

# In Olden Days

Based on the Troparion for Vespers  
Forefeast of the Nativity  
adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Simply, meditatively**

S. & T. 

1. In ol - den days, pure Ma - ry came to be en - roll'd in Beth - le -  
12. But when the time of birth drew near, No place had they in vil - lage

A. & B. 

S. & T. 

hem, With Jo - seph, now a quite old man, Thus, trav-ell'd they, the two of  
near; The cave to Ma - ry did ap - pear, A pal - ace full of home-ly

A. & B. 

S. & T. 

them. For Ma-ry was of Da - vid's seed, and in her womb, of no man's seed, She car-ried  
cheer. And in the cave shall Christ be born, For Him, the mys - tic cur - tain torn, The likeness

A. & B. 

S. & T. 

there the Ho - ly Lamb, the Son of God, now Son of Man.  
that had suf - fer'd fall, Now He shall raise to save us all.

A. & B. 

\* Altos and Basses may either sing text or hum.

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004.

# Now Christ is Born Upon the Earth

Matins for The Nativity of Christ  
Based on Canon I, Ode I  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**With joyful vigor**

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 2/2. The score begins with a forte (f) dynamic marking. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Now Christ is born up - on the earth, Come, sing his glo - ry  
2. Come, sing your prais - es to the Lord For He is glo - ri -  
bright! From hea - ven Christ has come by birth, Come meet Him in the  
fied! Come, sing with joy for - ev - er - more, For He is mag - ni -  
light! Yes, Christ is on the earth to day, Lord, be ex - alt - ed  
fied!  
high! Let all the earth in ev' - ry way, Lift up the joy - ful cry:

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004.

## Now Christ is Born Upon the Earth

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music is in a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Christ is born, Christ is born, Glo - ri - fy Him!". The first two phrases "Christ is born," are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The final phrase "Glo - ri - fy Him!" is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some accompaniment in the bass clef. There are several slurs and ties throughout the piece, particularly over the "Glorify Him!" section.

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT Rev.0, 11/18/04.*

# Now hear, O Bethlehem

Based on the Troparion for Vespers  
Forefeast of the Nativity  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks, altered, R.T.

Richard Toensing

**Sweetly, not too fast** (Soprano and Tenor: Optional soli, as indicated.)

The musical score is written for Soprano and Tenor parts. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a Soprano line marked '(solo)' and a Tenor line. The lyrics are: '1. Now hear, O Beth - le - hem, the call, For' and '2. For eat - ing from the Plant is life, And'. The second system continues the lyrics: 'E - den o - pens wide for all; Pre - pare, O' and 'not the death that A - dam died; For Christ will'. The third system has lyrics: 'Eph - ra - ta, for the birth, The Tree of Life has blos - som'd' and 'now be born for all, To raise the race from A - dam's'. The fourth system concludes with: 'forth. For to a cave the Vir - gin comes, A Pa - ra - dise' and 'fall. So hear, O Beth - le - hem, the call, And E - den, o'. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures (2/4, 3/4, 4/4), and dynamic markings like '(solo)' and '(tutti)'. The lyrics are placed between the vocal lines.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.

## Now hear, O Bethlehem

— is now her womb, In which is plant - ed all - di -  
 - pen now for all, And glo - ri - fy — this ho - ly —

vine, The Plant from which — we all — shall dine.  
 birth, Where - by our Lord — has come — to earth.

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*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev, 0 11/18/04.*

# The Virgin, as was Said of Old

Matins of the Nativity  
Based on Canon I, Ode 5, Stanza 3  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks  
**Not too fast** *p poco a poco cresc. al fine*

Richard Toensing

The Vir - gin, as was said of old, in

vis - ions an - cient pro - phets told, Has now con - ceiv'd as

God had planned, And brought forth God on earth made man

O

Let us praise the Vir - gin mild, Who us to God has re - con -

let us praise the Vir - gin mild, who us to God had re - con -

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.

