

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

DECEMBER 24-25, 2022



"The Nativity", Andrea della Robbia (1479)

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

THE MOST REV. STEVEN J. RAICA, CELEBRANT (8:00PM & 8:30AM MASSES)

Welcome to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. We are glad that you have chosen to worship God with us on this great feast; we hope you will rejoin us throughout the year. This order of worship, which follows the structure of the Mass, is provided to assist you in your prayer and participation.

The order of Mass can be found on page 3 in the Sunday's Word booklets found in the pew racks.

Out of courtesy towards the musicians and in keeping with the reverence of the Holy Mass, please turn off all electronic devices and refrain from talking in normal voice during the prelude. Please join in singing the carols below.

CAROL: JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains; Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of his righteousness, And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.



CAROL: WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

GREENSLEEVES

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? *This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *This, this is Christ the King....*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. *This, this is Christ the King...*

CAROL: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

ST. LOUIS

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by; Yet in the dark streets shineth The everlasting Light. The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary And, gathered all above While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth!

How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.

O 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!

JESUS, GENTLEST SAVIOUR (8:00PM & 11:00AM)

CALVERT SHENK

Jesus, gentlest Saviour, God of might and power, Thou Thyself art dwelling In us at this hour. Nature cannot hold Thee; heaven is all to strait For Thine endless glory And Thy royal state. Out beyond the shining Of the farthest star, Thou art ever stretching Infinitely far. Yet the hearts of children Hold what worlds cannot, And the God of wonders Loves the lowly spot. —Text: Fr. Frederick Faber, CO; Hymntune: Louis Lambilotte

—Text: Fr. Frederick Faber, CO; Hymntune: Louis Lambilotte

GESU BAMBINO (8:30AM)

PIETRO YON

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM (8:00PM & 11:00AM POSTCOMMUNION)

TOMAS LUIS DE VICTORIA

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepio! O Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum. Alleluia!

O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the newborn Lord lying in their manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia! —Matins responsory for Christmas Day



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (11:00AM) *Puer natus*

CF. ISAIAH 9:5

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 (ALL MASSES)

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
God of God, Light of Light, Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - al - ta - tion, Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; Come and be - hold him
Lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb; Ve - ry God, Be -
Sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove; Glo - ry to God
Je - su, to thee be - glor - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther,
Born the King of An - gels:
got - ten, not cre - a - ted: O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
In - the high - est:
Now in flesh ap - pear - ing:
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ - the Lord!

KYRIE (5:00PM & 8:30AM)

MASS VIII

Please repeat the "Kyrie" and "Christe" phrases after the cantor; then join in the final "Kyrie".

VIII
K Y- ri- e e- lé- i-son. ij. Chri ste e-
lé- i-son. ij. Ký- ri- e e- lé- i-son. Ký- ri- e e- lé- i-son.

KYRIE (8:00PM & 11:00AM)

MISSA «O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM», FR. TOMAS LUIS DE VICTORIA

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison. / Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.



GLORIA (5:00PM & 8:30AM)

MASS VIII

V
G Ló-ri- a in ex célsis Dé- o. Et in térra pax homí-ni bus bónae vo-lun tá- tis.

Lau dá- mus te. Bene dí- cimus te. A do- rá- mus te. Glo- ri- fi-cámus te. Grá- ti- as á-gi-
 mus tí- bi prop ter mágnam gló- ri- am tú- am. Dómine Dé- us, Rex caelés tis, Dé- us Pá-
 ter omní- po- tens. Dómine Fí- li uni- géni- te Jésu Chrís te. Dómine Dé- us, Agnus
 Dé- i, Fí- li- us Pá- tris. Qui tóllis peccá- ta mún- di, mi- se- ré- re nó- bis. Qui tóllis
 peccá- ta mún di, súscipe de pre- ca- ti- ónem nós- tram. Qui sédes ad déx te- ram Pá- tris,
 mi- se- ré- re nó- bis. Quó ni- am tu só- lus sán- ctus. Tu só- lus Dómi- nus. Tu só- lus Al- tís-
 simus, Jésu Chrí- ste. Cum Sán- cto Spí- ri- tu, in gló- ri- a Dé- i Pá- tris. A-
 men.

GLORIA (8:00PM & 11:00AM)

MISSA «O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM», FR. TOMAS LUIS DE VICTORIA

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (5:00 & 8:00PM)

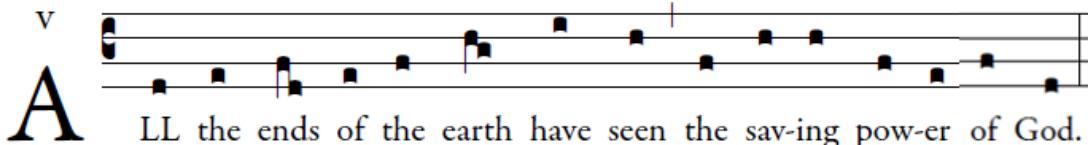
PSALM 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13



To - day, to - day, to - day is born our Sav - ior, Christ the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (8:30 & 11:00AM)

PSALM 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6



LL the ends of the earth have seen the sav-ing pow-er of God.

