

Byzantine Catholic Hymnal For Nativity and Theophany

Traditional Spiritual Songs in English and Slavonic,
With a Selection of English Christmas Carols

Metropolitan Cantor Institute
2007

These settings of traditional Rusyn spiritual songs, and other hymns beloved by the people of the Byzantine Catholic Church, are taken from the 1970 collection, *Byzantine Liturgical Chant*, and Monsignor Levkolic's booklet, *Christ is Born! Glorify Him!* Some typographics errors in these sources have been corrected.

Please sent any corrections or suggestions to

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Traditional Spiritual Songs for Nativity and Theophany

December 25 – Nativity

Angels from heaven	<i>So nebes Anhel</i>	1
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Traditional English Christmas Carols

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Pronunciation of Slavonic

The Church Slavonic texts in the following pages are presented in a variation of the Latin alphabet used with English, rather than in the original Cyrillic alphabet. Certain additional symbols are added to indicate the correct pronunciation. The system used here is one commonly employed in our prayer books.

In Church Slavonic, each letter has a uniform sound in whatever word it is found.

The following letters vary in pronunciation from their equivalent in the English language:

VOWELS

A as in fAther (approx.)

E as in bEt

I as in bIt

O as in mOre

U as in mOOn

Y as in bUt

CONSONANTS

C as ts in wits

Č as ch in Church

CH as ch in loch

D' as di in radiant

J as y in yet

L' as li in brilliant

Ň as ni in union

R is always trilled

Š as sh in show

T' as ti in cestial

V' as vi in Savior

Ž as z in pleasure

Note: d', l', Ň, t', and v' indicate that the given consonant is followed by the sound as "y" as in yellow, as shown in the examples above. (D' and T' are sometimes written Ď and Ť.)

Accented vowels are marked in order to assist in pronunciation, but may not be strongly accented when sung.

When in doubt, use the locally accepted pronunciation of Church Slavonic.

Angels From Heaven

So nebes Anhel

NATIVITY



1. An - gels from heav - en came to you shep - herds.
2. There in a man - ger, you will be - hold Him,
3. So close be - side Him, Mar - y His moth - er;
1. So *ne - bes An - hel* *pri - šed - še ko vam,*
2. *U - zri - te Sy - na* *Bož - ja rož - den - na*
3. *Pri - nem jest' Ma - ti,* *Je - ho pre - či - sta*



Have no fear! Have no fear! Has - ten to hon - or Him,
Son of God. Son of God. Child whose hu - mil - i - ty
Vir - gin pure! Vir - gin pure! Soothed by her gen - tle hands,
Pa - sty - r'i, *pa - sty - r'i.* *Do Vif - le - je - ma*
Vo jas - lach, *vo jas - lach.* *On bu - det vs'im vam*
Ma - ri - ja, *Ma - ri - ja.* *Mež - du by - dl'a - ty,*

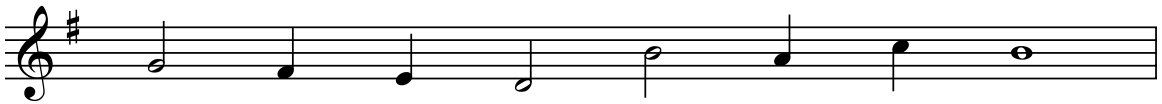


born near in Beth - le - hem; Of - fer gifts though poor and small.
veils His di - vin - i - ty, Our true Sav - ior, Christ the Lord.
while beasts in won - der stand, Her true Son, yet Son of God.
hrja - d'i - te sko - ro, *S da - ra - mi,* *s da - ra - mi.*
Ot - ku - pi - te - lem, *Na - i - st'i,* *na - i - st'i.*
Pi - ta - jet Je - ho, *Jak Sy - na,* *jak Sy - na.*

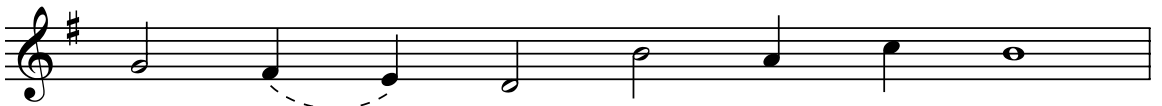
Eternal God

Boh predv'ičnyj narodilsja

NATIVITY



1. E - ter - nal God, through gates of birth,
2. Beth - le - hem's child, born in a cave;
1. Boh pred - v'ič - nyj na - ro - dil - sja:
2. V Vif - le - je - mi na - ro - dil - sja:



From heav - en's throne came down to earth.
Mes - si - - - ah sent here to save.

