

Armenian Christmas January 2019

Program for Christmas Eve, Friday January 18 and Christmas Day, Saturday January 19

Times are approximately

Friday January 19, 2019

Around **9:45-10:00 am** His Beatitude the Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem leaves from the Armenian Convent in Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

Priests, Deacons and Seminarians follow the Patriarchate's car in procession.

The faithful are invited to join the procession by their own means of transport.

At **10:15 am** the procession stops at Mar Elias Monastery and is welcomed by the Deputy Mayor of Bethlehem, the Mayors of Beit Jala and Beit Sahur, Mukhtars of Bethlehem and notables of the Armenian Community, and then continues to Bethlehem.

At **11:00 am** the Solemn Entry of His Beatitude the Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem, the Brotherhood of St. James and Seminarians in Bethlehem, from Manger Square to the Basilica of the Nativity

At **14:00 pm** Solemn Entry of His Beatitude, the Brotherhood of St. James and Seminarians in procession from the Basilica of the Nativity to the Grotto of the Nativity.

At **14.30 pm** the Vespers start, followed by Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Nativity

At **22:00 pm** the Christmas Service starts in the Church of the Nativity.

At **midnight** His Beatitude and the Brotherhood of St. James, together with official representatives of the Palestinian Authorities will go to the Grotto of the Nativity, where His Beatitude reads the Gospel and gives his Christmas Sermon.

The Liturgy ends on **Saturday**, the 19th of January around **6:30 am**.