ALLELUIA



GOSPEL After the proclamation of the Gospel at 8:00pm & 8:30am, please remain standing as the Bishop reverences the Book of Gospels.

HOMILY

CREED (PROFESSION OF FAITH)

All genuflect at the words "And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate..."

UNIVERSAL PRAYER (GENERAL INTERCESSIONS)

OFFERTORY HYMN

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

GLORIA



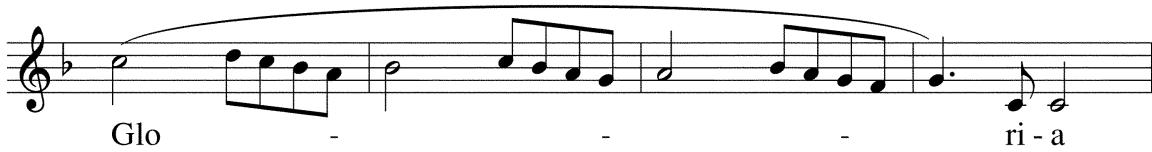
1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the
4. See him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of



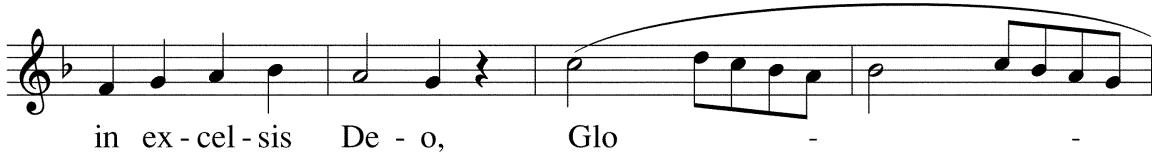
o'er the plains, strains pro-long?
an - gels sing; an - gels praise;
And the moun - tains Say what may the Come a - dore, on Mar - y, Jo - seph, in re - ply
tid - ings be, bend - ed knee, lend your aid,



Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
While our hearts in love we raise.



Glo - ri - a



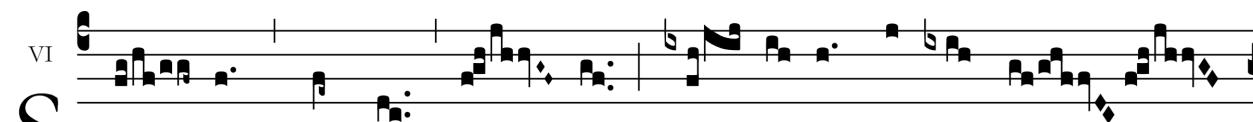
in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a



ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

SANCTUS (ALL MASSES)

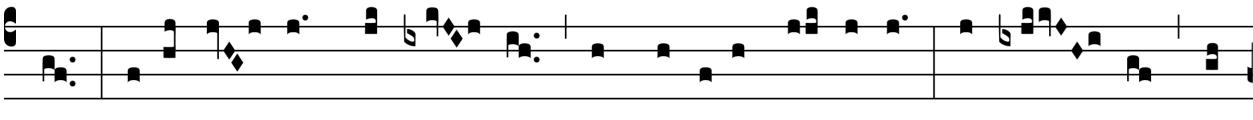
MASS VIII



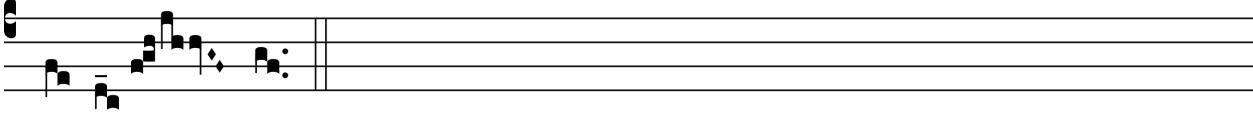
VI S An- ctus, * San ctus, San- ctus Dó- mi- nus De- us Sá-



ba- oth. Pleni sunt cæ- li et ter- ra gló- ri- a tu- a. Ho-sánna in ex cé-



sis. Bene-dí- ctus qui ve- nit in nómíne Dó- mi- ni. Ho- sán- na in



ex cé- sis.

MYSTERIUM FIDEI



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur - rec - tion un - til you come a-gain.

