

The Order of the Feast of the

Nativity of our Lord

according to the rite of the
Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church



Hymns based on the original prose translation from Syriac by
Fr. Dr. Baby Varghese

2013

This book contains the entire service for the Feast of the Nativity which includes: Evening (Ramsho), Compline (Sutoro), Night (Lilio), Morning (Safro), 3rd Hour, 6th Hour, Nativity Service at the fire pit, Exaltation of the Cross, & special hymns for the Holy Qurbana.

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'Kitbo* of Ramsho was adapted from a prose translation from Malayalam by Ms. Ceena Varghese.

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This has been approved by the Diocesan Metropolitan for use in the Diocese of South-West America. If desiring to use in another Diocese, please receive the consent of the presiding Diocesan Metropolitan. Recordings of select hymns will be made available on the Diocesan website (www.ds-wa.org) to assist in learning the tunes. We pray that this may help our English-speaking faithful to participate and understand the meaningful liturgical hymns composed by our Church Fathers about the Nativity of our Lord.

RAMSHO/EVENING PRAYER

† 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 grace and mercy 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.

The Qaumo

(Trisagion)

Holy art Thou, O God!
Holy art Thou, Almighty,
Holy art Thou, Immortal,

† Crucified for us, Have mercy on us. (*Repeat Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy upon us,
Lord, be kind and have mercy,
Lord, accept our office
And our entreaties, have mercy upon us.

Glory be to Thee, O God!
Glory be to Thee, O Creator,
Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King,
Who pities His sinful servants...*Barek mor*

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.

**[The optional "Hail Mary" can also be said, if desired]*

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. Our Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, our Lord Jesus Christ. O Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at all times, and at the hour of our death. Amin

Celebrant: 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 servants, in both worlds forever, 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 forever.

People: Amin

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 sins my mother conceived 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 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...*Barekmo*

Shub'bo.../Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
Men'olam.../From ages unto ages and forevermore

ENIYONO

(Emo d'Kitbo/Kanyakayam)

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 crawled as a little child
 In Bethlehem – was born by His will
 O God, have mercy on us

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

The One Who was born from the Father
 And from Mary – *in the* fullness of time
 O God, have mercy on us

The One Who drew wise men from the east
 To worship Your – 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...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

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

Psalm 141

Kurieleison

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 my right and see none that knows me: the way of escape has gone from me, and there is none who care 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 a 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 for ever 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...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

QOLO

(Mshibo Ethiled/Mashiba Jaatham Cbei)

The Messiah was born in Bethlehem
 And the Magi came from the east to honor him
 The wise men inquired, “where was born this King
 Whom we are seeking? Let us bow and worship him!”

The luminous star announced to those men:
 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 crying 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 was in awe
 The Son *was* glorified Let us bow and worship Him

On this great feast of the Nativity
 Of the Son of God, a hymn of wonder was sung
 The angels cried out: “Glory be to God
 And peace and good hope to the sons of men on earth!”...*Barek mor*

Shub’ho... Men olam...

Watchers and angels along with shepherds
 Sang praise to the Son who has 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

PROMEON

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 with swaddling clothes and by His compassion laid 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.

People: Amin

(Incense is placed)

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 (*hypostases/qnume*) 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 Lordship 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 have 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 held 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 and forever.

People: Amin

Qolo

(Mshibo Natareh l'Eedthokh – 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
 He remained still and silent, the One who taught men the Word
 Praise to His humility, for He had so lowered His greatness
 That He left the Cherubim and their praises and laid in swaddling
clothes

Barekmor...Shub'bo...

Joseph held and cherished You. Mary, who bore you, rejoiced
 The heavenly hosts came down and approached the earthly ones
 They saw Your honor on earth,
 You, whom angels had never beheld
 They glorified and praised 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 who were made worthy to see
Your greatness

Men olam...

Why did the martyrs taste death but for the resurrection?
 Why did the just ones 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 to the dead, the tombs will open
 And the departed will rise and will go to meet Him when He comes

Moriyo Rabem...

(Incense is placed)

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 by Your holy fragrance, we who were corrupted by sin. 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
 The Magi saw and were struck:
 In Bethlehem on this day
 A child has been wrapped in cloth
 And is laid in a manger
 He is beheld as a man
 But before him, angels tremble
 He is indeed the Son of God
 Who did become incarnate...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho...

The good news of Christ 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

Men olam...

May the dew of life that was sent by the Father
And sprinkled on the three youths
In the furnace of Babylon
Rain upon the departed
In the dwellings of Sheol.
May it absolve and blot out
All the faults of his servants
Who, in His hope, fell asleep
May it grant them the Kingdom

GOSPEL

(Incense is placed)

People: Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah
 The Lord has said to Me, ‘You are My Son
 On this day I have begotten You’¹
 Halleluiah

Deacon: With calmness and reverence and with sober minds, let us attend and listen to the Proclamation 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 Thy Spirit.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving proclamation from St. John the Apostle, who announces 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 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.

