

## **Christ is Born; Glorify Him**

“I behold a strange and wonderful mystery, the cave a heaven, the virgin a cherubic throne and the manger a noble place in which hath laid Christ the uncontainable God. Let us therefore praise and magnify him”

*1<sup>st</sup> Cannon of the Nativity, ode 9*

Dear Brethren,

Greetings in the coming glorious birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Great Feast of the Nativity is celebrated every year on our Liturgical calendar from December 24<sup>th</sup> to January 6<sup>th</sup>. These ‘twelve days of Christmas’ begin with Christ’s birth in Bethlehem and culminate in his Baptism and Divine Theophany (manifestation) in the River Jordan.

Christmas for us therefore is a season of birth and becoming for in the gift of His Nativity Christ has come to renew humanity and to renew all creation.

This Sunday, December 24 we will celebrate Liturgy as normal at 10:30am (The Sunday before Nativity). Since Christmas falls on a Monday this year we will gather on Sunday evening (December 24) to celebrate the Feast starting at 9:00pm with the Festive Matins followed by The Divine Liturgy at 10:00pm.

The week following on Friday, January 5, 2018, Ss. Peter and Paul Church will celebrate the Feast of Theophany starting at 6:00pm with Matins followed by the Divine Liturgy and The Great Blessing of the Waters.

Please plan on attending as many of these services as possible. May this holy season bring to each and every one of you and your families God’s ‘uncontainable Gift’ and may the coming New Year bring peace to our world and to the Holy City of Jerusalem.

In Christ,  
Your Father and Servant  
Fr. Isaac Crow