## The Virgin, as was Said of Old

cil'd\_\_\_ And let\_\_\_ us sin ners sing her praise, The

cil'd\_\_\_ And let us sin-ners sing\_\_\_ her praise\_\_\_\_\_ The

The - *f* o - to - kos' hon - or raise.\_\_\_\_\_

The - o - to - kos' hon - or raise.\_\_\_\_\_

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# The Shepherds in the Fields Receiv'd

The Nativity of Christ  
Based on the Troparion for Matins  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Brisk, rhythmic!**

1. The shep - - - herds in the fields re - ceiv'd, A vis - ion  
2. The glo - - - ry of the Mas - ter shone, And all \_\_\_\_ a -  
3. Sing praise un - to the God of all, Who comes \_\_\_\_ to

of the \_\_\_\_ light re - veal'd And ter - ri - fied, were  
round them night had flown, An an - gel cried, the  
make cre - a - tion whole, O God our pre - cious

fill'd with fright, At such \_\_\_\_ a won - drous. ho - ly sight:  
si - lence torn: "Give praise, \_\_\_\_ for Christ the \_\_\_\_ Lord is born!"  
fa - thers knew, All blest \_\_\_\_ and ho - ly, \_\_\_\_ Lord are You.!"

REFRAIN (1st time: *pp* 2nd time: *mf* 3rd time: *ff*)

Christ is born, Christ is born, glo - ri - fy \_\_\_\_ Him!

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/18/04.



# The Choir of Shepherds

Matins for the Nativity of Christ  
Canon II, Cantic III, Stanza II  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Allegretto; gently and not too fast**

*mp*

1. The choir of shepherds in the field was  
2. Their eyes beheld the all blest Child of  
3. They saw as well the angel ranks, Who

o verwhelm'd by grace reveal'd For they were  
Ma ry pure and un de fil'd The Bride who  
sang in praise and heart felt thanks Of Christ the

priv' leg'd to be hold a strange and glo rious scene un  
ne ver knew a man And bore the Son by sac red  
King di vine on earth, In car nate through the Vir gin

**REFRAIN** (louder and more joyful each time!)

fold:  
plan. Christ is born, Christ is born, glo ri fy Him!  
birth.

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# A Star the Magi Plainly Showed

Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Canon II, Canticle I, Stanza III  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Serenely**

1. A star saw the You Ma - gi in plain - ly show'd, the  
2. They star saw the You wrapp'd in swadd - ling clothes, Who

Word shares of our Life suff' - rings Light and be our - stow'd, Who  
With -

was be - fore the stars and sun, And now be - comes the  
in a low - ly sta - ble cave, The Lord of - grace who

Vir - gin's Son, On earth to make trans - gres - sion  
came to save; In joy they gazed up - on your

cease, And bring our race to a life and peace.  
form, Both God our and Man, to a ba - by born.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/24/04.

# A Strange and Wondrous Mystery

Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Canon I, Cantic IX  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

With awe and wonder  $\text{♩} = 52$

A strange — and won - drous mys - te - ry I see be -

The altos and Basses may hum the first nine bars (quasi-ison) and begin singing text on beat 4 of bar 9.

10  
fore my eyes: — The Vir - gin — on the glo - rious

throne be - long-ing to the Che - ru - bim; — The man - ger

20  
as a bles - sed room, where Christ, whom no - thing can — con -

30  
tain is laid — for all — to see. — To Him — we

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.1, 11.24/04.

## A Strange and Wondrous Mystery

lift our prais - es high, And Him we mag - ni - fy.

The image shows a musical score for two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "lift our prais - es high, And Him we mag - ni - fy." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev.1, 11/24/04.*

# The Lord is Virgin-born Today

From the Praises  
Matins of the Nativity of Christ  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

With gentle joy

1. The Lord is Vir - gin - born to - day, In Beth - le - hem, to  
2. The pow'rs of hea - ven all re - joice, The earth, with man - kind  
3. For Christ is Vir - gin born to - day, In Beth - le - hem, to

grace con - vey And He who no - be - gin - ning knows, be -  
finds its voice, The Ma - gi of - fer gifts of wealth, And  
grace con - vey; And we, un - ceas - ing, raise our cry: "All

gins to be in earth - ly clothes, The Lord made flesh by  
shep - herds sing His grace as well, While we un - ceas - ing  
glo - ry be to God on high, And peace on earth by

hu - man birth To live with us on hum - ble earth.  
raise our cry: "All - glo - ry be to God on high."  
all our race, Good will to all by God's own grace."

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004.

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 0, 11/23/04.

