



Българска Патриаршия

Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Diocese
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Most Rev. Metropolitan Joseph

ARCHPASTORAL NATIVITY MESSAGE

“For unto us a Child is born...” (Isaiah 9:6)

Beloved

The holy and blessed Feast of the Nativity of our Lord is a very joyous day. Today the eternal God enters our humanity for our deliverance from sin. Today the infinite wisdom of God is revealed in the birth of the Savior. Today an enduring promise of peace is established by an Infant, Whose name Emmanuel means God is with us. On this day His great love for us is shown as the Word became flesh and dwell among us (John 1:14).

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ is a revelation of truth, peace and love. Our celebration on this glorious Feast affirms this revelation and offers a witness of its power in our lives. Our hearts are filled with peace which we share with others, for our hope has been renewed by our trust in God. We live in the assurance of eternal blessings, and we invite others to come and see all that He has done for us.

Finally, our gatherings in parishes and homes, each day and every moment of our lives are filled with His love. As He revealed His great love for us in the Birth of our Lord, we reveal divine grace through our faith, our acts of kindness and service and our generosity to others especially those in needs. Our compassion, which leads us to give glory to God in the highest, will lead others to the King of kings, to our Savior Who is Christ the Lord!

May you, your community and your family be filled with joy and peace on this blessed Feast as you celebrate the revelation of God in the birth of Christ. While you live in the midst of tremendous challenges and needs, may you also affirm that you live in the presence of our Lord, Who guides us in sharing the grace and truth that will lead others to Him and to abundance of life.

Have a great Nativity and a blessed New 2016 year!

With love in the new-born Child,