(this line of music not sung in Slavonic)



Shep - herds a - dore, an - gels sing;
Des - tined to make sac - ri - fice;
Prij - šol dnes', so ne - bes,
Me - si - - - ja Chri - stos naš



Star shines on the new - born King. Je - sus Christ is born.
On - ly God could pay such price For the fall of man.
A - by spas l'ud svoj v ves', I u - t'i - šil - sja.
I Pan naš dl'a vs'ich nas, Nam na - ro - dil - sja.

God the Lord Eternal

Hospod' Boh predviènyj

NATIVITY



1. God the Lord e - ter - nal Shows Him - self to us.
2. Shep - herds in their pas - tures Hear the joy - ful sto - ry.
1. Ho - spod' Boh pred - vič - nyj Ny - ňi nam ja - vil - sja.
2. Tu - ju pišň na po - l'i Pas - tyr - jam ho - lo - sjať,



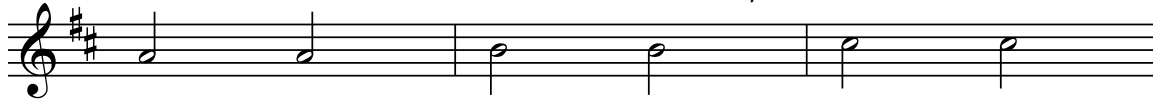
Born in hum - ble man - ger from a vir - gin spot - less.
Kings and poor to - geth - er At the crib of glo - ry.
Z ne - po - roč - noj D'i - vy V jas - lach na - ro - dil - sja.
Vs'ich l'u - dej u - bo - hich So ver - te - pa pros - jat'.



Choirs of an - gels joy - ful - ly sing:
So they may hon - or this new - born King,
Cho - ry an - hel - ski spi - va - jut'
Čtob Ī - su - su čest' voz - dal - i



Wel - come to this new - born King.
Rais - ing voic - es, glo - rious - ly sing:
Na - rož - den - na - ho vi - ta - jut':
I ve - se - lo za - spi - va - li:



Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!
Sla - va! Sla - va! Sla - va!



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
Sla - va v vyš - nich Bo - hu.

God's Son is Born

Boh sja raždajet

NATIVITY



God's Son is born, but a mys - t'ry to our mind.
Boh sja raž - da - jet, ktož Ho mo - žet zna - ti,



Je - sus, His name, means the Sav - ior of man-kind.
I - sus Mu im - ja, Ma - ri - ja Mu ma - ti.



Now the an - gels sing their pray'r, Mak - ing known this Child so fair.
Tut An - he - ly ču - d'at - sja, Rož - den - na - ho bo - jat' - sja.



Shep herds hear the an - gels' song, Come and keep watch all night long.
A vol sto - jit' trja - set - sja, o - sel smut - no pa - set - sja.



Sheep and ox - en gaze and warm this new-born Babe; For
Pa - sti - ri - je kl'a - čut, v plo - ti Bo - ha ba - čut',



all cre - a - tion knows this is their Lord.
Tu - tže, tu - tže, tu - tže, tu - tže, tut!

Heaven and Earth

Nebo i zeml'a

NATIVITY

1. Heav - en and earth, heav - en and earth
2. In Beth - le - hem, in Beth - le - hem
1. Ne - bo i zem - l'a, ne - bo i zem - l'a
2. Vo Vif - le - je - mi, vo Vif - le - je - mi

now wel - come their Re - deem - er. An - gels and peo - ple,
God's Word is giv - en birth. Born of a vir - gin,
Ny - ňi tor - žest - vu - jut'. An - hel - y l'u - de,
Ve - se - la no - vi - na, Či - sta - ja D'i - va,

an - gels and peo - ple join in a cel - e - bra - tion.
born of a vir - gin, Mas - ter of heav'n and earth.
an - hel - y l'u - de Ve - se - lo spraz - dnu - jut'.
či - sta - ja D'i - va Po - ro - di - la Sy - na.

Sal - va - tion is be - gun, born is the Vir - gin's Son;
Chri - stos ro - dil - sja, Boh vo - plo - til - - - sja,

An - gel voic - es ring - ing, Wise men gifts are bring - ing;
An - he - ly spi - va - jut', Ca - ri - je vi - ta - jut,

Shep - herds tell the sto - ry; star pro - claims the glo - ry;
Po - klon ot - da - jut', pa - sty - ri - je hra - jut',

Christ is born in Beth - - - le - hem.
Ču - do, ču - do po - vi - da - jut'.

In the Town of Bethlehem

V Viflejemi novina

NATIVITY



1. In the town of Beth - le-hem Mar - y's Son is born a King.
2. In a cave at Beth - le-hem, Bed of straw His roy - al throne.
1. V Vif - le - jem - i no - vi - na, D'i - va Sy - na po - ro - di - la,
2. Po - lo - ži - la na s'i - ňi V Vif - le - jem - skoj ja - ski - ňi.



