

Divine Liturgy, December 24 SATURDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY

The holy great martyr Eugenia. Her father was Eparch of All Egypt. Eugenia ministered to the Christians who had been forced to flee the city of Alexandria due to persecution, and was then baptized. She assumed men's clothing and lived in a monastery. She was betrayed to the Eparch, who then found his daughter (thought by him to be dead). He was converted to the Faith. They moved back to Rome, where she was beheaded on December 25. (262)

Troparion of the Vigil of the Nativity - Tone 4

At that time, Mar-y regis-tered in Beth-le-hem with the el-der Joseph, who was of
the house of Da - vid. She had con-ceived with-out seed and was with child,
and her time to give birth had come. They found no room at the inn,
but the cave be - came a pleas-ant pal - ace for the Queen. Christ is born to
raise up the like - ness that had fall - en.

Troparion of the holy great martyr Eugenia - Tone 8

In you, O moth-er, the di-vine im-age was strict-ly pre-served;

Note: when December 24 falls on a Saturday, the fasting normally appointed for the day is transferred to Friday, December 23rd. On Saturday morning, the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is celebrated, using the propers given here.

tak - ing up your cross, you fol - lowed Christ. You taught us
 by ex - am - ple how to spurn the flesh, for it pass - es a - way, and how to
 care for the soul, which is im - mor - tal. There - fore, O ven - 'ra - ble Eu -
 ge - ni - a, your soul re - joic - es with the an - gels.

Cantor

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Kontakion of the Pre-feast - Tone 3

To - day the Vir - gin is com - ing to the cave to give birth to
 the e - ter - nal Word in a man - ner be - yond ex - pres - sion.
 Let the world dance when it hears the news; with the an - gels and

shep - herds glorify the e - ter - nal God who chose to ap - pear as a
new - born child.

Prokeimenon of a woman martyr - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):

God is won - drous in his saints, the God of Is - ra - el,
the God of Is - ra - el.

Verse: In the churches bless God; from Israel's wellsprings bless the Lord.

Alleluia of a woman martyr - Tone 1 (Psalm 39:2,3):

Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Verse: I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.

Verse: He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

Communion Hymn for a woman martyr (Psalm 32:1):

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Re-joyce in the Lord, re-joyce, you right-eous ones; praise from the up-right,

Refrain



the up - right is fit-ting. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!