

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) < ABC

*At the Mass During the Night
December 24, 2023*

offerings with a serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as once you were pleased to accept the gifts of your servant Abel the just, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim. In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God: command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty, so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

For the Dead

Remember also, Lord, your servants *N.* and *N.*, who have gone before us with the sign of faith and rest in the sleep of peace. Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ, a place of refreshment, light and peace (Through Christ our Lord. Amen) To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners, hope in your abundant mercies, graciously grant some share and fellowship with your holy Apostles and Martyrs: with John the Baptist, Stephen, Matthias, Barnabas, (Ignatius, Alexander, Marcellinus, Peter, Felicity, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia) and all your Saints; admit us, we beseech you, into their company, not weighing our merits, but granting us your pardon, through Christ our Lord. Through whom you continue to make all these good thing, O Lord; you sanctify them, fill them with life, bless them, and bestow them upon us.

Concluding Doxology

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours,
for ever, and ever. **Amen.**

Communion Rite

STAND

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Priest:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant us peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People:

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.**

Sign Of Peace

Priest : Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your
Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I
give you; look not on our sins, but on the
faith of your Church, and graciously grant
her peace and unity in accordance with
your will. Who live and reign for ever and
ever.

People : **Amen**

Priest : The peace of the Lord be with you
always

People : **And with your Spirit**

Priest : Let us offer each other the sign of peace

Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Grant us peace.

Reception of Communion

KNEEL

Priest : Behold the Lamb of God, behold him
who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of
the Lamb.

People : **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest : The body of Christ.

Answer : **Amen**

Priest : The blood of Christ.

Answer : **Amen**

Communion

*Prayer after Communion
[Union with Christ]*

STAND

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who
are gladdened by participation in the feast of our
Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honorable way
of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives
and reigns for ever and ever.

R/ Amen.

General Announcements

SIT

Blessing

STAND

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

God sent his angels to shepherds to herald the great
joy of our Savior's birth. May he fill you with joy
and make you heralds of his gospel. **R/ Amen.**

When the Word became man, earth was joined to
heaven. May he give you his peace and good will,
and fellowship with all the heavenly host. **R/ Amen.**

May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the
Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **R/ Amen.**

Go in peace with Christ and bear witness to his
love. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

MC: Greeting

Entrance song

STAND

Introduction by the Celebrant

**ENTRANCE ANT. [Son of God]
The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who
have begotten you this day.**

Penitential Act

We have lost our freshness and grown tired
because of our sins.

Let us tell the Lord that we are sorry:

(pause)

People living in darkness,
here comes your light.

Let it enlighten and save you:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

People wounded and burdened,
here comes your savior

Let him heal you:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

People who keep hoping,
here comes God as a child
to make you all new.

Let him bring you peace:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, let the peace of your pardon
come over us and our world.

Lead us to the joy of a new world
and of everlasting life. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest

C: Collect [Eternal Gladness]

O God, who have made this most sacred night
radiant with the splendor of the true light, grant, we
pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his
light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in
heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **R/ Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

SIT

First Reading *Is 9:1-6 [The Messiah's Kingdom]
The spell of darkness, the shame of sin is broken-
The Prince of light is born to us.*

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a
great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light
has shone.

You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,

as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,

as people make merry when dividing
spoils.

For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
and the rod of their taskmaster
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.

For every boot that tramped in battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
will be burned as fuel for flames.

For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.

They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.

His dominion is vast

and forever peaceful,
from David's throne, and over his kingdom,
which he confirms and sustains

by judgment and justice,
both now and forever.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 96 [Bless the Lord]*

R./ Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song,

Sing to the LORD, all you lands.

Sing to the LORD; bless his name. **(R.)**

Announce his salvation, day after day.

Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. **(R.)**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult. **(R.)**

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;
for he comes to rule the earth.

He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy. **(R.)**

Second Reading *Ti 2:11-14 [Salvation for All]
We look to the second coming of Christ in glory.
Through his cross we are freed from the darkness
of sin.*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly
desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly
in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the
appearance of the glory of our great God and savior
Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us
from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a
people as his own, eager to do what is good.

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation [Great Joy] STAND
R/ Alleluia, alleluia.

I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
today a Savior is born for us,
Christ the Lord.

R/ Alleluia, alleluia.



