

Celebration of the Eucharist
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
9:30 AM AND 11:00 AM MASS

December 25th, 2024



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. Adeste Fideles Laeti Triumphantes,
Venite, Venite in Bethlehem.
Natum Videte, Regem Angelorum;
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Venite Adoremus,
Dominum!
2. 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!
3. 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!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appealing;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

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: Lord, have mercy.

All : Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you took flesh in the womb of the Virgin: Christ have mercy.

All : Christ have mercy.

Deacon: Lord Jesus, you reconcile us to the Father and to one another: 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 for 'Christmas Gloria' is written in 2/2 time and consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 2/2 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'Glo' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,' are written below. The third staff continues with a quarter note A5, a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The lyrics 'glo' are written below. The fourth staff concludes the phrase with a quarter note E6, a quarter note F6, a quarter note G6, and a quarter note A6. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o' are written below. The score ends with a double bar line.

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COLLECT

Presider: O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. 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 52: 7 - 10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God King!"

Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion. Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem!

For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.


R: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98


All the Ends of the Earth

Refrain I
unis.




All the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God;

div. *To verses*



all the ends of the earth have seen the pow-er of God.

div.



Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done wondrous deeds; whose right hand has won the victory for us. God's holy arm. **R:**

1. The Lord has made salvation known and justice revealed to all, remembering kindness and faithfulness to Israel. **R:**
2. All the ends of the earth have seen salvation by our God. Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth in song. **R:**
3. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet with horn. Sing in your joy before the king, the king, our Lord. **R:**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1: 1 - 6

Brothers and sisters:

In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say: You are my son; this day I have begotten you? Or again: I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me? And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION- ALLELUIA

GOSPEL

John 1: 1 - 5, 9 - 14

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

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.



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.

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: Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day, when you manifested the reconciliation that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship.

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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, 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.

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.

Hark ! the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er -
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of

new - born King! Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,
 last - ing Lord! Late in time be - hold him come,
 Right-eous-ness! Light and life to all he brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all you
 Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
 Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his

na - tions, rise; Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 God - head see; Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Tune: MENDELSSOHN, 77 77 D with refrain: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider: Grant, O merciful God, that just as the Savior of the world, born this day, is the author of divine generation for us, so he may be the giver even of immortality.

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.

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