(Priest reads John 1: 1-17)

Priest: †Peace be to you all

¹ Psalm 2:7

Quqlion*(Tone 1)*

As a father shows mercy to his children, Halleluiah
 So the Lord shows mercy to those - who fear him

As for man his days are like grass, Halleluiah
 Like the flower of the field – so he blooms...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

Eqbo

May Your living voice awake
 From the graves to paradise
 Your servants who slept in hope
 and trusted in your mercy
Stoumen kalos, Kurielaision

Qolo*(l'Maryam Yoldath Alobo)*

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...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho...

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

Moriyo Rahem...

Bo'utho of St. Jacob

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
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 blessed virgin;

The One before whom Gabr'iel and the angels bow
And Joseph and his family extol in their arms

(Shublofo)

Glory to Him who fills heaven with His greatness
Earth rejoices with peace on His Nativity;

Glory to Him who gladdened the earth by His birth
And to the Father who sent Him and to the Spirit

(End of Shublofo)

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
As the shepherds in Bethlehem sang praise to Him

QAUMO*(Tone 1)*

Holy art Thou, O God
 Holy art Thou, Almighty,
 Holy art Thou, Immortal,
 † Crucified for us Have mercy upon us. *(Repeat Thrice)*

Lord, have mercy upon us,
 Lord be kind and have mercy,
 Lord, accept our offices and entreaties
 Have mercy upon us.

Glory to Thee, O God!
 Glory to Thee, Creator,
 Glory to Thee, Christ the King
 Who pities His sinful servants *Barekmor*

Our Father, who art in heaven...

<p>SUTORO</p>

<p><i>(Prayers for Night Protection/Compline)</i></p>

Qaumo

Qolo

(Morabimin – Tone 1)

Afraid am I for my sins
 lest they should be - a wall which keeps me
 from that - Garden of delights
 which is - kept for all the saints
 Rescue me, O Lord, from hell,
 and where You will, - there, Lord, let me dwell...*Barekemor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

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

Moriyo ...

Bo'utho of St. 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

Psalm 91

Barekmor

You that sit in the shelter of the Most High and abide in glory; in the shadow of God.

Say to the Lord; 'My trust and my refuge; the God in whom I confide'.

For He shall deliver you from the snare of stumbling, and from idle talk.

He shall keep you under His feathers, and by His wings, you shall be covered; and His truth shall encompass you like an armor.

You shall not fear from the terror by night, and from the arrow that flies by the day.

And from the Voice that travels in the darkness, and from the devastating wind in the noon.

Thousands shall fall at your side and ten thousands at your right side.

They shall not come near to you but with your eyes you shall see only; You shall see the revenge of the wicked

Since You have said 'Thou art the Lord, my trust. Who has placed thy abode in the heights'.

There shall not evil come near to you; neither shall any plague draw near to your dwelling place.

For He shall give His angels command concerning you, who shall protect you in all your ways.

And they shall bear you up in their hands, lest your foot stumble.

You shall tread upon the adder and the basilisk; and you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.

For the Lord has said: 'Since he has sought me, I will deliver him and strengthen him'.

'Since he has known my name he shall call upon me and I will answer him, and be with him in affliction'.

I will strengthen him and honor him. With long life, will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

Psalm 121

I will lift up eyes to the mountain, from whence comes my helper.

My help is from the Lord who has made the heaven and the earth.

He will not suffer your foot to tremble; Your keeper shall not slumber.

For neither slumbers, nor sleeps the keeper of Israel;

The Lord is your keeper.

The Lord shall overshadow you with his right hand.

The sun shall not smite you by day nor the moon by night;

The Lord shall take care of you from all evil; the Lord shall take care of your life.

He shall watch over your exit and your entrance, henceforth forever.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. *Barek'mor*

Celebrant: Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

People: Halleluiah – Halleluiah – Halleluiah

Unto to the ages of ages and forever more

PRAYER OF ST. SEVERIOS

O Lord, who sittest in the secret place of the Most High, shelter us beneath the shadow of the wings of thy mercy, and have compassion upon us.

Thou, who hearest all things, in Thy loving kindness, hearken to the supplication of thy servants.

Grant us O Messiah; our Savior! A peaceful evening and a sinless night, for Thou art the King of Glory, and unto Thee, are our eyes lifted up.

Forgive our debts and our sins; have mercy upon us, both in this world and in that to come.

May thy loving kindness shelter us, O Lord, and Thy grace be upon our faces. May Thy cross protect us from the evil one and his hosts.

Let Thy right hand overshadow us all the days of our lives and Thy peace reign among us. Do Thou give hope and salvation to the souls that pray to Thee.

By the prayers of St. Mary, Thy Mother, and of all Thy Saints, O God, forgive us our debts, and have mercy upon us. **Amin**

PRAISE OF THE CHERUBIM

(Ezekiel 3:12)

† 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.

