

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

ENTRANCE HYMN

1. As I kneel before you,
As I bow my head in prayer,
Take this day, make it yours
and fill me with your love.
*Ave Maria, Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu.*
2. All I have I give you,
Ev'ry dream and wish are yours,
Mother of Christ, Mother of mine,
present them to my Lord



GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Micah 5:1-4
*The time will come when she who is to give birth
will give birth.*

The Lord says this:

'You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans
of Judah,
out of you will be born for me
the one who is to rule over Israel;
his origin goes back to the distant past,
to the days of old.
The Lord is therefore going to abandon them
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.
Then the remnant of his brothers will come back
to the sons of Israel.
He will stand and feed his flock
with the power of the Lord,
with the majesty of the name of his God.
They will live secure, for from then on he will extend
his power
to the ends of the land.
He himself will be peace.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 12:6-7. R) Is 61:10

R. I exult for joy in the Lord.

1. Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
Let my heart rejoice in your saving help. (R.)
2. Let me sing to the Lord for his goodness to me,
singing psalms to the name of the Lord, the
Most High. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans
8:28-30

Those whom God foreknew he also predestined.

We know that by turning everything to their good
God co-operates with all those who love him, with
all those that he has called according to his
purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long
ago and intended to become true images of his
Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many
brothers. He called those he intended for this;
those he called he justified, and with those he
justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary,
and most worthy of all praise,
for the sun of justice, Christ our God,
was born of you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew 1:1-16.18-23
Mary has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit.

* This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His
mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before
they came to live together she was found to be with
child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph,
being a man of honour and wanting to spare her
publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had
made up his mind to do this when the angel of the
Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph
son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as
your wife, because she has conceived what is in
her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son
and you must name him Jesus, because he is the
one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now
all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the
Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

The Gospel of the Lord. *

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(All bow)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead,

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Abba Father, let us be, yours and yours alone
Set our hearts, our spirits free
Make us, Lord your own*

1. Through your goodness, Lord we bring
Bread of our labour and wine to cheer the heart
Which will soon be filled for us
With the life of your Son
- 2....Take this drop of water, too
Sign of our weakness, yet symbol of our love
By its mingling may we share, your dignity.

COMMUNION HYMNS

1. My soul proclaims the Lord my God,
my spirit sings his praise!
He looks on me, he lifts me up,
and gladness fills my days.
2. All nations now will share my joy,
His gifts he has outpoured;
His little one he has made great;
I magnify the Lord.
3. For those who love his holy name,
His mercy will not die.
His strong right arm puts down the proud
And lifts the lowly high.
4. He filled the hungry with good things,
The rich he sends away.
The promise made to Abraham
is filled to endless day.
5. Magnificat, magnificat,
magnificat, praise God!
praise God, praise God, praise God, praise God
magnificat, praise God.

1. Immaculate Mary! Our hearts are on fire,
that title so wondrous fills all our desire
Ave, ave, ave Maria!
2. We pray for God's glory, may his kingdom
come!
we pray for his vicar, our Father, and Rome.
3. We pray for our mother the church upon earth,
and bless, sweetest Lady, the land of our birth.
4. For poor, sick, afflicted thy mercy we crave;
and comfort the dying, thou light of the grave.
5. In grief and temptation, in joy or in pain,
we'll ask thee, our mother, nor seek thee in
vain.
6. In death's solemn moment, our mother, be nigh;
as children of Mary O teach us to die.
7. And crown thy sweet mercy with this special
grace,
to behold soon in heaven God's

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Hail Queen of heav'n, the ocean star,
Guide of the wand'rer here below.
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care,
Save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, Star of the sea,
Pray for the wanderer, pray for me. (2)
2. O gentle, chaste and spotless Maid,
We sinners make our prayers through Thee;
Remind thy Son that He has paid
The price of our iniquity.
Virgin most pure, Star of the sea,
Pray for the sinner, pray for me. (2)
3. And while to Him who reigns above.
in Godhead One, in Persons Three.
the source of life, of grace, of love.
homage we pay on bended knee
do Thou, bright Queen, star of the sea,
pray for Thy children, pray for me (2)

