

NATIVITY EPISTLE 2013

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will among men”

The Church of Christ has passed down this holy angelic hymn through the ages and we greet all of you with it on this great day, wishing you spiritual peace in just return for your good will in serving the newly born Son of God our Savior.

May this majestic procession of the cross by the Church of Christ through all these past centuries fill us with unshakeable faith in the complete security of the Church, the ship of Christ. In vain do the waves of the sea of life rise up, frothing and foaming, threatening us with ever-rising crests and revealing the abyss below into which they try to plunge the Ship of Christ. Our Helmsman is the Lord Himself and if we are in His Ship, we have nothing to fear and no reason to be faint-hearted, for our Ship is safe and will get through all the twists and turns and maelstroms of life as it has already done for more than twenty centuries since the birth of Christ up to the present day.

Since news of the birth of the Christ Child reached King Herod, other King Herods throughout history under different names have agitated against the Truth and tried to drive it away, but they crossed over to eternal damnation in disgrace, leaving future generations the legacy of their insanity. Where is the monstrous Nero, the treacherous apostate Julian, Lenin possessed with hatred for Christ, where are the countless antichrists big and small, and blasphemers of the Church who menaced Heaven with their powerless evil works and left this earth in agony as if being taken alive to hell?

However, such lessons of history have not made any mark on the spiritually blind rationalists and people of little faith.

As for us, we will never for a moment doubt Christ's victory that is proclaimed to us each year by the Holy Prophet Isaiah: “God is with us, understand all ye nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us.”

May the newly born Infant Christ from His radiant Manger pour into our souls His Light everlasting filled with peace and joy!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Bishop Joseph