









**FEAST**

**DAY**

**ICONS**

*The Nativity  
of the  
Theotokos*

*The Entrance  
of the  
Theotokos  
into the  
Temple*

*The Elevation  
of the  
Cross*

*The Nativity of  
Our Lord,  
Jesus Christ*

*Theophany  
or  
Epiphany*

*The  
Annunciation  
of the  
Theotokos*

*The  
Presentation of  
Our Lord  
to the  
Temple*

*The Entrance of  
Our Lord  
into  
Jerusalem  
[Palm Sunday]*

***PASCHA:  
The  
Resurrection  
of  
Our Lord***

***Pentecost:  
the Coming  
of the  
Holy Spirit***

***The  
Ascension  
of  
Our Lord***

***The  
Transfiguration  
of  
Our Lord***

*The  
Dormition  
of the  
Theotokos*

NAMES

OF

THE

FEAST DAYS

**Celebrated  
September 8th**

**(September 21)**

**Celebrated  
November 21st**

**(December 5th)**

**Celebrated  
September  
14th**

**(September 27th)**

**Celebrated  
December 25th**

**(January 7th)**

**Celebrated  
January 6<sup>th</sup>**

**(January 20th)**

**Celebrated  
March 25<sup>th</sup>**

**(April 7th)**

**Celebrated  
February 2**

**(February 15)**

**Celebrated on  
the  
Sunday before  
Pascha**

**Celebrated on  
the first  
Sunday after  
the Spring  
Equinox after  
Passover**

**Celebrated 50  
days after the  
Resurrection  
Pascha**

**Celebrated 40  
days after the  
Resurrection  
[Pascha]**

**Celebrated on  
August 6  
(August 19)**

**Celebrated on**

**August 15**

**(August 28)**

**DATES**

**OF THE**

**FEAST DAY**

**CELEBRATIONS**

## *Troparion*

Your nativity, O Virgin,  
has proclaimed joy to the whole  
universe!  
The Sun of Righteousness, Christ  
our God,  
has shone on thee, O Theotokos!  
By annulling the curse,  
He bestowed a blessing.  
By destroying death,  
He has granted us Eternal Life.

## *Troparion*

Today is the prelude of the good  
will of God,  
of the preaching of the salvation of  
mankind.  
The Virgin appears in the Temple of  
God,  
In anticipation proclaiming Christ to  
all.  
Let us rejoice and sing to her:  
Rejoice,  
O Fulfillment of the Creator's  
dispensation!

## *Troparion*

O Lord, save Your people,  
and bless Thine inheritance.  
Grant victories to the Orthodox  
Christians  
over their adversaries,  
and by virtue of Your Cross,  
preserve Your habitation.

## *Troparion*

Your Nativity, O Christ our God,  
Has shone to the world the Light of  
Wisdom!  
For by it, those who worshipped the  
stars,  
Were taught by a star to adore Thee  
The Sun of Righteousness!  
And to know Thee, the Orient from  
on high.  
O Lord, Glory to Thee!

## ***Troparion***

When You, O Lord, were baptized  
in the Jordan,  
The Worship of the Trinity was  
made manifest!  
For the voice of the Father bore  
witness to You,  
And called You His Beloved Son!  
And the Spirit, in the form of a  
dove,  
Confirmed the truthfulness of His  
Word.  
O Christ our God, who has revealed  
Yourself  
And has enlightened the world,  
Glory to You!

## ***Troparion***

Today is the beginning of our  
salvation, the revelation of the  
Eternal Mystery! The Son of God  
becomes the Son of the Virgin as  
Gabriel announces the coming of  
Grace. Together with him, let us cry  
to the Theotokos: Rejoice! Mary,  
full of grace, the Lord is with you!

## ***Troparion***

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full  
of Grace!  
From you shone the Sun of  
Righteousness,  
Christ our God,  
Enlightening those who sat in  
darkness!  
Rejoice and be glad, O Righteous  
Elder;  
You accepted in your arms the  
Redeemer of our souls,  
Who grants us the Resurrection.

## ***Troparion***

By raising Lazarus from the dead  
before your passion. You did  
confirm the universal resurrection,  
O Christ God! Like the children  
with the palms of victory, we cry  
out to You, O Vanquisher of death:  
Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is  
He that comes in the name of the  
Lord!

## *Troparion*

Christ is risen from the dead,  
trampling down death by death, and  
upon those in the tombs bestowing  
life!

