DECEMBER 25, 2020

Nativity of the Lord

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas is joy, religious joy, an inner joy of light and peace.

* Pope Francis
Today, the twenty-fifth of December, unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image. Several thousand years after the flood, when God made the rainbow to shine forth as a sign of the covenant. Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt. Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David King; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel. In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of Rome. The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception, was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary. Today is the nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

Gathering - O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDE LIS

1. Ad - e - ste fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes, Ve - ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem; Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav’n a - bove!

2. ~  Sin g, cho  -  irs of an  -  gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv’n;

3. ~  Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing ni - te, a - do - re - mus, Ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus, Ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O

Text & music: John Wade.
LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Scripture - *Isaiah 52:7-10*

The ends of the earth will see God’s salvation. Break forth together in song, Jerusalem, for the good news of peace has come. God redeems Jerusalem and gives comfort to all people.

Responsorial - *Psalm 98: All the Ends of the Earth*  
Joseph Gelineau, SJ

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. The Lord has made known his salvation, has shown his deliverance to the nations. He has remembered his merciful love and his truth for the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song, and sing out your praise. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of song. With trumpets and the sound of the horn, raise a shout before the King, the Lord.


Gloria – *A Christmas Gloria*  
Paul Gibson

Verse 1
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless, we adore you, we glorify you, We give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Verse 2
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. 

Verse 3
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. 

Music based on Trad. French carol. This arrangement © 1988, Paul Gibson. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

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Second Scripture – Hebrews 1:1–6

“In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets,” but now we have God’s own heir, the glory of the Lord who sustains all things. Let all angels worship God’s first-born, God’s heir, God’s son.

Gospel Acclamation – Christmastime Alleluia

Great news and great joy to all the world; Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

James Chepponis © 1997 by GIA Publications

Gospel – John 1:1–18

“The Word made Flesh made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory...full of grace and truth.” We all have partaken of this fullness: love following love.

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, 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.

Prayer of the Faithful – Lord, Hear Our Prayer
Preface Dialogue

Eucharistic Acclamations – Mass of Creation  

HOLY


Mystery of Faith


Communion – Night of Silence  

1. Hark! The herald-angels sing: “Glory to the newborn king; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
   Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
   With the angelic host proclaim: “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
   Hark! The herald-angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
   Late in time, behold Him come, Offspring of a Virgin’s womb.
   Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate Deity!
   Pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
   Hark! The herald-angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”