Thou art Holy and glorious for ever
 Thou art Holy and glorious for ever
 Thou art Holy and blessed is thy name, forever and ever.

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

Our Father who art in Heaven...
 We believe in One True God...
Amen, Barekmor, Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

Quqlion

I. SERVICE TO THE MOTHER OF GOD
--

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

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

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

O Pride of the faithful ones
Offer prayers on our behalf
To the Only Begotten
That he have mercy on us
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO

(Qabeloy Moran/Mannamakalkkayishlomo)

Gabriel brought peace to the
Daughter of David
and said, "The Lord is with you
and shall come forth from you...Barekmor

Shub'bo...

Like a ship, Mary carried,
Adored, and honored
The Captain, Who is the Lord
Of all creation

Moriyo...

BO'UTHO*(Mor Ephrem)*

By Your Cross, our Lord Jesus
 And the prayer of Your Mother
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments, and rods of wrath.

II. SERVICE TO THE SAINTS

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, Halleluiah
 Like a cedar of Lebanon – he shall grow.

They shall flourish and be great in old age, Halleluiah
 They shall be fruitful – and fragrant...*Barekmor*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO*(Mor Ephrem)*

Your mem'ry O St. (Thomas)
 be kept here and in Heaven
 Let your prayer be a help to
 Those who honor your mem'ry
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO*(d'al Etro d'Besme)*

Blest are the Prophets,
 and the Apostles.
 And the Martyrs at
 The Resurrection...*Barekmor*

Shub'bo...

Martyrs who desired
 To behold the Christ
 Earned wings, by the sword,
 And flew to the heights

Moriyo...

BO'UTHO

(Mor Ephrem)

Pray for us, O Holy Saints
 to Him Whose will you fulfilled,
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments, and rods of wrath.

III. SERVICE FOR THE DEPARTED CLERGY

Your priests shall be clothed in righteousness and Your saints in glory
 Halleluiah
 For Your servant, David's sake, /turn not away the face of Your
anointed

The Lord swore to David,/"in truth I will not turn away from you
 Halleluiah
 of the fruit of your body/ I will set upon - your throne"...*Barekemor*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

May the feet which stood in the
 Holy place in purity
 tread the gates of Paradise
 And abide with the angels

Stoumenkalos, Kurielaision

QOLO*(Mor Ephrem)*

Lead to Your Kingdom, O Lord
 with the angels of heaven,
 those priests who have ministered
 Your myst'ries at the altar.

Shub'bo...

Son of God, forget them not,
 Those priests who have served Thee well
 Lord, Grant them unveiled faces
 on the day of Your coming.

*Moriyo...***BO'UTHO***(Mor Ephrem)*

Crowns are plaited and arranged
 Upon the holy altar
 to be set on every priest
 who has served in purity

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

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

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

PRAYER*(Shudhamulla Bava...)*

O Holy Father, guard us by Thy Sacred Name, O Son of God, our Savior, protect us with Thy victorious Cross †. O Holy Spirit, make us worthy temples of Thy Holy habitation. O Lord, our God for ever shelter us under Thy divine wings, at all times, for ever.
—Amin

<p>LILIO</p>

<p><i>(Midnight Prayers)</i></p>

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.

Psalm 134

Barekmor. Bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord.

Barekmor. You who stand by night in the house of 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; because His grace is strong over us, the Lord is truly forever. And to You belongs the praise, O God...*Barekmo*

*Shub'bo.../Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
Men'olam.../From ages unto ages and forevermore*

ENIYONO

(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

Those men from Persia
 Offered their gifts to you, O Lover of man
 In *Jerusalem* – The Magi cried out – and they proclaimed
 O Creator, glory to You...*Barekmo*r

Shub'ho... Men olam...

In Zion above
 And in the Church on the earth, Lord make mem'ry
 Of your servants – who fell asleep while – trusting Your name
 O Creator, glory to You

Kurieieison, Kurieieison, Kurieieison

1st QAUMO

Eqbo

(Ethqatel Hwo)

Glory to you, Lord from every mouth
This day of Your Nativity

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

Lord have mercy upon us

Lord be kind and have mercy

Answer Lord, and have mercy

Glory be to thee, O Lord

Glory be to thee, O Lord

Glory be to thee, our hope forever. Barekmor

Qolo

(Quqoyo – Tone 1)

Mary said, “The pains of labor are upon me”

O Righteous Joseph, let us go to Bethlehem

“I have no bed – I have no dwelling

For on the earth – I am without wealth

In the cave I gave birth to the Ancient of Days

I placed the Savior of the world in a manger”

Halleluiah w’Halleluiah...Barekmor

Shub’bo... Men’olam...