AMEN (8:00PM & 8:30AM)



AGNUS DEI

MASS VIII



HOLY COMMUNION

We invite all Catholics who are properly disposed (i.e., in the state of grace and having fasted for one hour before communion) to come forward in the usual way to receive Holy Communion.

All others, including our non-Catholic guests, may remain in their pews and join us in prayer. Alternatively, to participate in the communion procession and receive a blessing, come forward in the line and cross your arms over your chest as you approach the minister. Thank you.

COMMUNION ANTIphon (11:00AM) *In splendoribus*

PSALM 110:3

In splendoribus sanctorum ex utero ante luciferum genui te.

Amidst the splendors of the heavenly sanctuary, from the womb, before the morning star, I have begotten You.

COMMUNION

(Please join in singing the Christmas carols below.)

AWAY IN A MANGER

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes; I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever, and love me, I pray; Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, And fit us for Heaven to live with Thee there.

SILENT NIGHT

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

**POSTCOMMUNION (11:00AM AD LIBITUM)**

HODIE CHRISTUS NATUS EST

JAN PIETERSZOON SWEELINCK

Hodie Christus natus est. Noe, noe. Hodie, Salvator apparuit, Alleluia. Hodie in terra canunt angeli, laetantur archangeli. Noe, noe. Hodie, exsultant iusti dicentes: gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia. / Today, Christ is born: Today, the Savior appeared: Today, on earth the Angels sing, Archangels rejoice: Today, the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.

—Magnificat antiphon, II Vespers of Christmas Day

CLOSING

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

MENDELSSOHN

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er-
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of

new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild
 last - ing Lord; Late in time be - hold him come,
 Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all you
 Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
 Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his

na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 God - head see: Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"



VOLUNTARY

FINAL, OP. 21

CÉSAR FRANCK

In honor of the 200th Anniversary of the composer's birth.

ABOUT OUR CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Merry Christmas from all of us at the Cathedral of St. Paul! We hope you and your family have a wonderful Christmas season and will return to worship with us often.

At these Masses, our prelude is mostly carol selections: these songs are such a fine sign of the Christmas season that this is fitting. That said, there are many other Christmas ideas presented, musically speaking, today. J.J. Niles' beautiful Spiritual arrangement needs little introduction; it is both a bit stark (perhaps appropriate for the cold temperatures we're experiencing!) and a bit warm (the high notes of the soloist shimmer!) This classic remains the definitive setting of the text. It is followed by another (partially) American carol, in that the composer is one of the Cathedral's former directors of music. Calvert Shenk wrote many works for this very community, and this charming carol (setting a text by Fr. Faber) is one of the best. A gentle, barcarolle-style setting helps us think of our Infant King being lulled to sleep by the gentle rocking of Mary—His mother, and ours, too! Portions of the transcendent *Missa “O Magnum Mysterium”* by Fr. Tomas Luis de Victoria are presented at 8:00pm & 11:00am. Victoria is (along with Palestrina, DiLasso, and Byrd) the most famous and highly-regarded of all high Renaissance composers. A Spaniard, Victoria gained attention as a very young man for his skill as an organist, and was appointed organist and cantor to a number of the most important seminary and collegiate chapels in Rome before his ordination in 1574. Brought back to Spain as chaplain to the daughter of Emperor Charles V, the Dowager Empress Maria of Austria, he had his residence at the royal convent of discalced Poor Clares in Madrid. This appointment allowed Victoria ample time for composition as well as a steady and lucrative income. After the death of the empress, he continued as chapel organist until his death. His legacy is rich and varied: while we know he was certainly familiar with a great deal of secular music, especially madrigals, Victoria's output is exclusively sacred works—a true rarity for that period and in general. *Missa “O Magnum Mysterium”* is a “parody” Mass: that is, it is based on a pre-existing composition (in this case, the motet *O Magnum Mysterium*). In the traditional use, the Mass would borrow all of the choral parts of a motet and simply reassign the text of the various movements of the Ordinary (*Kyrie*, *Gloria*, etc.) However, Victoria assigns various phrases of the motet to the Ordinary texts in a much more intentional way: texts in the motet of a certain mood are paired with similar texts in the Mass Ordinary to evoke similar emotions in those listening. The motet itself is also amazing for its beautiful mixture of wonder (“ut animalia...” “even animals marvel”) and tender devotion (“O beata virgo” “O blessed virgin”), not to mention being the distillation *par excellence* of Victoria's unique compositional voice.

A particularly energetic setting of *Hodie Christus* by Dutch organist J.P. Sweelinck for five voices is presented at 11:00am: we even hear some “noe, noe/nowell, nowell” interjections! Franck's stunning Final is a festival flourish (with a lot of fancy footwork) to end the Liturgy—a special presentation as December 2022 is the 200th Anniversary of the composer's birth.

Merry Christmas!

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