## *Troparion*

You were transfigured upon the  
mountain, O Christ Our God,  
showing to Your disciples Your  
glory as much as they as could bear.  
Do also in us sinners, though we be,  
shine Your everlasting light. At the  
intercession of the Theotokos, O  
Giver of Light, glory to You! (Fr.  
Seraphim Dedes)

## *Troparion*

You ascended in glory, O Christ our  
God, making the Disciples joyful  
with the promise of the Holy Spirit.  
And this blessing convinced them  
that You are the Son of God, the  
Savior of the World!

## *Troparion*

O blessed are You, O Christ our  
God, Who by sending down the  
Holy Spirit upon them made the  
fishermen wise, and through them  
illuminated the world and to You the  
universe was drawn, all glory to  
You. O Lord. (Villas, Green Book)

## *Troparion*

In giving birth, you preserved your  
virginity!

In falling asleep you did not forsake  
the world, O Theotokos!

You were translated to life, O  
Mother of Life,

And by your prayers you deliver our  
souls from death!

**FEAST**

**DAYS**

**TROPARIA  
(HYMNS)**

## ***About the Icon***

**St. Anna** -the central figure of this feast's icon - is an elderly woman, robed in blue and attended by nurses and mid-wives,

The **Theotokos** is shown held in the arms of a nurse at her mother's bedside, and being presented to the gray-bearded **St. Joseph** by another nursemaid (lower right).

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

## ***About the Icon***

**Ss. Joachim and Anna** are shown as an elderly couple on the left side of the icon - **Joachim** with white hair and beard, **Anna** robed in blue.

The **Theotokos** appears as a miniature adult in the center of the icon, rather than an infant.

The high priest **Zachariah** is to Mary's right. He receives her with open arms. Zachariah, the father of St. John the Baptist, is depicted as white-haired and elderly.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## ***About the Icon***

The central figure in the icon is **St. Makarios, Bishop of Jerusalem**, who holds the Cross high above the crowd for veneration.

In the crowd are **St. Helen** (crowned woman, lower left) and her son, **Constantine the Great** (crowned man, lower right), along with scores of saintly bishops, priests and deacons, and the citizens of Jerusalem.

Above the Cross is the domed **Church of the Holy Sepulcher** that SS. Constantine and Helen built over the site.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

## ***About the Icon***

In the center of the icon is a **scroll on a stand** that reminds us of the Old Testament prophecy of Isaiah that a "virgin shall bear a child."

The **Angel Gabriel** (on the left) points to Mary. His hand is centered over the scroll as a fulfillment of that prophecy.

**Mary**, on the right, holds a spool of woolen yarn in her left hand. Just as sheep give their wool to clothe us, so the Theotokos gave her flesh and blood to clothe the Son of God in a garment of humanity.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

In the center of the icon we see the **infant Christ-Child** lying in a manger or fodder bin, tightly swaddled (wrapped), next to the Theotokos who is reclining on a blanket.

A **cow** (the earthly) and the **star** (the heavenly) remind us that all of creation rejoices at the birth of the Messiah.

**St. Joseph – the Guardian of Christ and His Mother** - is being tempted to doubt the virgin birth by the elderly hunchbacked Satan. Satan is the only figure wearing dark colors.

From the left we see the **Magi** coming to adore Christ and bring gifts. The **hosts of angels** worship Christ from above, and announce His coming to the **shepherd** (pictured facing the angels at right).

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

**St. Joseph** is shown on the extreme left, as an elderly man with white hair and beard. He is sometimes depicted holding a cage with two turtledoves for the offering.

The **Theotokos** stands beside him with her arms extended toward her Son, Jesus. She is traditionally shown in blue garments.

The **center gates to the Holy of Holies**, the most sacred section of the Temple, are seen in the background.

The elderly St. Simeon holds the infant Christ **the God-Receiver** in front of and above those doors.

Behind St. Simeon stands **St. Anna the Prophetess**,

*Taken from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

**Christ** stands in the Jordan River at the center of the icon.

Dressed in brown animal skins and a green cloak, the ascetical **Forerunner and Baptist John** looks disheveled. He stands on the bank to the left of Christ with his hand raised.

The **Holy Spirit**, in the form of a dove, is directly over Christ.

To the right, the **angels** stand in an attitude of worship to the Trinity.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

**Christ** is the central figure and is depicted seated upon a donkey.

**The Disciples** are on the extreme left, and the **Jews** on the extreme right.

The **children** are the miniature people. One is climbing the tree to cut branches and other is in front of the donkey spreading out a garment before Christ.