Born to bless us and to save us
Mar - y won - dered, Jo - seph pon - dered
Po - ro - di - la v bla - ho - da - ti,
Jo - sif D'i - vu po - t'i - ša - je,



And to lead all men to God, O Sav - ior.
How the Child was Son of God, the Sav - ior.
Ne - po - roč - na D'i - va Ma - ti, Ma - ri - ja.
Po - vi - va - ti po - mo - ha - je, Ma - ri - ji.

Jesus Came From Heaven

Spas naš narodilsja

NATIVITY



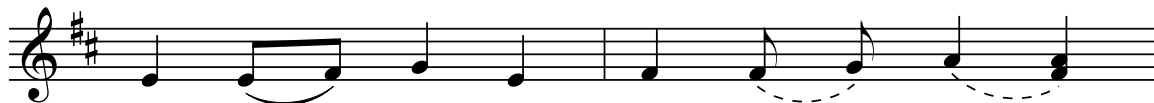
Je - sus came from heav-en, Ad - am's son through birth.
Spas naš na - ro - dil - sja V t'i - l'i Boh ja - vil - sja.



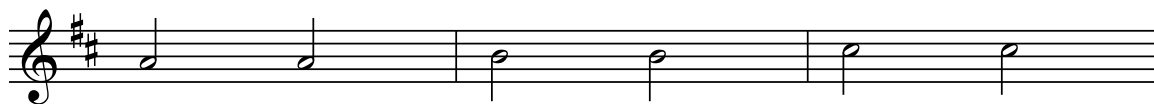
Just a low - ly sta - ble, A King's pal - ace on earth.
Chot' On ne - vmi - sti - myj, V jas - l'ach po - mi - stil - sja.



Choirs of an - gels joy - ful - ly sing:
Cho - ry an - hel - ski spi - va - jut'



Wel - come to this new - born King.
Na - rož - den - na - ho vi - ta - jut':



Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!
Sla - va! Sla - va! Sla - va!



Glo - ry to God in the high - - - est.
Sla - va v vyš - nich Bo - - - hu.

Joyful News

Nova radost' stala

NATIVITY



1. Joy - ful news to the whole world: Christ is born to re - deem men.
 2. Roy - al born in a sta - ble' Born to be King of all kings.
 3. An - gels came to the shep - herds Sing - ing this won - drous sto - ry.
 1. *No - va ra - dost' sta - la, Ja - ka ne by - va - la,*
 2. *An - he - ly spi - va - jut' "Sla - va" vos - kli - ca - jut'.*
 3. *Kol' Chri - stos ro - dil - sja, Z D'i - vy vo - plo - til - sja,*



Bril - liant star shines in the heav - ens
 He was wrapped in swad - dling cloth - ing
 Heav'n and earth re - sound - ed loud - ly:
Nad ver - te - pom, zviz - da jas - na
Na ne - be - si, i na zem - li
Jak če - lo - vik pe - le - na - mi



Lead - ing kings to Beth - le - hem.
 To be like us in all things.
 Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - - - ry!
Svit - lo za - si - ja - - - la.
Ra - dost' voz - vi - šča - - - jut'.
U - bo - ho po - vil - - - sja.

Joyful Tidings Come Our Way

Radost' nam sja javl'ajet

NATIVITY



1. Joy - ful tid - ings come our way; Je - sus Christ is born to - day.
2. Jo - seph lend your lov - ing care, Guard this Child and moth - er fair.
1. Ra - dost' nam sja jav - l'a - jet D'i - va Sy - na raž - da - jet,
2. Ty Jo - si - fe sta - reñ - kij, Pa - će Ī - sus ma - leñ - kij!



Heav - ens sing, shep - herds told, Wise men bring gifts of gold.
Won - drous night, ho - ly night; N'er be - fore star so bright.
Ne - be - sa, ne - be - sa, ne - be - sa Po - jut', po - jut'.
Po - ma - haj, po - ma - haj, po - ma - haj, Je - ho, Je - ho,



An - gels kneel in a - - - do - ra - - - tion;
An - gels sing a sal - - - u - ta - - - tion
An - hel - y sja u - - - div - l'a - - - jut'
Či - stoj D'i - vi ko - - - ly - sa - - - ti,



Crea - tures hushed in con - - - tem - pla - - - tion.
To the Mas - ter of Cre - a - - - tion.
Pa - sty - ri - je po - - - klon da - - - jut',
I pišň Je - mu za - - - spi - va - - - ti:



Hail the new - born King.
Hail the new - born king.
Na - rož - den - no - mu.
L'u - l'aj, Car - ju naš!

