

THE BIRTH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST - SOLEMNITY

ENTRANCE HYMN

*Glory and praise to our God
Who alone gives light to our days
Many are the blessings He bears
To those who trust in His ways*

We, the daughters and sons of Him
Who built the valleys and plains
Praise the wonders our God has done
In every heart that sings

In His wisdom, He strengthens us
Like gold that's tested in fire
Though the power of sin prevails
Our Lord is there to save

Every moment of everyday
Our God is waiting to save
Always ready to seek the lost
To answer those who pray

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

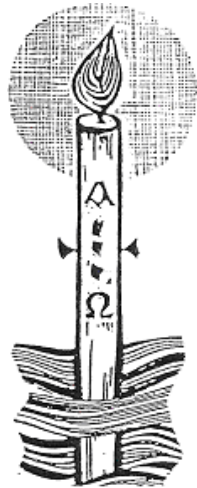
FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 49: 1-6
I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Islands, listen to me,
pay attention, remotest peoples,
the Lord called me before I was born,
from my mother's womb he pronounced my name.

He made my mouth a sharp sword,
and hid me in the shadow of his hand.
He made me into a sharpened arrow,
and concealed me in his quiver.

He said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
while I was thinking, 'I have toiled in vain,
I have exhausted myself for nothing';



and all the while my cause was with the Lord,
my reward with my God.
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
To restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the
survivors of Israel.
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 138:1-3. 13-15 R) v. 14

R. I thank you for the wonder of my being.

1. O Lord, you search me and you know me,
you know my resting and my rising,
you discern my purpose from afar.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to you. (R.)
2. For it was you who created my being,
knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for the wonder of my being,
for the wonders of all your creation. (R.)
3. Already you knew my soul,
my body held no secret from you
when I was being fashioned in secret
and moulded in the depths of the earth. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 13 : 22 - 26
Jesus, whose coming was heralded by John.

Paul said: 'God made David the king of our ancestors, of whom he approved in these words, "I have elected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose." To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal."

'My brothers, sons of Abraham's race, and all you who fear God, this message of salvation is meant for you.'

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf Lk 1:76

Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:57-66. 80
His name is John.

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a