Madrosho

(Ethqatel Hwo)

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, you who magnifies all - by this holy day of your birth
Magnify my feeble mind - to speak about your nativity
Blessed 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 he remained limitless
As he dwelt in the body, - he remained in divinity
On this feast day of nativity
Blessed is the Infinite One

Glory to Him who lowered Himself,
Though exalted by His nature
By His love He became her first-born,
Being the First-Born of the Father

By name, He was Joseph's son, - being the Son of the Divine One
By His will he became man, - existing as God by nature
Worshipped and exalted is Your will
Blessed 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 that destroys all
 things,

By Your grace, O Lord our God – have pity and mercy on me
 The 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 glor'ious Isaiah
 Called Christ 'warrior' and a 'wonder'
 Because of the wonder
 Of the birth of Him 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
 Curs-ed be those who would doubt Him

Moriyo Rabem...

Bou'tho of Mor Jacob of Sarug

(Tone 1)

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
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 and behold that He is above and below

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

Peace to you, O ship who carried the treasure of
The Father and from whom the Son manifested

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
As the shepherds in Bethlehem sang praise to Him

PRAISE OF THE CHERUBIM

† 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.

Thou art holy and glorious forever
Thou art holy and glorious forever
Thou art holy and blessed is Thy name, forever and ever.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord;
Glory be to Thee, our hope forever... *Barek'mor*

Our Father who art in Heaven...

2nd QAUMO

Eqbo

(Abo Ktbab Wo – Tone 1)

Blessed is Mary who bore
Christ the Savior of the world

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

Lord have mercy upon us...

Glory be to Thee, O Lord...

Qolo

(Sobdan 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*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

The Virgin bore Him,

The One who bears all creation – and she spoke to Him:

“I am blessed 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
 Halleluiah w' Halleluiah – for He lowered Himself... *Barekmor*

Shub'bo... Men'olam...

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

Madrosho

(Abo Ktbab Wo – Tone 1)

Blessed is Mary who bore
 Christ the Savior of the world

The Son in His radiance – descended to creation
 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
 In order to be – with us in 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, you, 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

Upon the day of His 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

Wonderful Child, have mercy upon us,
Who praise the day of Your Nativity

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

Moriyo Rahem...

Bou’tho 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

† *Blessed is the glory of the Lord from His Place forever... (x3)*
Holy and Glorious Trinity, have mercy upon us...
Thou art Holy and glorious forever...
Glory be to Thee, O Lord...

Our Father, Who art in Heaven...

3rd QAUMO

Eqbo

(Abo k'thab wo – Tone 1)

Give rest to our departed – in your glorious dwellings
 Lord, give rest to them – and mercy to us
 While you forgive and blot out – the faults of us and of them

Qolo

(Bkbul Medem – Tone 1)

O Lord, give rest 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... *Barek'mor*

Shub'bo...

Blessed is he for whom the – living here make offerings
 His memory is written in heaven
 If Moses wrote the tribe's names on tables 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

Men'olam...

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-ious angels
 Lord, let them enter the bridal-chamber

Moriyo...

Bou'tho of Mor Balai

(Tone 1)

Renew your creatures by the res'rection,
 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.

Give rest to those in the grave, heav'nly King
 And multiply forgiveness for the dead

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

Glory to Christ, who calls the dead to life;
 They rise without corruption and sing praise.

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

**The Order of the Feast of the Nativity is begun at the conclusion of the Third
 Quomo of the midnight office. (Pg. 85)*



† Halleluiah, halleluiah, halleluiah, glory to You, O God (x3)²

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; Son of God, raise them up in the heavenly kingdom with the
 just and the righteous in the world which does not pass away.

Morijo...

Song of Mary

(The Magnificat - Lk 1: 46-55)

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.

² At the exclamation of 'Halleluiah,' a candle should be lit on the altar and the
 curtain drawn aside

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 empty away.

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.

Barekemor

*Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
From ages unto ages and forevermore*

Mawrbo

(Tone 1 - "Ha nin bhagyam Daveedin")

Blessed – 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

Blessed – 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, blessed 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 memory of the departed
 who took – 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 with Response

Ps 133: *How good and fair it is.*

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

For brethren to dwell together in unity.

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

Like the oil which descends upon the head and upon the beard.

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

Even the beard of Aaron, and descends to the hem of his robe.

Make us worthy, Lord, of the harbor of Your martyrs and of the dwellings of your friends.

Like the dew of Hermon which descends on the mountain of Zion.

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

Because there the Lord promised a blessing life forevermore.

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

Barek'mor

Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit

Make a good memory, Lord, of the children of the faithful Church.

From ages unto ages and forevermore

And let them stand at Your right hand on the day when Your majesty appears.

Another Eniyono

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 of our life, have mercy on our souls.

Lord have mercy upon us and help us.

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 fulfil 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 judgement 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...*Barekemor*

Glory be to the Father...From ages unto ages...

Praise to the Holy Trinity, praise to the Holy Trinity, we praise the glorious Trinity, eternal and everlasting; and to You belongs the praise, O God, at all times.

Quqalya*(Tone 1)***SERVICE TO THE MOTHER OF GOD**

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

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

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO*(Mor Ephrem)*

O Pride of the faithful ones
 Offer prayers on our behalf
 To the Only Begotten
 That he have mercy on us
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO*(l'Maryam Yoldath Aloba)*

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

Shub'bo...