Rejoice All Nations

Christos rodilsja, Boh voplotilsja

NATIVITY



Re-joyce all na-tions, God has be-come man In Beth-le-hem as
Chri-stos ro - dil - sja, Boh vo - plo - til - sja, Vo Vif - le - jem - skoj



was his plan. The vir - gin Mar - y pure as no oth - er
ja - ski - ňi. V staj - ňi u - bo - hoj ni - šče - ty mno - hoj,



Ac cepts God's will made known to her. The an gels sing His glo-ry.
Ve - li - ka ra - dost' nam ny - ňi. An - he - ly spi - va - jut',



The shep herds fall on their knees. Christ is born in Beth-le-hem.
Čest' Je - mu ot - da - jut' Bo - hu i Tvor - cu na - še - mu.



Let us a-dore the new-born Mes-si-ah, For He re-deemed us
Li - kuj če - lo - v'i - če, z rož - dest - va to - ho! Chri - stos bo spa - se - jet



as said I - sai - ah. Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
z a - da duš mno - ho, I iz ne - vol' - i vra - ži - ja.

Wondrous News

Divnaja novina

NATIVITY



1. Wondrous news to all the earth; First and on - ly vir - gin birth.

2. Roy - al pal - ace not for him; Turned a - way from Beth'l'em's inn.

1. *Div - na - ja no - vi - na, Ny - ňi D'i - va Sy - na,*

2. *Ne v car - skoj pa - la - t'i. No mež - du by - dl'a - ti,*



Born in Beth - le hem, Born of Mar - y, Yet both God and man.

God had deigned it so To serve the poor, These things He must know.

Po - ro - di - la v Vif - le - je - mi Ma - ri - ja je - di - na.

Vo pu - sty - ňi, vo jas - ki - ňi, Tre - ba to vs'im zna - ti.

To Jordan's Water

THEOPHANY



1. To Jor - dan's wa - ter, to Jor - dan's wa - ter
2. Three Per - sons in God, Three Per - sons in God,
3. Saint John the Bap - tist, Saint John the Bap - tist



Christ comes to be bap - tized. John the Fore - run - ner,
Are now re - vealed to us. Fa - ther and Son,
Fore - tells re - lease to - day: The Lamb of God,



John the Fore - run - ner, Now hum - bly steps a - side.
Fa - ther and Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, One God.
The Lamb of God Will wash our sins a - way.



Christ our Lord is bap - tized. Sal - va - tion is now real - ized.



Skies of heav en o - pen, God the Fa - ther spok en, O'er the Jor - dan a Dove,



Ho - ly Spir - it of Love: Rev - e - la - tion from a - bove.

Traditional English Christmas Carols

Angels we have heard on high

Anonymous

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plain
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hark! the herald angels sing

C. Wesley – Felix Mendelssohn

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;
God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies.
With angelic hosts proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!

It came upon the midnight clear

E. Sears – R. S. Willis

It came upon the midnight clear
The glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold.
“Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heav'n's all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Joy to the world

Isaac Watts – G. F. Handel

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heavn', and heav'n
and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods,
rocks, hill and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

O come, all ye faithful

John F. Wade

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God in the highest.
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

O little town of Bethlehem

P. Brooks – L. H. Redner

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O, morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God our King, and peace to men on earth.

Silent night

Joseph Mohr – Franz Gruber

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child
Holy infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace!
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia.
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born.

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from your holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at your birth!
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Troparion of the Nativity

Your birth, O Christ our God, has shed upon the world the light of knowledge; for through it, those who worshipped the stars have learned from a star to worship you, the Sun of Justice, and to know you, the Dawn from on High. Glory to you, O Lord!

Roždestvó Tvojé, Christé Bóže naš, vozsjá mírovi svít rázuma: v nem bo zv'izdám služášči zvizdóju učachusja, Tebí klánatisja Sólncu právdy, i Tebé víd'iti s vysotý Vostóka: Hóspodi, sláva Tebí.

Hymn of Great Compline

God is with us! Understand, all you nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

S námi Boh, rozumíte jazýci, i pokarjájtesja: jáko s námi Boh.

Troparion of Theophany

At your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, worship of the Trinity was revealed; for the Father's voice bore witness to you, calling you his beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God, you appeared and enlightened the world. Glory to you!

Vo Jordáni kreščájuščusja Tebí Hóspodi, Trójčeskoje javísja poklonénije: rodítelev bo hlas svid'ítel'stvovaše Tebí, vozl'úblennaho Ťa Sýna imenúja, i Duch v víd'i holubíni, izvístvovaše slovesé utverždenije, javléjsja Christé Bóže, i mir prosviščej, sláva Tebí.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Christós raždájetsja! Sláivate Jeho!