

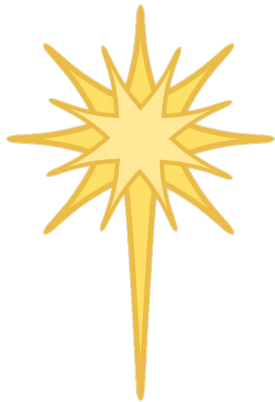
Theophany

Christmas Season is one of the most wonderful times of the year! Families come together, people try their best to help others, new resolutions arise, people buy presents for one another and Christians across the world decorate their houses with Christmas lights.

But, why is all this hassle for joy? Christ was born! What does that mean?

When we open our gifts from underneath the Christmas Tree, we should remember that the greatest gift of all to us was from God: He gave His only Son to us, who willingly sacrificed Himself for our sins.

So let us turn off the artificial lights, and follow Christ's star like the wise men (Mt 2:2) and welcome Him into our lives.



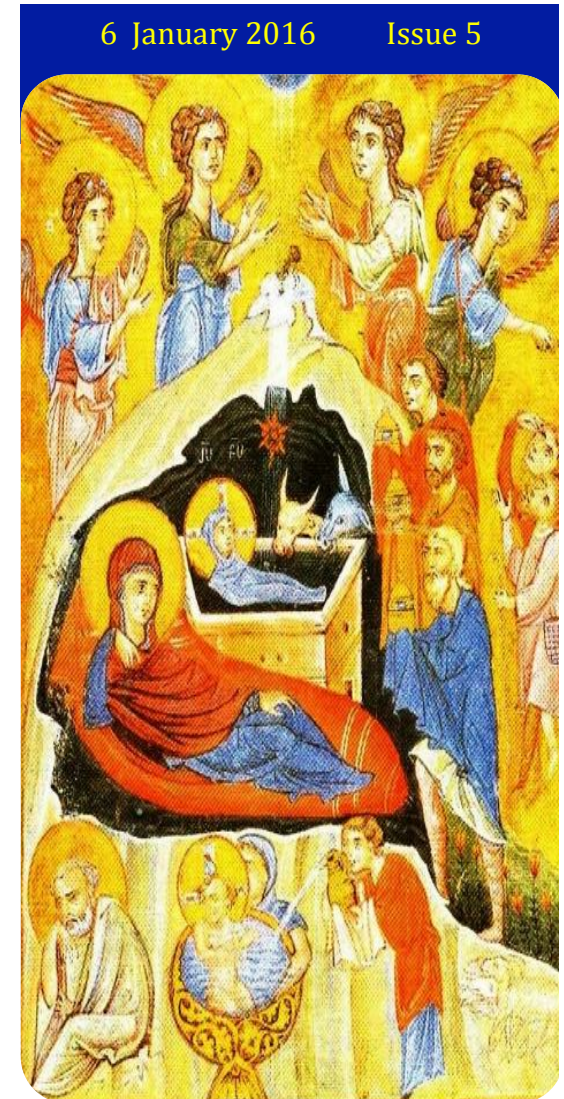
The *Narod* pamphlet is published by the Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Greater Boston to provide the faithful significant information regarding the sacred traditions, rituals and services of the Armenian Apostolic Church. If you have questions regarding the topics covered in the *Narod*, please speak with our pastor, Fr. Vasken Kouzouian.

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Narod
Christmas



Incarnation of Jesus Christ: “God Became Man that Man Might Become God”

God did not neglect His own creation of human beings despite their carelessness, and sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to save His people from the corruption of sin. Through sin, people lost their image of God, which they were born with; for God created the human in His own image from the beginning (Gen 1:27).

Christ is God and the Creator of all. But if Christ was God and He created everything, then why did Christ become human? Christ’s incarnation was necessary for the redemption of His people, who were corrupted by sin, as well as lost their image and knowledge of God.

People can not restore their own image of God on their own and the only way to restore and rebuild the corruption is through unity with Christ, because He is God: the original image of God. Humanity’s image of God was corrupted when humanity sinned through Adam and Eve; and since people were made from nothing, sin destined humans to return to dust: death (Gen 3:19).

Therefore, only the image of God was necessary to restore humanity, and this is why the Son of God took a mortal body and through His incarnation, passion, death and resurrection, defeated death.

“God became man that man might become God,” wrote St. Athanasius of Alexandria. Christ became human in order to bring humans to Himself. God acted in His Son and through Him humanity received salvation. Christ was born to save people through His death and resurrection.

Human beings reflect the image of God again because the prophecy of the scriptures was fulfilled through the cross. Christ, who created humans in His image, was the one who redeemed them.

Today, it is up to the people to let Christ in and reflect God’s image in their lives.