Glory to the Son of God Who willed to come
 From the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 And saved the people from error, by His Birth,
 exalting her mem'ry; may her prayers help us

Moriyo...

BO'UTHO

(Mor Ephrem)

By Your Cross, our Lord Jesus
 And the prayer of Your Mother
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments, and rods of wrath.

SERVICE TO THE SAINTS

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, Halleluiah
 Like a cedar of Lebanon – he shall grow.

They shall flourish and be great in old age, Halleluiah
 They shall be fruitful – and *fragrant...Barekmor*

Shub'ho...Men'olam...

EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

Your mem'ry O St. (Thomas)
 be kept here and in Heaven
 Let your prayer be a help to
 Those who honor your mem'ry
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO*(l'Maryam Yoldath Alobo)*

Behold, the time of prayer, (O St. Gregorios)
 Stand and intercede at the head of your flock
 Stretch forth your hand like Moses and bless all those
 Who hearken to the sound of your gentle voice

Shub'bo...

Praise to the Father Who chose you, St. (Ephrem)
 And to the Son Who honors your mem-ory
 Worshipped is the Holy Spirit Who crowns you
 By your prayers, may mercy be on us always

*Moriyo...***BO'UTHO***(Mor Ephrem)*

Pray for us, O Holy Saints
 to Him Whose will you fulfilled,
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments, and rods of wrath.

SERVICE FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

As a father shows mercy to his children, Halleluiah
 So the Lord shows mercy to those – who fear him

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

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO*(Mor Ephrem)*

May Your Living voice awake
 Your servants who slept in hope
 And trusted in Your mercy
 From the graves to Paradise

*Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison***QOLO***(l'Maryam Yoldath Alobo)*

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

Shub'ho...

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

Moriyo...

Bou'tho of Mor Ephrem

Lord have mercy by the prayers
 Of your mother and the saints
 By their prayers, Lord, have pity
 On us and upon our dead

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 angels 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 memory of Mary,
 The saints, and the departed

Lord have mercy by the prayers
 Of your mother and the saints
 By their prayers, Lord, have pity
 On us and upon our dead

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. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, do not shut the door of mercy in our faces,
Lord; we confess that we are sinners, have mercy upon us.
Your love made You descend from Your place to us, Lord, by
whose death our death was ended; have mercy upon us.

Quamo

<p>SAFRO</p>

(Morning Prayer)

† 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 grace and mercy 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.

The Qaumo

(Trisagion)

Holy art Thou, O God!
Holy art Thou, Almighty,
Holy art Thou, Immortal,

† Crucified for us, Have mercy on us. *(Repeat Thrice)*

Lord, have mercy upon us,
Lord, be kind and have mercy,
Lord, accept our office
And our entreaties, have mercy upon us.

Glory be to Thee, O God!
Glory be to Thee, O Creator,
Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King,
Who pities His sinful servants...*Barek'mor*

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.

**[The optional "Hail Mary" can also be said, if desired]*

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. Our Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, our Lord Jesus Christ. O Virgin Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at all times, and at the hour of our death. Amin

Celebrant: 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 servants, in both worlds forever, 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 heaven that praised You gloriously; we may offer glory and praise to You and to Your Father and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever.

People: Amin

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 sins my mother conceived 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...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo.../Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
Men'olam.../From ages unto ages and forevermore

ENIYONO

(Malache d'Nubro Wadmwoꝝo/Dyutbi Santhoshamayan Malakha)

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 to man”

The shepherds came to the cave
 When they entered it they saw
 The infant, Mary, and Joseph.
 The shepherds offered their gifts
 And departed rejoicing...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo... Men olam...

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

Kurielaison

Psalm 63

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 crying for water.

So have I looked to 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 with marrow and fat and my mouth shall
 praise you with lips of praise.

I have remembered you upon my bed and in the night-time 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 will be stopped.

And to you belongs the praise, O God. *Barekmor*
Shub'ho... Men olam...

ENIYONO

(Eqbo Tone 1/Qadisbo Dashri Shkinbebe/Vismayamayana'i Srusbtikalil)

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

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

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

Shub'ho... Men olam...

O Lord God, who by His love
 Lowered himself for our sake,
 In compassion and mercy
 Visit and heal all our souls

Kurieison

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God and 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. Their good tidings go out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them, upon the sun he has set his tent and is 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 and 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 the infants wise. The commandments of the Lord are right and make the heart to rejoice. The precepts of the Lord are chosen and they illuminate the eyes.

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

Moreover your servant will be warned by them. If he keeps them, he will be greatly rewarded. Who can discern the errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant from iniquity, lest the evil doers shall 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 before you.