The **city of Jerusalem** is shown as the walled buildings on the right; the **dome symbolizes the Temple**.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

**Christ** — the central figure, is robed in white to denote His Divinity; the aureole [elongated halo] encompasses Him; at His feet are the demolished brass gates of Hades and the keys and broken locks to these gates .

**Adam our Forefather** — is being pulled from his tomb by the right hand of Christ; he is portrayed as an old man with white hair and beard.

**Eve our Forbearer** —is being pulled from her tomb by the left hand of Christ; she is portrayed as an old woman.

**The Righteous of the Old Testament** — the group on the left lived and died before the Incarnation; the two figures in the front Holy Kings David and his son Solomon the Wise.

**The Righteous of the New Testament** — the group on the right died after the Incarnation but before Christ's death and resurrection; the two figures in the front of the group are Saint John the Forerunner and St. Joseph the Guardian of Christ.

*Taken from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak*

## *About the Icon*

**Christ** is the central figure. As He ascends into Heaven He bestows a blessing upon the world and promises to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit. He is clothed in white to signify the brilliant Light of His divinity.

**The Theotokos** is the figure below Christ.

**The Disciples** are in two groups, on either side of the Theotokos.

*Taken from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

## *About the Icon*

**The Disciples** – Tradition relates that they were gathered in the same Upper Room where they had shared the Last Supper with Christ.

**The Book of the Gospels** - Now that Christ is Ascended and sits on the right hand of the Father, the place of honor is occupied by the Book of the Gospels. In some icons, the Theotokos, the mother of the church community, is seated in the center.

**The World** – the entire creation/cosmos received the outpouring of the holy Spirit and is symbolized by a crowned figure sitting in the middle of the Disciples. He holds twelve scrolls in a cloth, the preaching of the twelve Disciples. Sometimes he is shown sitting in a dark cave, which represents that all of the creation was sitting in darkness waiting for the coming of Christ. He is call Cosmos.

In some icons **tongues of fire** are above the heads of the Disciples.

*Adapted from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak*

## *About the Icon*

**Christ** is the central figure; He is clothed in white and completely surrounded by an aureole (elongated halo) to is shown from Him.

**St. Elijah the Prophet** is pictured on the left, and **St. Moses the Lawgiver** on the right. Moses holds in his hands the tablets of the Ten Commandments that he received on Mount Sinai.

**The Disciples Peter, James and John** are the three figures shown below Christ; they are portrayed as being overcome by the Uncreated Light of Divinity.

*Taken from The Icon Book by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie, and Matusiak.*

## ***About the Icon***

The **Theotokos** is depicted upon the funeral bier.

**Christ**, standing behind the Theotokos, has come to receive His Mother's soul into heaven; He holds in His left arm an infant in white, symbolizing the soul of the Theotokos. Christ also is robed in white and appears in an aureole (elongated halo) depicting the Light of His Divinity.

**The Apostles** are depicted on either side of the bier; the group on the left is led by St. Peter who stands at the head of the bier; the group on the right is led by St. Paul who stands at the foot of the bier.

Below the bier is a figure of **Antonius the Jew**, who tried to disrupt the procession, was punished, but later repented of his sins and embraced Christianity through Baptism.

*Taken from The Icon Book, by Boojamra, Essey, McLuckie & Matusiak.*

**FEAST  
DAY**

**DESCRIPTIONS  
OF THE  
ICONS**

***FUN FACTS***

The Theotokos appears twice in this Feast Day icon.

***FUN FACTS***

The Theotokos is but a toddler [age 3 or 4] in this Feast Day icon.

***FUN FACTS***

There are people from both the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries in this Feast Day icon.

***FUN FACTS***

This is the only Feast Day icon that includes Satan.

***FUN FACTS***

This Feast Day icon depicts the first time that the Holy Trinity manifest/shows itself.

***FUN FACTS***

A special visitor in this Feast Day icon surprises the Theotokos.

***FUN FACTS***

In this Feast Day icon we see two very old people waiting to see the Messiah, the Christ.

***FUN FACTS***

This is the only Feast Day icon that includes children.

***FUN FACTS***

This Feast Day icon includes Adam and Eve.

***FUN FACTS***

Fire and wind are part of the story of this Feast Day icon.

***FUN FACTS***

In this Feast Day icon Jesus is shown sending the Holy Spirit.

***FUN FACTS***

In this Feast Day icon we see three Disciples rolling down the mountain.

***FUN FACTS***

Someone gets his hands cut off in this Feast Day icon.

**FEAST**

**DAY**

**FUN**

**FACTS**

**FEAST DAY  
MATCHING GAME**

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