

Celebration of the Eucharist
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
3:00 PM VIGIL MASS

December 24th, 2024
Church



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH

INTRODUCTORY RITES

From our individual lives and situations, we gather as one family.

OPENING HYMN

Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
3. Adeste Fideles Laeti Triumphantes,
Venite, Venite in Bethlehem.
Natum Videte, Regem Angelorum;
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Dominum!

GREETING

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

PENITENTIAL ACT

During the Penitential Act, we acknowledge the sin that affects our relationship with God, ourselves, others, and the world around us. We seek Christ's healing love and forgiveness in order that we might be transformed.

Presider: Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you are the eternal Word of God, in unapproachable light:

Deacon : Lord, have mercy.

All : Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you took flesh in the womb of the Virgin:

Deacon: Christ have mercy.

All : Christ have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you reconcile us to the Father and to one another:

Deacon: Lord, have mercy.

All : Lord, have mercy.

Presider: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All : Amen.

CHRISTMAS GLORIA

Ancient hymn by which the Church, gathered in Holy Spirit, glorifies and entreats God the Father and the Lamb.

French carol
Setting by Daniel W. Laginya

The musical score is written for a single voice part in 3/2 time, featuring a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/2 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4. The lyrics 'Glo -' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,' are written below the second staff. The third staff continues the melody with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, and a quarter note C4. The lyrics 'glo -' are written below the third staff. The fourth staff continues the melody with a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o' are written below the fourth staff. The score ends with a double bar line.

COLLECT

Presider: O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, Grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
All : Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Through the Scriptures, we receive teaching, correction, and training in righteousness. We are guided and instructed in faith and in how to live in right relationship with God, others, ourselves, and creation.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9: 2 - 4, 6 - 7

Those who walked in the dark have seen a bright light. And it shines upon everyone who lives in the land of darkest shadows.

Our Lord, you have made your nation stronger. Because of you, its people are glad and celebrate like workers at harvest time or soldiers dividing what they have taken.

You have broken the power of those oppressed and enslaved your people. You have rescued them as you did from Midian.

For us a child is born. A son has been given to us, and he will be our ruler. His names will be: Wonderful Advisor and Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace.

His power will never end, and peace will last forever. He will rule David's kingdom and make it grow strong. He will always rule with honesty and justice.

The Lord All-Powerful will make certain that all of this is done.

The Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

TODAY IS BORN OUR SAVIOR/ALLELUIA

RESPONSORIAL PSALM & GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Paul Inwood

Refrain: 1st time: Cantor/All; thereafter: All

Resp. Psalm 7 To - day is born our Sav-ior Je - sus Christ the
 Gospel Acc. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -

1 Lord. ia! 2 to Verse(s) Lord. ia! Final Lord. ia, Je - sus Christ the Lord. al - le - lu - ia!

*Verses (Responsorial Psalm only)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD; bless his holy name. 2. Announce his salvation, day after day.
Tell his glory among all the nations;
among all peoples
his marvelous deeds. 3. Let the heavens be glad
and the earth rejoice; | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful
and all that is in them be joyful.
Then let all the trees
of the forest rejoice. 4. They shall rejoice before the LORD,
who comes to govern the earth,
to govern the world with justice
and all the peoples with faithfulness. |
|--|---|

*Verses for Psalm only. Verse for the Gospel Acclamation is available in accompaniment books.

Text: Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13. Psalm refrain © 1969, 1981, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
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SECOND READING

Titus 3: 4 - 6

Brothers and Sisters:

God our Savior showed us how good and kind he is. He saved us because of his mercy,
 And not because of any good things that we have done.
 God washed us by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 He gave us new birth and a fresh beginning.

The Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION- ALLELUIA

GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1 - 4

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. These first records were made when Quirinius was Governor of Syria.

Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed. So, Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, And Joseph went there because he was from David's family.

Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby and while they were there, She gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him in a manger, Because there was no room for them in the inn.

That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep. All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, And the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David's hometown a Savior is born for you. He is Christ the Lord. You will know who he is, Because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying in a manger."

Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said: "Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

For the nurturing of Christian life. An explanation of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture taking into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The whole gathered people honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man. (Pause while all genuflect)*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Petitions are offered for the holy Church, for those who govern in authority over us, for those weighed down by various needs, for all humanity, and for the salvation of the whole world.

Response: Lord hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

At the Last Supper Christ instituted the Paschal Sacrifice and banquet, by which the Sacrifice of the Cross is continuously made present in the Church whenever the Priest, representing Christ the Lord, carries out what the Lord himself did and handed over to his disciples to be done in his memory.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS/OFFERTORY

The altar, or Lord's table, which is the center of the whole Liturgy of the Eucharist, is made ready.

We give thanks to God for our many blessings and bring gifts to the Altar. This is also the time of the Mass reserved to make our donation. For your convenience, you can scan the QR code provided here for our new online giving platform, PushPay. Thank you for your generosity.



What Child is This

1. What Child is this, who laid to rest, on
Mary's lap is sleeping, whom angels greet with
anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping.

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary.**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate, where
ox and ass are feeding. Good Christian, fear;
for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.
3. So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh; Come,
peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings
salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Presider: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Presider: As we look forward, O Lord, to the coming festivities,
May we serve you all the more eagerly For knowing that in them
You make manifest the beginnings of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The center and high point of the entire celebration begins. The whole congregation of the faithful join with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in the offering of the Sacrifice.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The congregation joins in song with the heavenly powers.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

4

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of
hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.
Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

MYSTERY OF FAITH

Memorial Acclamation

All: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again

CONSECRATION

The Holy Spirit transforms the gifts on the altar into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Christ's sacrifice also enters our hearts as we participate in it, that we might come to know and model the love that is present in the sacrifice.

DOXOLOGY AND GREAT AMEN

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

All: Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The congregation praises the Father, prays for the coming of his Kingdom on earth, and recalls the need for reconciliation to God and others.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

THE RITE OF PEACE

The Church entreats peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their unity and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament.

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon or Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION

The faithful are made one body by receiving Communion from the one Bread of Life, which is Christ, who for the salvation of the world died and rose again.

As Catholics, we recognize the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Those who are not Catholic or those Catholics who cannot now receive Communion, may come forward during the Communion Procession and receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest. This indicates to any Minister of Communion that you are receiving a blessing rather than Holy Communion.

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. Silent Night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin Mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds' quake,
at the sight; Glories stream from Heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!
3. Silent Night, holy night, Son of God,
love's pure light, Radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

Sung by Children's Choir:

Away in a Manger Christmas Medley

Do You Here What I Hear

The Seven Joys of Mary

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider: Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may draw new vigor
From celebrating the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son,
By whose heavenly mystery we receive both food and drink,
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we live out our baptismal consecration in the world. Renewed by the Eucharist, we are sent back into our daily lives to transform our communities and world. Mass is complete after the last Hymn is sung. Out of respect we ask you to remain in your pew until after the recessional is completed

We will sing verses 1, 2 and 4.

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
2. Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
3. No more let sin and sor - row grow, Nor
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And

earth re - ceive her king; Let ev - 'ry
us our songs em - ploy; While fields and
thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries

heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and na - ture
floods, rocks, hills and plains Re - peat the sound - ing
make his bless - ings flow Far as the curse is
of his right - eous - ness, And won - ders of his

sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
found, Far as the curse is found, Far
love, And won - ders of his love, And

heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
as, far as the curse is found.
won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: ANTIOCH, CM: arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759, in T. Hawkes' *Collection of Tunes*, 1833

All included explanations are from the *Roman Missal* and/or UCSSB website.

“May each Christmas, as it comes, find us more and more like Him, who at this time became a little child for our sake, more simple-minded, more humble, more holy, more affectionate, more resigned, more happy, more full of God.” (St. John Henry Newman)

Merry Christmas.

St Francis of Assisi - Priests, Deacons, and Pastoral Team