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

*Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
From ages unto ages and forevermore*

ENIYONO

(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
Blessed are You, O Lord our God

A luminous cloud covered
The great Sun born in the flesh
The Blessed Virgin bore Him,
Who begot the first Adam
Blessed 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
Blessed 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
Blessed are You, O Lord our God...*Barekmor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

He who exists forever
 In the bosom of *his* Father
 Today has manifested
 From the pure womb of Mary
 Blessed are You, O Lord our God

Kurielaison

Isaiah 42:10-13; 45:8

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 tops
 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 his fury; he will cry out and become mighty and will shatter his
 enemies.

(45:8)

Let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open and let
 salvation increase; and let righteousness sprout forth altogether. I
 am the Lord who created them.

And to you belongs the praise, O God. *Barek'mor*

Shub'bo... Men olam...

ENIYONO*(Shmayone Shubbo Zomrin/Paripurnam Vanidamaral)*

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

The King was within Judah³
 And Tamar obtained his seed
 Today, the hidden beauty
 Has dawned from the Virgin's womb... *Barekmor*

Shub'bo... Men olam...

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

*Amin***Psalm 113**

Praise the Creator of Light, praise you servants of the Lord,
 praise the name of the Lord.

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

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

³ (Genesis 38: 1-30)

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 ash heap, and makes him sit with the princes of the people.

He makes the barren women keep house and be a joyful mother of children.

And to You belongs the praise, O God... *Barek'mor*

*Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
From ages unto ages and forevermore*

ENIYONO

(Am Kenshe Shmayone/Inneereduthaganam)

Today, the watcher in the heights descended
To see his birth in the flesh
And inside the cave
Praises of angels and men - joined together
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
 And the angels knelt down and – they worshipped Him
 Come, exalt Him forever ... *Barekmor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

O Messiah, who was wrapped in swaddling clothes
 And who laid in the manger
 In your great mercy,
 Be pleased to absolve our debts – by your gesture
 Come, exalt Him forever

Kurielaison

The Beatitudes

(Mt 5:3-12)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

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

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

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

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

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

And to You belongs the praise, O God...*Barek'mor*

*Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
From ages unto ages and forevermore*

ENIYONO

(Shubho Lokeh Mshibo/Tharaka Porasile)

The star had announced – the birth of the Lord
And the Magi came
offring 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... *Barek'mor*

Shub'bo w'igoro w'segto⁴... Men olam...

The Nativity – of the Messiah
Brought great hope and joy

⁴ *Shub'bo w'igoro w'segto...* – “May we be worthy to offer glory, honor, worship, and exaltation to the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

To the first Adam – and to all of creation

Staumen Kalos, Kurieleison

PROMEON

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

(Incense is placed)

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

Priest: From God may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins in both worlds forever and ever.

People: Amin

Qolo*(Bkɛbul Medem – Tone 1)*

Today there is joyous news – for Mary has given birth
 To the Savior of the worlds for our sake
 The Magi followed the star and came to worship Him
 The angels and the 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...*Barekɛmor*

Shub'bo...

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 yet remained virgin
 He took flesh from her and did not break the Virgin's seal
 It is a wonder that he
 Took flesh and was born for us
 Blessed is the Lord who came – and offered us salvation
 With the body he had assumed from us

Men olam....

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-ious angels
 Lord, let them enter – the bridal-chamber

Moriyo rahem...

(Incense is placed)

ETRO

Priest: Blessed Fruit and fragrant Incense that sprouted without seed nor watering from the dry land – the Virgin Mary – and laid 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 Moriyo 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*

Shub'bo...

In the Holy Spirit, all the prophets spoke
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 Him who by His birth saved all creation

Men olam....

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.

May you, Lord – receive their spirits;

They confessed – you and your passion

Call to them and raise them up at your right-hand side

Quqlion

(Tone 1)

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

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree – Halleluiah
 Like a cedar of Lebanon – he shall grow.

As a father shows mercy to his children – Halleluiah
 So the Lord shows mercy to those – who fear him

Barekmor Shub'ho... Men olam....

Eqbo

Glory be to God on high
 Honor be to his mother
 Glorious crowns for his martyrs
 And compassion for the dead
Stoumen Kalos, Kurielaison

Qolo*(Shlomo d'Abo)*

The Father granted his peace
 Unto the blessed virgin
 Through the angel Gabriel
 He greeted Mary and spoke:
 “The Lord is with you , Mary
 and he shall come forth from you” ...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo...

Peace be with all the prophets
 Peace be with the apostles
 Peace be with the bless'd martyrs
 Who loved the Lord God of peace
 Peace be with the Holy Church
 In which dwell the sons of peace

Men olam....

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 heaven

Moryo rahem...