Gospel Lk 2:1-14 [Birth of Christ]
Rejoice in the good news-our Savior is born, and he is revealed to us by the witness of shepherds.

R/ The Lord be with you.

R/ And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
R/ Glory to you, O Lord

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.

The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to those on whom
his favor rests."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

SIT

I believe in God

STAND

General Intercessions

On this holy night, a special time of year for believers as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us extend our petitions to the Father:

(Pause)

For the Church: that today on the threshold of Christmas, will be a feast of Hope that binds all in one, as we prepare to celebrate with joy the feast of the birth of Jesus, named Emmanuel, by the Virgin Mary. Let us pray:

The Lord is near: come, let us adore him!

For the nations: that today will become again a feast of peace for those divided by quarrels, for countries divided by war; to restore in this holy season peace in our own hearts, our homes, our communities, our cities and our warring world. Let us pray:

The Lord is near: come, let us adore him!

For our Christian community: that today will be a feast of joy for all our faithful and renew in all hearts the love of God and neighbor that is the true sign of God's Kingdom. Let us pray:

The Lord is near: come, let us adore him!

Lord Jesus, You are the head of the Church, we humbly seek Your providence of the St. Peter Canisius International Catholic Parish, the grace to rejoice in Your coming as our new born King and to be the Light to the nations. Let us pray:

The Lord is near: come, let us adore him!

We pray for those intentions offered for the Mass and for our personal intentions ...

(Pause)

Let us pray:

The Lord is near: come, let us adore him!

Loving Father, in preparation to celebrate in adoration the festivities of your Son's Nativity, help us to open our hearts with joy and love in receiving your blessed and wondrous gift. *R/ Amen.*

Offertory hymn

SIT

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Bread

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you:

fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Preparation of the Wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you:

fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation To Prayer

STAND

Priest : Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People : **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church**

Prayer over the Offerings [Become Like Christ]

STAND

May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

STAND

Introductory Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just

Preface I of The Nativity of The Lord

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in the mystery of the Word made flesh a new light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that, as we recognize in him God made visible, we may be caught up through him in love of things invisible.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Power of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts....

Eucharistic Prayer No. 1

KNEEL

Praise to the Father

To you, therefore, most merciful Father, we make humble prayer and petition through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

that you accept and bless ✠ these gifts, these offerings, these holy and unblemished sacrifices,

Intercession for the Church

which we offer you firstly for your holy catholic Church. Be pleased to grant her peace, to guard, unite and govern her throughout the whole world, together with your servant *N.* our Pope and *N.* our Bishop, and all those who, holding to the truth, hand on the catholic and apostolic faith.

Commemoration of the Living

Remember, Lord, your servants *N.* and *N.* and all gathered here, whose faith and devotion are known to you. For them we offer you this sacrifice of praise or they offer it for themselves and all who are dear to them: for the redemption of their souls, in hope of health and well-being, and paying their homage to you, the eternal God, living and true.

In Communion with the Saints

Celebrating the most sacred night (day) on which blessed Mary the immaculate Virgin brought forth

the Savior for this world, and in communion with those whose memory we venerate, especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ, ✠ and blessed Joseph, her Spouse, your blessed Apostles and Martyrs Peter and Paul, Andrew, (James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude; Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian) and all your Saints; we ask that through their merits and prayers, in all things we may be defended by your protecting help. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Therefore, Lord, we pray: graciously accept this oblation of our service, that of your whole family, order our days in your peace, and command that we be delivered from eternal damnation and counted among the flock of those you have chosen. (Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Be pleased, O God, we pray, to bless, acknowledge, and approve this offering in every respect; make it spiritual and acceptable, so that it may become for us the Body and Blood of your most beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Supper

On the day before he was to suffer he took bread in his holy and venerable hands, and with eyes raised to heaven to you, O God, his almighty Father, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice in his holy and venerable hands, and once more giving you thanks, he said the blessing and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in memory of me.

Memorial Acclamation

Priest : The mystery of faith.

All : **When we eat this Bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

The Memorial Prayer

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion, the Resurrection from the dead, and the glorious Ascension into heaven of Christ, your Son, our Lord, we, your servants and your holy people, offer to your glorious majesty from the gifts that you have given us, this pure victim, this holy victim, this spotless victim, the holy Bread of eternal life and the Chalice of everlasting salvation. Be pleased to look upon these