

The Orthodox Church in America DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

December 25, 2021

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, proclaiming the present mystery; for He hath broken the middle wall of partition, and the flaming spear shall turn about, and the cherubim shall admit all to the tree of life. As for me, I shall return to enjoy the bliss of paradise from which I was driven away before, by reason of iniquity; for the likeness of the Father, and the Person of His



eternity, which it is impossible to change hath taken the likeness of a Servant, coming from a Mother who has not known wedlock; free from transubstantiation, since He remained as He was, true God, and took what had not been, having become Man for His love of mankind. Wherefore, let us lift our voices unto Him crying, O Thou Who wast born of the Virgin, O God, have mercy upon us.

Have a blessed Feast of the Nativity and a Joyous New Year! May our Lord bless you with good health, length of days and a happy and peaceful new year! Thank you for your faithful and tireless service to Christ's Holy Church.

Yours in Christ,

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+ Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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