] Praise the Lord with a new praise in the assembly of the just; / let Israel be glad in her Maker; / let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with the timbrel and the drum; / let them sing to Him with the harp, / for the Lord takes pleasure in His people / and gives salvation to the poor.

Let the just exult in glory; / let them praise Him on their beds; / let the high praises of God be in their throats / and two-edged swords in their hands;

To execute vengeance on the nations, / and to rebuke the peoples; / to bind their kings with chains; / their nobles with fetters of iron; / to execute on them the judgment which is written; / that is the glory of the just.

[Psalm 150] Praise the Lord in His holy place; / praise Him in the firmament of His strength.

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; / praise Him for His abounding greatness; / praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; / praise Him with lyre and harp.

Praise Him with the timbrel and the drum; / praise Him with the soft strings; / praise Him with the loud cymbals; / praise Him with the sound of the voice; / let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

[Psalm 117] Praise the Lord, all you nations; / praise Him, all you peoples, / for His grace is strong over us; truly the Lord is forever.

And to you belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father... Unto the ages of ages...

Praise to the Holy Trinity!

Praise to the Holy Trinity!

We praise the glorious Trinity, self-existent and eternal;

And to You belongs the praise, O God, at all times.

INTERCESSION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

(Quqliyon – Tone 1)

PETHGOMO

The King's daughter stands in glory
Halleluyah
And the Queen at - Your right hand.

Leave your people and your father's house
Halleluyah
For the King will desi-re your beauty...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

O pride of the faithful ones,
Offer pray'rs on our behalf
To the Only Begotten,
That He have mercy on us.
Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

QOLO

(I'Maryam Yoldath Aloho)

May mem'ry be made of the Mother of God
With the Prophets, Apostles, and the Martyrs
And the Children of the Church upon the earth;
May Good mem'ry be made now and forever...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Glory to the Son of God, Who willed to come
From the womb of the Bless`ed Virgin Mary
And saved the people from err`or by His Birth,
Exalting her mem'ry; may her pray'rs help us.

INTERCESSION OF THE SAINTS

(*Quqliyon – Tone 1*)

PETHGOMO

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree.

Halleluyah

Like cedars of Lebanon – they shall grow.

They shall flourish and be great in old age

Halleluyah

They shall be fruitful – and fragrant...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

‘EQBO

(*Mor Ephrem*)

Your mem’ry, O St. (Thomas),

Be kept here and in Heaven;

May your pray’r be a help to

Those who honor your mem’ry.

Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

QOLO

(*l’Maryam Yoldath Aloho*)

Behold, the time of pray`er, (O St. Thomas)!

Stand and intercede at the head of your flock;

Stretch forth your hand like Moses and bless all those

Who hasten to the sound of your gentle voice....*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Praise to the Father Who chose you, St. (Thomas),

And to the Son Who honors your mem`o`ry;

Worshipped is the Holy Spirit Who crowns you;

By your pray’rs, may mercy be on us always!

INTERCESSION FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

(Quqliyon – Tone 1)

PETHGOMO

As a father shows mercy to His children
Halleluyah
So the Lord shows mercy to those – who fear Him

As for man, his days are like grass
Halleluyah
Like the flow`er of the field – so he blooms...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

May Your living voice awake,
From the graves to Paradise,
Your servants who slept in hope
And trusted in Your mercy.
Stoumen kalos, Kurielaisou.

QOLO

(l'Maryam Yoldath Aloho)

O Savior, raise up the dead who ate Your Flesh
And drank Your Blood, the Chalice of Salvation;
Raise them up from the grave without corruption
And clothe them in glory, those who wait – for You...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

The Son of the King who gives life to the dead
Will be carried above the clouds of beauty;
The righteous who hear the trumpet before Him
Will be clothed in glorious garments and meet Him.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR EPHREM

(Tone 1)

Lord, have mercy upon us
By Your mother's and saints' pray'rs!

May the angel who brought peace
And announced to the virgin
Come and say to us that God
Is reconciled with us all!

May the angel who strengthened
The martyrs in the battle
Come and strengthen us against
The evil one and his pow'rs!

May the angel who sprinkled
Dew on the three holy youths
Sprinkle the dew of mercy
On the bones of all the dead!

Come, brethren, and offer praise
To the Holy Trinity
In mem'ry of the virgin,
The saints, and the departed.

Lord, have mercy upon us
By Your mother's and saints' pray'rs;
Forgive all our offenses
And absolve our departed!

At the conclusion of the Quqliyons and the Bo'utho of Night Vigil, the procession and special service for the Nativity of Our Lord (pg. 51) begins.

HYMN OF THE ANGELS

As the angels and archangels on high in heaven sing praise, / so we poor children of earth sing praise and say:

At all times and at all seasons, glory to God in the heights, / and on earth, peace and tranquility and good hope for the sons of men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, / we raise up a hymn of praise to You.

We give thanks to You because of Your great glory, / Lord our Creator, King of Heaven, / God the Father Almighty.

Lord God, only Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit; Lord God, Lamb of God, Son and Word of the Father, / who take away, or rather have taken away, the sin of the world; / have mercy upon us.

You who take away, or rather have taken away the sin of the world, / incline Your ear to us and receive our prayers;

You who sit in glory at the right hand of the Father, / have compassion on us.