# Make Glad, You Righteous

From the Praises, Matins of the Nativity of Christ

Richard Toensing

Stichera I

Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

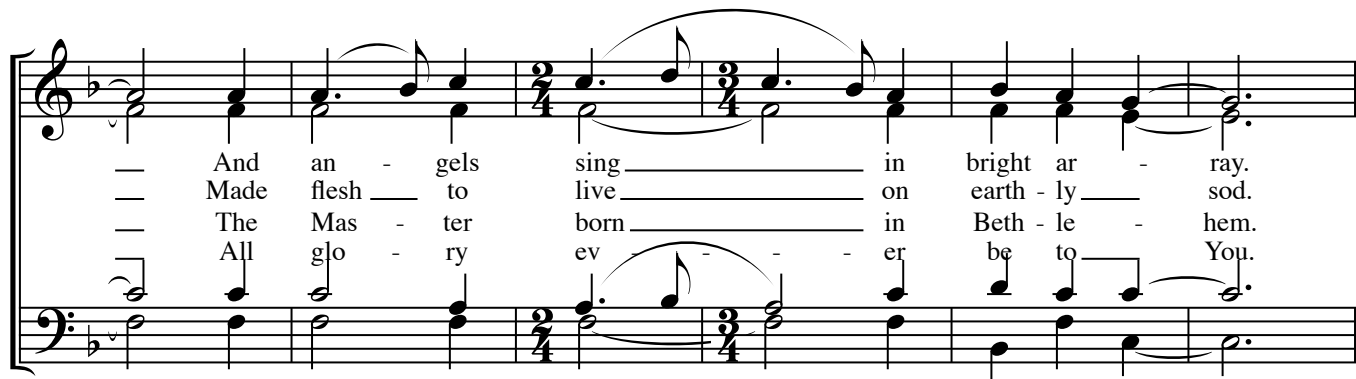
**Joyfully**



1. Make glad, — you right - eous, and re - joice, — And hea - vens,  
2. Now like — the ho - ly Che - ru - bim — The Vir - gin  
3. The shep - herds glo - ri - fy the child, — And kneel be -  
4. The an - gels sing their prais - es high, — And lift — a



moun - tains, dance for joy, — For Christ is born — on earth to - day,  
makes a throne for Him, — And at — her bo - som car - ries God,  
fore His mo - ther mild; — The Ma - gi of - fer gifts to Him,  
glad re - joic - ing cry, — O Lord, past thought — and know - ing too,



— And an - gels sing — in bright ar - ray.  
— Made flesh — to live — on earth - ly — sod.  
— The Mas - ter born — in Beth - le - hem.  
— All glo - ry ev - er be to You.

## REFRAIN



Christ is born, Christ is born, glo - - - ri - fy Him!

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, RT, Rev. 3, 11/25/04.

# O Let Creation All Rejoice

Compline of the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ  
Canticle IX, Stanza IV  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks

Richard Toensing

**Joyfully (in one)**

1. O let Cre - a - tion all re - jice And great - ly  
2. And He who was be - fore all things To earth Him -  
3. O let the Ma - gi come to Him, And tra - vel  
4. let our hum - ble, mor - tal race Re - jice in

raise its hymns of joys, For our Cre - a - tor makes Him -  
self as hu - man brings, Our God on earth in flesh re -  
far to Beth - le - hem, And let the shep - herds clap their  
His im - mor - tal grace, And join the an - gel hosts who

self To be cre - a - ted, here to dwell.  
veal'd Al - migh - ty glo - ry there con - ceal'd.  
hands, At won - der come to earth - ly lands.  
sing, Their prais es to the Sa - vior bring.

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Music © Richard Toensing, 2004.

# The Kings Arrive From Persia's East

Compline of the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ  
Canticle VIII, Stanza III  
Adapted, Fr. Jack Sparks  
**With Majesty; not too fast!**

Richard Toensing

The Kings ar - rive from Per - sia's East, Their er - ror  
now for - ev - er - ceas'd, To Christ the great al - migh - ty  
King Their gifts to Him at birth to bring, Of myrrh and  
frank - in - cense and gold, Re - mem - b'ring pro - phe - cies of  
old; O chil dren, bless, and call Him Lord And all ex -

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The music features a steady, majestic pace with various rhythmic values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.



The Kings Arrive From Persia's East

alt Him ev - - - er - more.

The musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. It begins with a whole note chord (F#4, A4) for the word 'alt', followed by another whole note chord (F#4, A4) for 'Him'. The third measure starts with a 3/2 time signature change and features a melodic line: a dotted half note (F#4), a quarter note (A4), and a dotted half note (F#4) with a slur over the last two notes. The lyrics 'ev - - - er - more.' are aligned with these notes. The lower staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It provides harmonic support with chords corresponding to the vocal line.