Bo'utho of St. Jacob of Sarug

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
As the shepherds in Bethlehem sang praise to Him

Today, let Adam, the head of our race, rejoice
For he attained divinity as he had asked

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

Today, the support has risen to be the rod
For the world that had fallen by idolatry

Today, the shoot sprouted from the house of Jesse
To give its wine as drink to the thirsty, dry land

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
As the shepherds in Bethlehem sang praise to Him

QAUMO

Holy art Thou, O God - Halleluiah
Holy art Thou, Almighty, - Kurielaison
Holy art Thou, Immortal,
† Crucified for us – have mercy - on us
(Repeat Thrice)

Lord, have mercy upon us, - Halleluiah
Lord be kind and have mercy, - Kurielaison
Lord, accept our offices, - and entreaties -
Have mercy on us.

Glory to Thee, O God! - Halleluiah
Glory to Thee, Creator, - Kurielaison
Glory to Thee, Christ the King
Who pities - His sinful - servants... *Barekmor*
Our Father, who art in heaven...

THIRD HOUR

Qaumo

Qolo

(Zodek 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 seeing Him

For she had read – the prophets' writings

And told Herod – the King had been born

Herod sent his men

Who killed the first-born infants in Bethlehem

But his kingdom perished

And Christ ruled forever

Let us praise Him at His birth – Halleluiah w' Halleluiah...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo... Men olam...

Let heaven rejoice

Let earth, the seas, and all races praise this day

For joy and blessings

Were granted to earth on His Nativity

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 – Halleluiah w'Halleluiah

Moriyo...

Bo'utho of St. 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

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

SIXTH HOUR

Qaumo

Qolo

(l'Malkooth Rawmo/Thuro d'Seenai – Tone 1)

At your presence Lord – Mount Sinai trembled
 Mary carried you – who carries the heights and depths
 She conceived without marriage
 And brought you forth from her womb
 In a manner beyond words
 Magnify – her mem'ry, O Lord... *Barekmor*

Shub'ho

The Saints are welcomed – to that high kingdom
 That which ear hears not – and which the eye has not seen;
 Which has not entered man's heart
 Great is the blessedness of
 Those who are worthy of it:
 The noble – who have loved the Lord

Men olam...

Those who have been sealed – with the seal of Christ
 Who ate his body – and drank his atoning blood
 Shall be raised up by the Lord
 From the earth to the kingdom
 They will shake off all the dust
 And be clothed – in glorious garments

Moriyo...

Bo'utho of St. Balai*(Tone 1)*

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

May Mary's mem'ry be for our blessing,
And may her pray'r be a refuge for us.

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

Sprinkle the dew of gladness on the heads
Of our departed who sleep in your hope.

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

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

THE ORDER OF THE FEAST OF NATIVITY

PROCESSION

(Lathumo d'Haimonootbo/Eeshenumee Marthyian Markum)

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

What wonder, to see The One,
Him who is clothed in flame,
Incarnate in flesh – for our salvation

What wonder that He remained
For nine months 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 He remained
For three days in the tomb
And 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...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho...

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

“Through the ear, He entered me
 Yet I did not perceive
 Without moving me - He dwelt in the womb

I knelt and gave birth to Him,
 Who is from before time,
 Ha-halleluiah – and who saved the world”

Men'olam...

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

The Virgin, the young maiden
 Without man has conceived
 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

Blessed is the Son of God,
 Born of David's daughter,
 Ha-Halleluiah – who saved creation

PAULINE EPISTLE

I heard Paul the Blessed Apostle saying:
 “If one comes to teach to you
 Other than what we have preached,
 Even an angel on high,
 He shall be cast from the Church.”
 Behold, diverse teachings rise,
 Springing forth from every side
 Bless-ed is he who begins
 And ends in the Lord’s teachings

Deacon: The lesson from Epistle of Saint Paul to the Hebrews
Abai Barek'mor

People: Glory be to the Lord of the Apostle and His mercy be
 upon us forever.

Hebrews 1: 1-12

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: Thy 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. *Ahai Barekmo*

GOSPEL

(Incense is placed)

Fethgomo

Halleluiah – Halleluiah – Halleluiah
The Lord has said to Me You are My Son
On this day I have begotten You
 Halleluiah⁵

Deacon: With calmness and reverence and with sober minds, let us attend and listen to the Proclamation 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 Thy 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 is come and is to come: Glory be to Him who sent Him for our salvation, and His mercy be upon us all, forever.

⁵ Psalm 2:7

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 mankind**

(The fire is lit and all present sing the hymn while processing around the fire three times)

People:

(Syriac)

Tesh'buhto l'Aloho bamrawme
Al ar'o
Shlomo w'sabro tobo l'abenai nosho

(English)

Glory be to God in the Highest
And on earth
Peace and good-will 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 to you all

Priest: O Lord, Jesus Christ, close not the door of Thy mercy upon our faces.

People: We confess we are sinners, have mercy upon us. O Lord, Thy love for us didst make Thee to come to us from Thy place, that by Thy Death, our death might be abolished. Have mercy upon us. Amin.