Because You only are holy, You only, Lord Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

At all times and all the days of my life, / I will bless and praise Your name, which is holy and blessed forever, / and which remains forever and ever.

Blessed are You, Lord Almighty, God of our fathers, / and Your name is blessed and glorified in praise forever.

To You belongs glory, to You belongs praise, to You belongs honor, / God of all, Father of truth, / with the only Son and living Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, do not close the door of Your mercy in our faces. We confess that we are sinners, have mercy upon us. / O Lord, Your love made You descend to us from Your place, / that, by Your death, our death might be abolished. / Have mercy upon us. Amen.

THE ORDER OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

PROCESSION*(Lathumo d'Haymonutho – Tone 1)*

The Virgin has borne the Word,
 The Wonderful, Who is
 The Mediator – between God and man!

What wonder, to behold Him,
 God who is clothed in flame,
 Incarnate in flesh – for our salvation!

What wonder, that for nine months
 He remained in the womb
 Yet came forth without – breaking the *Virgin's* seal!

What wonder, that He was seen
 In the world and endured
 The passion and death – for the sake of us!

What wonder, that for three days
 He remained in the tomb
 Then resurrected – and ascended up!

The Son born of the Father
 From before all ages
 Was born of Mary – at the end of days!

Christ the Son, of one nature,
 The Only Begotten,
 Came as He was pleased – for our salvation!

Christ, the Son of the Father
 And the Son of Mary
 Without division – is the First and Last!...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Come tell me, Bless`ed Mary,
 With how much honor did
 You receive the One – who fills both the worlds?

“Through the ear He entered me,
 Which I did not perceive;
 Without moving me - He dwelt in my womb!

I knelt and gave birth to Him
 Who is from before time,
 ‘Am-Halleluyah – and who saved the world!”

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

The myst’ries, the parables
 And the types were fulfilled
 And were completed – through the bless’d Virgin!

The Virgin, the young maiden
 Has conceived without man
 And given birth to – the Ancient of Days!

The dove has raised the Eagle;
 The ewe bore the Lamb Who
 By His sacrifice – redeemed us from sin!

Bless`ed is the Son of God,
 Born of David’s daughter,
 ‘Am-Halleluyah – who saved cre-ation!

PAULINE EPISTLE

I have heard Paul,
 The Bless`ed Apostle, say:
 "If any man or angel
 Teaches a gospel to you,
 Other than what we had preached
 Let him be cut off – from the Church."
 Behold how perverse doctrines
 Are springing forth from all sides!
 Bless'ed is he who begins
 And ends in the Lord's teachings.

Deacon: The reading is from... **People:** Glory be to the Lord of...

Hebrews 1: 1-12

Ahai, ("My brethren"), from of old God spoke to our Fathers by the prophets in every manner and in all ways; and in these latter days He has spoken to us by His Son Whom He has appointed heir of all things, and by Whom also He made all the worlds. For He is the brightness of His glory and the express image of His being, upholding all things by the power of His word; and having, through His own person, cleansed our sins, He then sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; and He is altogether greater than the angels, just as the name He has inherited is a more excellent name than theirs. For to which of the angels has God at any time said: You are My Son, this day have I begotten You? And again, I will be to Him a Father and He shall be unto Me a Son. And again, I will be to Him as a Father and He shall be to me a Son. And again, when he brought the first begotten into the world, He said: Let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels He said thus: Who makes His angels spirits; His ministers a flaming fire. But of the Son He said: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; the scepter of Your Kingdom is a righteous scepter. You have loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore, God, even Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your fellows. And from the very beginning You have laid the foundations of the earth; and the heavens are the works of Your hands. They shall pass away but You shall endure; and they all shall wear out like a garment. And as a cloak, You shall fold them up and they shall be changed, but You are the same and Your years shall never end. *Barekmor*.

GOSPEL

(Incense is placed)

Pethgomo

Halleluyah - Halleluyah

The Lord has said to Me You are My Son

On this day I have begotten You_ *(Ps. 2:7)*

Halleluyah

Deacon: *Barekmor.* With stillness, fear and purity, let us attend and listen to the Good News of the living words of God, in the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is read to us.

Priest: † Peace be unto you all.

People: May the Lord God make us worthy, with your spirit.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving proclamation from St. Luke, the Evangelist, who publishes the good news of life and salvation to the world.

People: Blessed is he who has come and is to come: Glory be to Him who sent Him for our salvation, and may His mercy be upon us all, forever.

Priest: Now in the time of the Incarnation of our Lord and our God and our Savior Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God, Who was incarnate of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things did come to pass in this manner. †

People: We believe and confess.

Saint Luke 2: 1-20

Priest: And as it happened in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus to take a census of all the people in his empire. This first census took place during the governorship of Quirinius in Syria. And every man went to be registered in his own city. Joseph also went up from Nazareth, a city of Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem because he was of the house and family of David, with his betrothed, Mary, while she was with child, that they might be registered there. And it came to pass while they were there that her days to be delivered were fulfilled, and she gave birth to her first born son; and she wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger because they had no room where they were lodging. Now there were some shepherds in that region and they were watching their flocks at night. And behold, the Angel of God came to them and the glory of the Lord shone over them; and they were seized with a great fear. And the angel said to them: Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy, which will be to all the world. For this day is born to you in the city of David, a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord. And this is a sign for you: You will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

And suddenly there appeared with the angel a heavenly host, praising God and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and good hope for the sons of men!

