



## The Period of the Nativity Fast Has Begun

November 15 – December 24

### He Comes as One Poor...

“God, Who is rich in mercy  
for His great love  
wherewith He loved us,  
for our sakes became poor  
that we through His poverty  
might be rich...”

(cf. II Corinthians 8:9, and Ephesians 2:4)

Our spiritual journey to the Cave of Bethlehem has begun.

So as to encounter God, Who became Poor for our sakes, let us exercise ourselves more assiduously in poverty in Christ, which is twofold:

**M**aterial poverty: frugality, temperance, self-sacrifice, self-abnegation, compassion in deeds, words, and heart...

**S**piritual poverty: “Blessed are the poor in spirit,” humility, repentance, self-reproach, tears, forgiveness, forbearance...

Putting into practice this twofold Poverty in Christ, let us fall down and worship with gratitude our Impoverished Savior, that we might be enriched with the Eternal Riches of His Grace.



November 15, 2017 (Old Style)

† Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas, and Habib

The Least Minister of Christ's Sheep, Girt with the Towel of Servitude,

† Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle