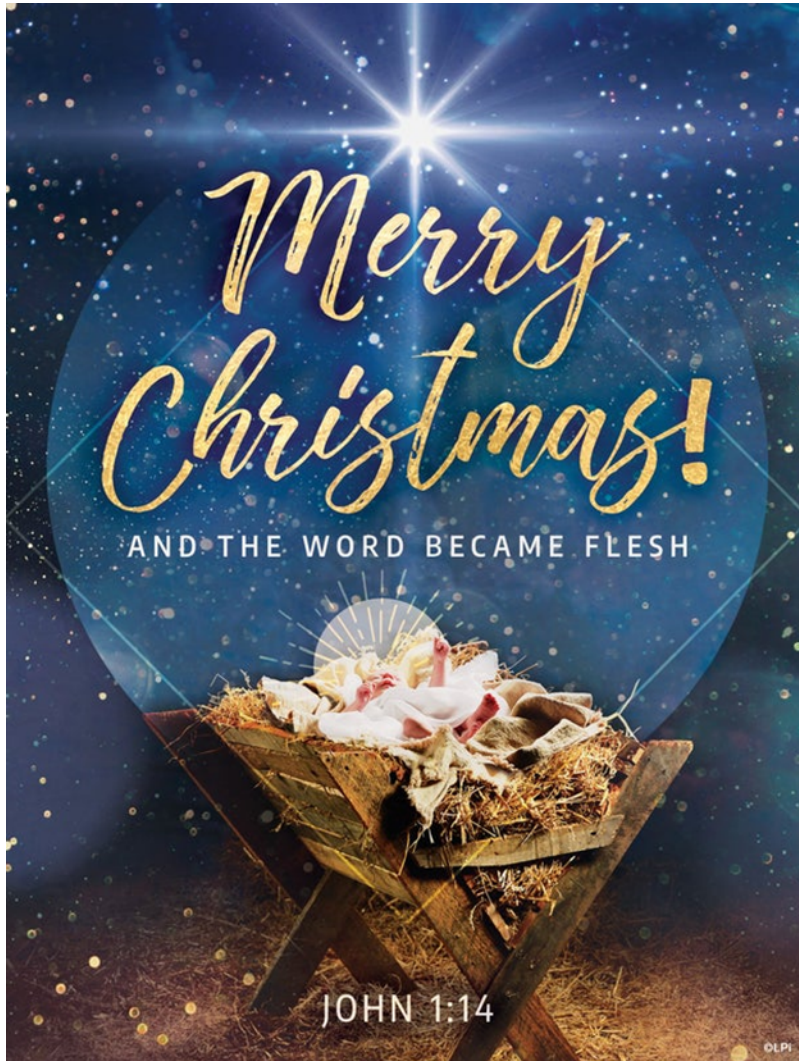


Celebration of the Eucharist  
**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**  
**5:00 PM and 7:00 PM VIGIL MASS**

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 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. 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 one 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:

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 for 'Christmas Gloria' is presented in four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/2 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, then a half note D5. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes E5, F5, G5, and A5, followed by a quarter rest. The third staff begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, then a half note D5. The fourth staff continues with quarter notes E5, F5, G5, and A5, followed by a quarter rest. The lyrics 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o' are written below the notes.

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## 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 62:1-5**

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch. Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

The Word of the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 96**

### 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. Lord. Lord. Je - sus Christ the Lord.  
ia! ia! ia, al - le - lu - ia!

\*Verses (Responsorial Psalm only)

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;
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.

Verses based on the *New American Bible* © 1970, CCD. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music © 1991, Paul Inwood. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

## SECOND READING

**Acts of the Apostles 13:16-17, 22-25**

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue, he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt. With uplifted arm he led them out of it. Then he removed Saul and raised up David as king; of him he testified, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish.' From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not him. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'"

The Word of the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION- ALLELUIA

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 1:18-25**

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

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: 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

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.*

### 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: MENDELSSÖHN, 77 77 D with refrain: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847

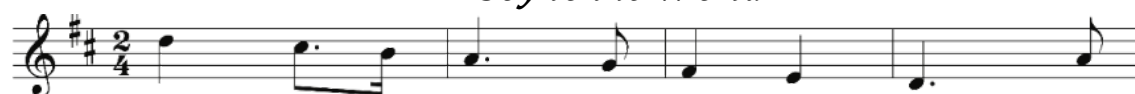
## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.*

## *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***