**At this time the fire is lit and all present sing the Hymn of the Angels while processing around the fire three times.*

People:

(Syriac)

Teshbuhto l' Aloho bamrawme
w'al ar'o
Shlomo w'sabro tobo labnay nosho

(English)

Glory be to God in the highest,
And on earth
Peace and good hope for the sons of mankind!

(Then the priest shall conclude the reading of the Gospel)

Priest: And it came to pass when the angels departed from them and went to heaven, that the shepherds spoke to one another saying, Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened as the Lord has shown to us. And they came hurriedly and found Mary and Joseph and the Babe laid in a manger. When they saw that, they made known the word which was spoken to them concerning the Boy. And all who heard it were amazed at the things which were spoken by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Priest: † Peace be unto you all.

Priest: O Lord, Jesus Christ, do not close the door of Your mercy in our faces.

People: We confess that we are sinners, have mercy upon us. / O Lord, Your love made You descend to us from Your place, /that by Your death, our death might be abolished. / Have mercy upon us. Amin.

MA'NITHO

(Simplified Malankara Melody/Bethlehem Vazhi Pokumbol)

As I passed by Bethlehem,
I beheld a young maiden;
She held a child and bore milk,
Yet remained as a virgin!
She is mother and virgin
And is indeed full of grace.
Great wonder came upon me.
A voice told me to remain,
And I listened to the sounds,
The lullabies of Mary,
As she was singing praises
To her own beloved Son

Come, Isaiah, and see her,
For in her the prophecies,
The types, and the myst'eries
Of the Son have been fulfilled!
Behold how Emmanuel
Dwells in her and nurses milk!
Behold Him and sing praises,
Rejoicing with the prophets,
For our Lord has descended
Perfecting the parables!

OR

MA'NITHO

('Al Bethlehem - Tone 1)

As I passed by - Bethlehem, I saw
A young maiden, a virgin, - nursing with milk
Her little in fant.
She is virgin - and, yet, a mother;
Truly she is full of grace! - Great amazement
Came upon my soul!
I was consoled - as I stood, listening
To the sound of lullabies - sung by Mary
As she praised her Son!

Come, Isaiah, - see the bless'd virgin
In whom the myst'ries of Christ, - the Son of God,
Are revealed to us!
Come, Isaiah, - see Emmanuel
In the arms of a virgin - and drinking milk
As a newborn child!
Come, Isaiah, - rejoice and sing praise!
Call the prophets to join you, - for Christ has come
To fulfill their words!

MADROSHO*(Ho Qtil Hu b'Mesreyen)*

This day, Christ our Lord, - resembles You,
Which has been passed down - through all ages.

Bless'd is Your first birth - and, Lord, therefore
This day of Your feast - is belov`ed!

Whenever Your feast - visits us, Lord,
By your compassion, - visit us all.

It is evident - humanity
Has need of the day - which speaks of You.

When the nights are long - in December,
This day without end - has dawned for us!

The whole creation - glooms in winter
Yet Your light gladdens - all creation!

New lambs are not seen - but by shepherds,
Likewise, they witnessed - the True Lamb's birth!

The kings and their times - have passed away;
Their feasts and mem'ries - have long vanished.

Your authority - is as this day's,
For it extends through - all the ages.

This great feast, O Lord - absolves our debts
For Your mercies dawn - on us sinners!

Let us not observe - this feast lightly,
For great is this day; - Lord, have mercy!

Mary was carrying - this silent child,
Yet all languages - hide within Him!

Joseph carried Him - while the power
Of all creation - hides within Him!

All the days are bless'd - by this great day;
All feasts made glorious - by this great feast!

This day is greater - than all the days;
For His mercy came - to us sinners!

This day resembles - a ripe cluster
In which the cup of - salvation rests

In Winter, seeds are - hidden in earth,
And the spike of life - sprouts from the womb!

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

The East

Priest: † Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, / weak and sinful, / in both worlds, forever and ever. / Amin.

Priest: Make us worthy, O Lord God, to honor Your birth from the Virgin Mary, to adore in our souls the blessed memory of Your supernatural birth in the flesh, and to exalt Your life-giving Cross with veneration. We beseech You to regenerate us, spiritually, in daily fruitful works that are pleasing unto You. Protect us from all harm under the arms of Your holy Cross, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

‘Eqbo

In the cave of Bethlehem
Is the Lord of creation.
From the east, the Magi came
To honor Him at His birth.
Therefore, faithful, praise the Lord;
Exalt Him now and always!

Maze’qonutho¹

On this day the Son of God
Has been born in Bethlehem;
He has fulfilled all the signs
And myst’ries of the prophets
Who prophesied about Him.
Therefore we honor His birth
And we venerate His Cross!
Therefore, we beseech and say:

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

¹ ‘Loudly intoned prayers

The West

Priest: † Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, / weak and sinful, / in both worlds, forever and ever. / Amin.

Priest: O Only Begotten, Who alone was born of the only, ever-virgin Mary, make Your light to shine forth in our souls, and may we be worthy to cry out with the angels, saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, and good will to mankind,' our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

'Eqbo

To the Lord, Who without change
Was incarnate of Mary
And yet He continued in
The bosom of His Father,
We offer praise without end,
For He alone is glorious!

