

# THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - FEAST

Cycle C

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*All the earth proclaim the Lord,  
sing your praise to God.*

1. Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness  
Come into his presence, singing for joy.
2. Know that the Lord is our creator.  
Yes, he is our Father, we are his sons.
3. We are the sheep of his green pasture,  
for we are his people; he is our God.
4. Enter his gates bringing thanksgiving,  
O enter his courts while singing his praise.



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

## 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.

and they will call him Emmanuel,  
a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

The Gospel of the Lord. \*

### NICENE CREED

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;

(All bow)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.  
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.

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*Take our bread, we ask you,  
take our hearts, we love you,  
take our lives, oh Father,  
we are yours, we are yours.*

1. Yours as we stand at the table you set,  
yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget.  
We are the signs of your life with us yet;  
we are yours, we are yours.
2. Your holy people stand washed in your blood,  
Spirit-filled, yet hungry, we await your food.  
Poor though we are, we have brought ourselves  
to you:  
we are yours, we are yours.

### 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.

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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. Mary most holy, from your hands falling  
are heaven's blessings. Hear us, now calling.  
Teach us to pray, and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.
2. Help us to witness Christ is still living,  
service to others cheerfully giving.  
Teach us to pray, and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.
3. Through joy and sorrow, each day's condition,  
ever, dear Mother, hear our petition.  
Teach us to pray and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.