MANITHO*(Thubaykē Ophrath/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 beloved Son

Come, Isaiah, and see her
 For in her the prophecies,
 The myst-eries and the types
 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

MADROSHO*(Ho Qtil Hu b'Mesrain/Manavalsalane)*

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

Bless'd is your first birth and, Lord, therefore
 This day of Your feast – is beloved

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
and the True Lamb's birth – was told to them

The kings and their times have passed away
Their feasts and mem'ries - have disappeared

Your authority is as this day's
For it extends through – all the ages

O Lord, this great feast 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
I which the cup of – salvation rests

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

The East

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

Shubho...

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful servants, in both worlds forever, 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

Egbo

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'qonootho⁶

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:

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

The West

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

Shubbo...

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

Priest: 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.

People: Amin.

Eqbo

To the Lord, Who without change,
 Was incarnate of Mary
 And yet who had continued
 In the bosom of *His* Father,
 We offer praise without end
 For He alone is glorious

⁶ Loudly intoned prayers

Maze'qonootho

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:

Kurieieison, Kurieieison, Kurieieison

The North

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

Shubho...

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

People: Amin.

Eqbo

Mary, your Spirit rejoiced
 And your soul was magnified,
 O blessed Theotokos,⁷
 For even after His birth
 He kept your virginity -
 God the Word born from your womb

Maze'qonootho

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:

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

The South

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

Shubho...

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

People: Amin.

⁷ 'God-bearer'

Eqbo

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

Maze'qonootho

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

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

THE BLESSING OF THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD
--

The East

Priest: He Whom the angels minister

People: Holy art Thou, O God

Priest: He Whom the cherubim bless

People: Holy art Thou, Almighty

Priest: He whom the seraphim sanctify

People: Holy art Thou, Immortal. Sinners, with repentance, entreat saying: O Thou Who were born for our sake, have mercy upon us.

The West

Priest: He Whom the fiery hosts praise

People: Holy art Thou, O God

Priest: He Whom the spiritual beings magnify

People: Holy art Thou, Almighty

Priest: He Whom the mortals worship

People: Holy art Thou, Immortal. The children of the faithful Church entreat saying: O Thou Who were born for our sake, have mercy upon us.

The North

Priest: He Whom the heavenly beings glorify

People: Holy art Thou, O God

Priest: He Whom those between exalt

People: Holy art Thou, Almighty

Priest: He Whom the earthly beings glorify

People: Holy art Thou, Immortal. Sinners, with repentance, entreat saying: O Thou Who were born for our sake, have mercy upon us.

The South

Priest: Lord, Have mercy upon us

People: Lord, be kind and have mercy

Priest: Lord, accept our offices and our entreaties and have mercy upon us

People: Glory be to Thee, O God

Priest: Glory be to Thee, O Creator

People: Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King, who pities His sinful servants...*Barek'mor*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...



Nativity Hymns for the Holy Qurbana
--

After the Gospel

(Quqoyo – Tone 1)⁸

On this day of Your birth, O Son of Most High God
 The heaven, the earth, and all creation rejoice
 Heaven's hosts cry – “Glory be to God”
 Angels declare – “Peace be on the earth”
 The shepherds and the Magi present gifts to Him
 Nations, races, and all generations sing praise
 Halleluiah – Your birth gives us life

OR

(Quqoyo – Tone 1)

Our Lord, Jesus Christ said, “I am the bread of life
 Who descended from the heights to nourish the world.
 The-Father sent me – The Word without flesh.
 Like a ploughman, – Gabriel sowed me.
 Like fertile earth, the womb of Mary received Me
 Like the angels, the priests extol Me on their hands
 Halleluiah – upon the altar”

⁸ The Quqoyo ‘On this day of Your birth’ is adapted from an English translation from Syriac found in *Ma'de'dono: The Book of the Church Festivals* (pg. 19), published by Metropolitan Mor Athanasius Yeshue Samuel of blessed memory.

At the time of the Fraction

(Mor Ephrem)⁹

The wise men came from the East
 Drawn by that luminous star
 They came to worship the Son,
 The Word of God the Father

They journeyed to Bethlehem
 Bringing their off'rings to Him
 At the cave, they saw angels
 And the daughter of David

The Magi saw the infant
 Who was wrapped in strips of cloth
 The Magi saw at the cave
 Christ laying in the manger

The Magi saw at the cave
 The Angels singing praises:
 "Glory be to God on high
 And on earth peace to mankind"

⁹ The hymn for the Fraction is adapted from a translation found in *The Living Sacrifice* by C.K. Varghese.

Hoothomo

*(Bo'utho of St. Jacob of Sarug – Tone 1)*¹⁰

Sing praise, Sing Halleluiah, sing – Halleluiah
As the shepherds in Bethlehem sang praise to Him

(Syriac)

Hallel hallel hallel wemar Halleluiah
Akbmo d'ballui ro-awotho bhaw Bethlehem

¹⁰ This hymn is sung at the Hoothomo at the feast of Nativity according to the practice of the Syriac Orthodox Church. The hymns after the Gospel and during the Fraction are arranged according to the practice of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church for the Nativity Qurbana.