Maze'gonutho

On this day, the angels brought
Good tidings to the shepherds,
Saying a Savior is born
In the cave of Bethlehem;
The nations rejoice this day
And adore His glorious Cross.
Therefore, we beseech and say:

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

The North

Priest: † Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, / weak and sinful, / in both worlds, forever and ever. / Amin.

Priest: Gladness and exultation were granted to the heavenly hosts, and peace, tranquility, and good hope to those who dwell on earth. By Your birth from the Virgin, O Christ our God, the anger separating Adam from the Father was dissolved. Grant us, our Lord, that we may rejoice in Your feast, and set us free from all manner of anger, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

‘Eqbo

Mary, your spirit rejoiced
And your soul was magnified,
O blessed Theotokos,²
For even after His birth
Your virginity remained;
God the Word was born from you!

Maze’qonutho

On this day, a child was born
Whose name is the Wonderful.
Truly, wonderful is God
Who showed Himself as a child!
All creation worships Him
And adores His saving Cross;
Therefore, we beseech and say:

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

² God-bearer

The South

Priest: † Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, / weak and sinful, / in both worlds forever and ever. / Amin.

Priest: O Son and Word of the eternal Father, Who, of His own free will, came to birth and kept His mother's virginity intact after His birth; grant us to recognize without any doubt that You are true God. Grant us the peace and tranquility which comes from You, with preservation from all harm, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

'Eqbo

This day of Nativity,
The heavenly hosts proclaimed,
"Glory be to God on high;
Peace and good-will on the earth;
And good hope for all mankind!

Maze'qonutho

By Your Cross, our Lord Jesus,
And by *prayers* of Your mother,
Make to cease all afflictions;
Remove rods of wrath from us;
Make peace and tranquility
Dwell throughout earth's four corners.
Therefore, we beseech and say:

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

THE BLESSING OF THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD
(Turning to the east)
Priest: To the One - angels serve,

Response: Holy are - You, O God!__

Priest: To the One - cherubim bless,

Response: Holy are - You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One - seraphim hallow,

Response: Holy are - You, Immortal
Priest: O Sinners, with repentance, entreat say`ing:__

Response: Christ our God, who was born for our salvation,__
have mercy on us.
(Turning to the west)
Priest: To the One - fiery hosts praise,

Response: Holy are - You, O God!__

Priest: To the One - spiritual beings exalt,

Response: Holy are - You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One - mortals worship,

Response: Holy are - You, Immortal
Priest: Children of the faithful Church, entreat say`ing:__

Response: Christ our God, who was born for our salvation,__
have mercy on us.

(Turning to the north)

Priest: To the One - whom the heavens praise,

Response: Holy are - You, O God!__

Priest: To the One - those between exalt,

Response: Holy are - You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One - praised below on earth,

Response: Holy are - You, Immortal

Priest: O Sinners, with repentance, entreat say`ing:__

Response: Christ our God, who was born for our salvation,__
have mercy on us.

(Turning to the south)

Priest: Lord, have mercy - upon us

Response: Lord, be kind - and have mercy

Priest: Lord, accept our service and our entreaties;

Have mercy on us

Response: Glory to - You, O God

Priest: Glory to - You, Creator

Response: Glory to You, Christ the King, Who has mercy__
upon us sinners...*Barekmor*.

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

MORNING PRAYER of NATIVITY

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
one true God;

Glory be to Him, and may His mercy and compassion be upon us
forever. Amin.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, by whose glory, the heaven
and earth are filled. Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is He, who has come and is to come in the name of the Lord;
Glory be to Him in the Highest!

QAUMO

(Trisagion)

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty!

Holy art Thou, Immortal!

† Crucified for us, have mercy on us! *(Three times)*

Lord, have mercy on us!

Lord, be kind and have mercy!

Lord, accept our service and our prayers!

Have mercy on us!

Glory be to Thee, O God!

Glory be to Thee, O Creator!

Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King

Who has compassion on His sinful servants...*Barekmor*

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts and sins as we
also have forgiven our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil one. † For Thine is the kingdom, the power
and the glory, forever and ever. Amin.

† Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds, forever and ever. Amin.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

Priest: O King of Glory, Who dwelt like a simple man in the Virgin's womb and truly took flesh from the young maiden; who was born as a poor man in the cave in order to save all peoples; make us worthy, O my Lord, that with the Virgin in whom You dwelt amazingly; and with the earth that embraced You with gladness at your birth; and with the shepherds who longed for You with joy; and with the Magi who worshipped You with rejoicing; and with the heavens that praised You gloriously, we may offer glory and praise to You and to Your Father and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin.

Psalms of Morning

[Psalm 51] Have mercy on me, O God, in Your loving kindness; / in the abundance of Your mercy blot out my sin.

Wash me thoroughly from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin, / for I acknowledge my fault and my sins are before me always.

Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight, / that You may be justified in Your words / and vindicated in Your judgment, / for I was born in guilt and in sin did my mother conceive me.

But You take pleasure in truth and You have made known to me the secrets of Your wisdom. / Sprinkle me with Your hyssop and I shall be clean; / wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Give me the comfort of Your joy and gladness, / and the bones, which have been humbled shall rejoice. / Turn away Your face from my sins and blot out all my faults.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, / and renew Your steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me from Your presence / and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

But restore to me Your joy and Your salvation / and let Your glorious spirit sustain me, / that I may teach the wicked Your way / and sinners may return to You.

Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, / and my tongue shall praise Your justice. / O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall sing Your praise.

For You do not take pleasure in sacrifices; / by burnt offerings You are not appeased. / The sacrifice of God is a humble spirit; / a heart that is contrite God will not despise.

Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion / and build up the walls of Jerusalem. / Then shall You be satisfied with sacrifices of truth / and with whole burnt-offerings; / then shall they offer bullocks upon Your altar.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'ENYONO

(*Malakho d'Nuhro w'Darwozo*)

The angel of light and joy_
 Came and appeared to the shepherds
 To announce to them the good news:
 "In the town of Bethlehem,
 The Savior of all is born!"

This day of Nativity_
 The watchers from above announced
 Good tidings of peace and concord:
 "Glory to God in the heights,
 And on earth good hope t'ward man!"

The shepherds came to the cave_
 And when they entered it they saw
 Mary, Joseph, and the infant;
 The shepherds offered their gifts
 And departed rejoicing...*Barekmor*.

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

The hosts of angels shouted_
 Praised, and glorified the infant,
 Who by His birth did reconcile
 Those above with those below.
 Praise to Him and His Father!

[Psalm 63] Kurielaison. My God, You are my God; / I will seek You.

My soul thirsts for You / and my flesh seeks for You / like the thirsty earth, which is parched and begging for water.

So have I looked for You in truth, / that I may see Your power and Your glory,

Because Your loving-kindness is better than life, / and my lips shall praise You.

So I will bless You while I live / and will lift up my hands in Your name.

My soul shall be enriched as with marrow and fat, / and my mouth shall praise You with lips of praise.

I have remembered You upon my bed, / and in the nighttime I have meditated on You.

For You have been my helper, / and in the shadow of Your wings is my protection.

My soul follows after You, / and Your right hand upholds me.

Those who seek to destroy my soul / shall enter into the lower parts of the earth.

They shall be delivered over to the sword / and shall be food for foxes, / but the king shall rejoice in God.

Everyone who swears by Him shall glory, / but the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

‘ENYONO
(*Qadisho Dashri Shkhinteh*)

The Virgin bore the Wonder,
The eternal Mighty One;
The shepherds and the Magi
Offered their gifts unto Him.

In the cave at Bethlehem
Was born our King, Jesus Christ;
Angels, shepherds, and wise men
Came to honor their Savior.

On this day was born the child,
Almighty God forever,
As the prophet Isaiah,
The son of Amos, foretold...*Barekmor*.

*† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore*

O Lord God, Who by Your love
Lowered Yourself for our sake,
In compassion and mercy
Visit and heal all our souls!

[Psalm 19] Kurielaison. The heavens declare the glory of God;/ the firmament proclaims His handiwork. / Day to day brings forth speech;/ night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard. / Yet their good tidings go out through all the earth / and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens, He has set His tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber;/ it will rejoice like a strong man to run his course.

Its departure is from the end of the heavens, / while its repose is at the end of the heavens, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is flawless and it turns the soul. / The testimony of the Lord is trustworthy and makes infants wise. / The commandments of the Lord are right, and they make the heart rejoice. / The precepts of the Lord are chosen, and they illumine the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure and it endures forever. / The judgments of the Lord are true and are more righteous than all. / They are more desirable than gold and even than precious stones. / They are sweeter than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, Your servant will be warned by them;/ If he keeps them, he will be greatly rewarded, but who can discern his errors? / Clear me from hidden faults.

Keep Your servant away from iniquity, lest the evil doers have dominion over me, / and I shall be purified from my sins. / O Lord, my helper and Savior, / let the words of my mouth be according to Your will / and the meditation of my heart be acceptable before You.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'ENYONO
(*Bro Dashro b'Marb'o*)

In the morning, the Magi
Carried their gifts and brought them
 To the King born in the cave
 And adored and worshipped Him.
 Bless`ed are You, O Lord our God!

A luminous cloud covered
The great Sun born in the flesh;
 The Lord who begot Adam
 Was born of the Bless'd Virgin!
 Bless`ed are You, O Lord our God!

"How shall I call You, my Son?
I have become God's mother!
 The Son I bore is ancient,
 And I am born, by my Son!
 Bless`ed are You, O Lord our God!

The watchers in the heavens,
The shepherds inside the cave,
 And the faithful in the Church
 Minister Him on this day.
 Bless`ed are You, O Lord our God!...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

He Who exists forever
In the bosom of his Father
 Today has manifested
 From the pure womb of Mary!
 Bless`ed are You, O Lord our God!

[Isaiah 42:10-13, 45:8] Kurielaison. Sing to the Lord a new song, / His praise from the ends of the earth! / Let those who go down to the sea in its fullness, / the islands and their inhabitants, / praise the Lord!

Let the desert and its villages rejoice! / Let Kedar be meadows; / let the inhabitants of steep rocks praise Him! / Let them shout from the top of the mountains. / Let them give glory to the Lord / and declare His glory in the islands!

The Lord will go forth like a mighty man / and like a warrior, He stirs up fury; / He will cry out and become mighty / and will triumph over His enemies.

