

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

(MASS DURING THE DAY)

Entrance Antiphon:

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his scepter of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

ENTRANCE HYMN

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (x2)

2. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
3. See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.



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 52:7-10
All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

How beautiful on the mountains,
are the feet of one who brings good news,
who heralds peace, brings happiness,
proclaims salvation,
and tells Zion,
'Your God is king!'
Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,

they shout for joy together,
for they see the Lord face to face,
as he returns to Zion.
Break into shouts of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord is consoling his people,
redeeming Jerusalem.
The Lord bares his holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97:1-6. R] v. 3

**R. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. (R.)
2. The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel. (R.)
3. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. (R.)
4. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 1:1-6
God has spoken to us through his Son.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

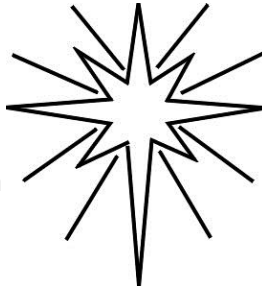
God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.
Come, you nations, worship the Lord,
for today a great light has shone down
upon the earth.
Alleluia!



No one has ever seen God;
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's
heart,
who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
1:1-18
The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

* In the beginning was the Word:
the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower. *

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

* The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.
The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth. *



John appears as his witness. He proclaims:
'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me
ranks before me
because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us,
received -
yes, grace in return for grace,
since, though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

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

1. Take these gifts we offer, Lord,
take these gifts we offer you.
Take these gifts and help us, Lord,
to see you more clearly.
2. Take this bread we offer, Lord,
take this bread we offer you.
Take this bread and help us, Lord,
to love you more dearly.
3. Take this wine we offer, Lord,
take this wine we offer you.
Take this wine and help us, Lord,
to follow you more nearly.

Communion Antiphon:

*All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of
our God.*



COMMUNION HYMNS

1. 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, (x3)
Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God, light of light,
lo! he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not creat'd:
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above:
glory to God in the highest:
4. Adeste fideles, Laeti triumphantes;
Venite, venite in Bethlehem;
Natum videte, Regem Angelorum:

*Venite adoremus, (x3)
Dominum!*

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1. Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a Mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
3. And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love, and watch the lowly maiden
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children, all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.



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1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
- but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.
4. Oh holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels,
the great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Joy to the world, the Lord has come.
Let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare Him room.
And heaven and nature sing (x2)
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, (x2)
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make, His blessings flow,
Far as the curse was found, (x2)
Far as, far as the curse was found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, (x2)
And wonders, wonders of His love.