Let the clouds rain down righteousness; / let the earth open and salvation increase, / and let righteousness spout forth altogether. / I am the Lord who created them...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'ENYONO
(Shmayone Shubho Zomrin)

The One by Whom the heavens
Are filled and whom angels praise
Was laid down in a manger,
And creation worships Him!

Adam blamed his transgression
On Eve who came forth from him;
Mary who bore the Savior
Has today cast out their shame.

Tamar stole from Judah's seed
The King who was hidden there;
Today, the beauty has dawned
Which he had loved secretly...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

On this day, the Light has dawned
 On the land veiled in darkness
 and called its inhabitants
 To rejoice in the Great Light.

*[Psalm 113] Amin. Praise you servants of the Lord; / praise the
 Name of the Lord.*

May the Lord's name be blessed / forever and forever.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting, / great is the name of the
 Lord.**

The Lord is high above all peoples, / and His glory is above the
 heavens.

**Who is like the Lord our God, / Who sits on high / and looks upon
 the depths in heaven and on earth?**

He raises up the poor from the dunghill / and makes him sit with
 the princes of the people. / He gives the barren woman a home /
 and makes her a joyful mother of children.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

'ENYONO
(*'Am Kenshe Shmayone*)

Today, the watcher in the heights descended
To see His birth in the flesh_,
And inside the cave
Praises of angels and men - joined to-gether.
Come, exalt Him forever!

Mary laid down the Son who manifested
From her womb in the manger_.
While in the manger,
He cried as an infant and - angels trembled.
Come, exalt Him forever!

The star had attracted and drawn the Magi
To see His birth in the flesh_.
They beheld the child
With Mary His mother and - they worshipped Him.
Come, exalt Him forever!

The First-Born came down and became incarnate
In the body of Mary_;
The shepherds sang praise;
All the angels knelt down and - they worshipped Him
Come, exalt Him forever!... *Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

O Messiah, who was wrapped in swaddling clothes
And had lain in the manger_,
In Your great mercy
Be pleased to absolve our debts - by Your gesture!
Come, exalt Him forever!

[Matthew 5:3-12] *Kurielaison*. **Blessed are the poor in spirit, / for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn, / for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, / for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, / for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, / for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, / for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, / for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, / for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you / and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, / for great is your reward in heaven, / for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

‘ENYONO
(*Shubho Lokh Mshiho*)

The star had announced – the birth of the Lord
And the Magi came
Off’ring gold, myrrh, and - incense to Your majesty.

Those men from Persia – came to Bethlehem,
And they worshipped You;
Praise to the Father – who sent You, O Lord our God!

Peace be on the earth, – concord in Heaven,
For the Lord has come
Manifesting for – the salvation of Adam... *Barekmor*.

*† May we be worthy - to offer glory, - honor, worship, and
exaltation - to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

Unto the ages - of ages and forevermore.

The Nativity – of the Messiah
Brought great hope and joy
To the first Adam – and to all of creation

Staumen Kalos, Kurielaison.

PRUMIYON

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and compassion.

People: O merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Priest: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and unceasing exaltation truly at all times and all hours, may we ascribe unto You, O Lord.

Glory be to that invisible Child Who is hidden in His existence in the bosom of the Father; Who, by His will and of His Father and of His Living and Holy Spirit, was pleased to be manifested and to be revealed by His grace exalted above the worlds and greater than all of creation; Who, being the incorporeal and spiritual One, came toward His creation; Who was seen in the glorious womb of His mother hidden from the world and Who came for His nativity by His love for humanity, enriching everything by His fullness. To Him belongs glory, honor, and worship at this time of the Nativity of our Lord and at all times, seasons, hours, and all the days of our life.

People: Amin.

SEDRO

Priest: Glory and praise be to You, the Eternal Son Who had no beginning, Whom the Virgin bore at the fullness of time as a man. Glory to the Lord of lights, Who came forth from the womb like the sun and gave light to all creation by the appearance by Your glorious manifestation; Who nourishes infants in the womb and became Himself an infant. You who are before all creatures and worlds became a son of David at the end of time. You who send the dew and the rain on the earth were nourished by the drops of milk from a daughter of David. By Your power, You established the mountains and today You dwell in a cave. By Your might, You uphold

the vault of heaven, yet a young maiden carries You in her arms. You Who dwell in the splendor of power are humbly wrapped up in strips of cloth. You Who are extolled by the hallowing of the Fiery Ones are carried in the arms of Mary and lulled by the songs of a daughter of David. You, Who by gesture give motion to all creatures, crawl on the ground at Bethlehem as a little child. While we meditate on the wonders which You have done for our salvation, and consider Your incarnation for our sake, we are filled with wonder and say:

Wonderful are You, O God of Wonder who became man without change in Your divine nature. Wonderful are You Who dwelt in a cave while heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Wonderful are You, for You were seen in the flesh for our salvation. Wonderful are You, for You dwelt in the cave while the heaven and earth are completely filled by Your presence. Wonderful are You, for while Your essence is infinite, you remained in the bosom of the Virgin. Wonderful are You for You became man, being invisible and ineffable God. Wonderful are You, for You had gathered together the angels, the shepherds, and the Magi and they came to worship Your honor fittingly. Wonderful are You, for You had indeed sown by Your Nativity peace and harmony between the celestial and the earthly ones. Wonderful are You, for on the day of Your Nativity, You gladdened the heavenly and the earthly ones and demolished the barrier that stood in their midst. Wonderful are You, for the young maiden carried You, Who uphold the four quarters of the earth by Your gesture. Wonderful are You, for You had nursed milk, You Who sustain creation. Wonderful are You, for the heavenly and the earthly ones astonished at Your birth praised You unceasingly. Wonderful are You, for You united those who are above with those below on the day of Your Nativity and they united in a chorus of praise to You. Wonderful are You, for the chariot of fire carries Your majesty above and the virgin carried You while Your gesture upholds creation. Wonderful are You, for the fiery ones are afraid of Your splendour, yet the Magi and the shepherds beheld You as a

man. Wonderful are You, for there was abundant hope on the day of Your nativity for the race of Adam. Wonderful are You, for You, while being divinely extolled on Your glorious throne, were raised upon the knees of the virgin as an infant. Wonderful are You, for by Your birth You saved Your image from the servitude of rebellious demons. Wonderful are You, for Your light dawned upon creation and drove away darkness from the four corners of the earth on the day of Your Nativity. Wonderful are You, for You reconciled by Your incarnation the Father with His creation, and established peace and concord on the earth. Wonderful are You, for the heavenly ones cried aloud on the day of Your birth and announced to the shepherds: "To you the Savior is truly born in the city of David." Wonderful are You, for on Your Nativity, the fiery ones sang praises and announced peace on earth and good hope to mankind. Wonderful are You and completely ineffable in the history of your incarnation for our salvation.

Therefore, O Wonderful Child, we humbly beseech You with this fragrant incense that we offer before You on this day of Your holy and glorious birth from the Virgin Mary, that You will grant us true knowledge concerning Your incarnation for our sake and a right understanding in regard to Your taking flesh for our salvation. Grant us remission of debts and forgiveness of sins, and complete deliverance from all sorrows and afflictions of soul and body. Be, O Lord, the One Who absolves and cleanses the sinners; and Who perfects and sanctifies the penitents; and Who aids and supports always the children of Your Church. Make memory of our fathers, brethren, leaders, and the faithful departed who have fallen asleep in Your hope. Make us and them worthy to stand at Your right hand with gladness in Your Kingdom, forever. We will offer praise and thanksgiving to You, and to Your Father, and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin.

QOLO

(Bkhul Medem Ethbaqith – Tone 1)

Today there is joyous news – for Mary, the bless'd virgin,
Has borne for us the Savior of the worlds!

The Magi followed the star and they worshipped Him;

The angels and shepherds offered worship to Him;

The seraphim adored him,

And the cherubim sang praise;

The Virgin Mary nursed Him – and Joseph sang praises to

The Ancient of Days wrapped in swaddling clothes...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

What wonder, my beloved, – how God the Word descended,
Dwelt in Mary's womb, and took flesh from her!

She conceived Him through her ear and remained virgin;

Her seal was unbroken; He entered in spirit

It is a wonder that He

Was born of a virgin's womb!

Bless`ed is the Lord who came – and offered us salvation

With the body he had assumed from us!

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

O Christ, who promised new life – to the children of Adam
And told Your faithful in your great gospel:

“Everyone who eats My flesh and drinks of My blood

Dwells in Me and I in him and I will raise him.”

O Lord, give life by Your grace

To all Your faithful servants,

And when You come in glory – with the glor`i`ous angels,

Lord, let them enter the bridal-chamber

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

‘ETRO

Priest: O Blessed Fruit and Fragrant Incense that sprouted without seed nor watering from the dry land – the Virgin Mary – and lay down in Bethlehem Ephratha in a manger beside the animals for the salvation of all generations; by whose spiritual fragrance those far and near were gladdened, place Yourself now, O Lord, in the spiritual Bethlehem of our spirits. Receive incense from the invisible censers of the temples in our hearts. By the sweet fragrance of Your love, gladden all the senses of our souls, that with joy and exaltation, we may praise You and with gladness celebrate Your feast and exult with glorifications before You, and Your Father, and Your Holy Spirit, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin.

QOLO

(Lokh Moryo Qorenan – Tone 1)

The angels came and announced the good tidings,
 That, today, the King has been born in Bethlehem.
The Shepherds brought the lambs of their flock to Him,
 For the Living Lamb of God who came for our sake.

Praise to Him – whom they saw in flesh!

Praise to Him – who had become man!

Praise to Him, for by His birth He saved us from sin...*Barekmor.*

† Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

All the prophets spoke by the Holy Spirit;
 They foretold of Your myst'ries, Lord, and Your coming.
Isaiah prophesied of Your conception;
 David of Your birth and Micah of Your power;
 Ezekiel – of your chariot;
 And Daniel – of your *glorious* throne.
 Praise to You who by Your birth saved all creation!

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore.

Let us beseech Christ for all the departed
 Who ate his body and drank his life-giving blood
 That the darkness of sin not reign over them,
 Over their souls and their spirits in the Kingdom.
 Lord receive - the spirits of those
 Who confessed - You and Your Passion;
 Call to them and raise them up at Your right-hand side!

INTERCESSION - QUQLIYON

Pethgomo

(Tone 1)

The King's daughter stands in glory – Halleluyah w' Halleluyah
And the Queen at - Your right hand.

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree – Hal-Hal
Like cedars of Lebanon – they shall grow.

As a father shows mercy to his children – Hal-Hal
So the Lord shows mercy to those – who fear Him... *Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and for ever more

'Eqbo

Glory be to God on high;
Honor be to His mother;
Crowns of praise for His martyrs;
Grace and mercy for the dead.
Stoumen Kalos, Kurielaison

Qolo

(*Shlomo d'Abo – Tone 1*)

The Father granted His peace
Unto_ the bless`ed vi_rgin.
Through the angel Gabr`i`el
He greeted Mary and spoke:
"The Lord is with you, Mary
And He_ shall come forth from_ you" ... *Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Peace be with all the prophets;
Peace be_ with the apo_stles;
Peace be with the bles's'd martyrs
Who loved the Lord God of peace;
Peace be with the Holy Church
In which_ the sons of peace_ dwell.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

We remember our Fathers
 Who taught_ us during their_ life
 To be the children of God;
 The Son of God will grant them
 Comfort along with the just
 And the_ righteous in hea_ven.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB

Sing praise, - sing Halleluyah and - Halleluyah
 As the shepherds in - Bethlehem - sang praise to Him!

Today, - let the head of our race, - Adam, rejoice,
 For he attained di-vinity - as he had asked;

Today, - let Eve praise and rejoice - more than Adam,
 For the Child removed - her sorrows - and came through her_;

(Shuhllofo)

The support has_ today - risen to be the rod
 For the world that - had fa-llen by idolatry;

Today, the shoot_ sprouted - from the house of Jesse
 To give its wine_ as drink - to the thirsty, dry land.

(End of Shuhllofo)

Sing praise, - sing Halleluyah and - Halleluyah
 As the shepherds in - Bethlehem - sang praise to Him_!

Trisagion

(Chanted in the 1st Tone)

Holy art Thou, O God! - Halleluyah
 Holy art Thou, Almighty! - Kurielaison
 Holy art Thou, Immortal!
 † Whose Cross – redeemed us *(Repeat Three Times)*

Lord, have mercy on us - Halleluyah
 Lord be kind and have mercy - Kurielaison
 Lord, accept our service and our prayers
 Have mercy on us.

Glory to Thee, O God! - Halleluyah
 Glory to Thee, Creator - Kurielaison
 Glory to Thee, Christ the King
 Who has mercy upon us sinners. *Barekmor.*

Our Father, who art in heaven...

3RD HOUR PRAYERS of NATIVITY

Qaumo

QOLO

(Zodeq d'Nehwe – Tone 1)

The Virgin Mary
Bore a Child who weaves crowns for His righteous ones.
And Zion heard this
And was disturbed and moved before see`ing Him.
 Zion had read – the prophets' writings
 And told Herod – where the King was born.
Herod sent his men
Who killed the first-born infants in Bethlehem,
 But his kingdom did perish
And Christ ruled forever.
Let us praise Him at His birth – Halleluyah w' Halleluyah...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Let heaven rejoice
Let earth, the seas, and all races praise this day,
For joy and blessings
Were granted to earth on His Na-tiv-ity:
 The bless'd Virgin – bore the Ancient One;
 The Son of God – lay in the manger;
The angels tremble,
For their Lord is nursing as a new-born child;
 The Magi and the Shepherds
Offered Him their gifts
As if to a King and Lord – Halleluyah w' Halleluyah

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR EPHREM

Son, Who freed us by Your birth,
 Have mercy upon us all!
 Christ, who saved us by Your birth,
 Have mercy upon our souls!

Behold, heaven and the earth
 Rejoice at the Lord's coming!
 Let Micah rejoice today,
 For he prophesied this day!

Let Jeremiah rejoice,
 For he prophesied this day!
 The Ancient whom Daniel saw
 Has been born as an infant!

Son, Who freed us by Your birth,
 Have mercy upon us all!
 Christ, who saved us by Your birth,
 Have mercy upon our souls!

Qaumo

6 th HOUR PRAYERS

Qaumo

QOLO

(I' Malkuth Rawmo – Tone 1)

Mount Sinai trembled – at Your presence, Lord,
 Yet the Bless'd Virgin
 Carried You, Lord, who carries
 All of the heights and the depths!
 She conceived You without man
 And brought You forth wondrously
 Magnify – her mem'ry, O Lord...*Barekmor*.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Saints are invited – to the High Kingdom
 Which ear has not heard,
 Nor has the eye of flesh seen,
 Nor the human heart conceived,
 That which God has prepared for
 Those noble ones who loved Christ.
 Bless'd are those – who are made worthy!

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Those who are sealed in – holy baptism
 With the † seal of Christ,
 Who ate His Holy Body
 And drank His Absolving Blood,
 Shall be raised up from the dust
 To life eternal and shall
 Be clothed in – garments of glory.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR BALAI

Lord, by the pray'r of Your Mother and Saints,
Have mercy on us and our departed.

May the remembrance and pray'rs of Mary
Be a blessing and fortress for our souls.

Prophets, apostles, and holy martyrs,
Beseech and beg for mercy for us all.

O Lord, sprinkle the dew of gladness on
Our departed who have slept in Your hope.

Praise to Him who exalted his mother,
Glorified the saints, and raised up the dead.

(Shuhlofo)

Lord, by the pray'r of - Your mother and saints,
Have mercy on us and our departed.

