

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

MOST REVEREND STEVEN J. RAICA, BISHOP
VERY REVEREND BRYAN W. JERABEK, PASTOR & RECTOR

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023



Welcome to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. The order of Mass can be found on page 3 in the Sunday's Word booklets.

VOLUNTARY

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, BUXWV 211

DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE

ENTRANCE ANTIphon (5:00PM & 8:30AM) *Gaudete in Domino*

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

Please join in the antiphon below after the cantor introduction and between psalm verses.

1. f

R E- joice * in the Lord al-ways ; a-gain I say,
re- joice. In-deed, the Lord is near.

ENTRANCE ANTIphon (11:00AM) *Gaudete in Domino*

PHILIPPIANS 4:4,5; PSALM 85

Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, Gaudete: modestia vestra nota sit omnibus hominibus: Dominus prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis: sed in omni oratione petitiones vestrae innotescant apud Deum. *X* Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Jacob. / Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your kindness be known to all men; the Lord is near. Be anxious over nothing, but in every prayer make your petitions known to God. *X* O Lord, You have favored Your land, and brought back the captives of Jacob.

KYRIE

MASS XVII

VI

K Y-ri- e * e- lé- i-son. ij. Chrí ste e- lé- i-son. ij. Ký-ri- e
e- lé- i-son. Ký-ri- e * e- lé- i-son. Ký-ri- e * e- lé- i-son.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

LUKE 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

My soul rejoices in my God.

GRADUAL (11:00AM) *Qui sedes, Domine*

PSALM 80:2, 3, 2

Qui sedes, Dómine, super Chérubim, excita poténtiam tuam, et veni. *¶ Qui regis Israël, inténde: qui dedúcis, velut ovem, Ioseph.* / O Lord, who are enthroned upon the Cherubim, stir up Your might and come forth. *¶ O Shepherd of Israel, hear us, You who lead Joseph like a flock.*

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

VIII

A L-le-lú-ia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

ALLELUIA (11:00AM) *Excita, Domine*

PSALM 80:3

Alleluia, Alleluia. *¶ Excita, Domine, potentiam tuam, et veni, et salvos facias nos.*
Alleluia, Alleluia. *¶ Stir up Your might, O Lord, and come to save us.*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (5:00PM & 8:30AM) *Benedixisti*

PSALM 85:2

IV

YOU have blessed, O Lord, your land, you have turned
away the captivity of Jacob. You forgave the guilt of
your people.

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (11:00AM) *Benedixisti*

PSALM 85:2

Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Jacob: remisisti iniquitatem plebis tuae.
O Lord, You have blessed Your land, You have put an end to Jacob's captivity; You have forgiven the guilt of Your people.

SANCTUS

MASS XVII

v

San-ctus, * Sán-ctus, Sán-ctus Dóminus Dé- us Sá- ba- oth. Plé- ni sunt cae- li
 et térra gló- ri- a tú- a. Ho- sán- na in excé- sis. Bene- díctus qui vé- nit in nó-
 mi- ne Dómi- ni. Ho- sán- na in excé- sis.

MYSTERIUM FIDEI

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

AGNUS DEI

MASS XVII

v

Agnus Dé- i, * qui tól- lis peccá- ta mún di: mi- se- ré- re nó- bis.
 Agnus Dé- i, * qui tól- lis peccá- ta mún di: mi- se- ré- re nó- bis. A- gnus
 Dé- i, * qui tól- lis peccá- ta mún di: dóna nó- bis pá- cem.

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 (ALL MASSES)

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom, from on high,
 3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
 4. O come, Thou rod of Jes - se's stem,
 5. O come, Thou key of Dav id, come,
 6. O come, Thou Day - spring from on high
 7. O come, De - sire of na tions, bind

And ran - som cap - tive Is ra - el,
 Who ord - 'rest all things migh ti - ly;
 Who to Thy tribes on Si nai's height
 From ev - 'ry foe de - li ver them
 And o - pen wide our heav'n ly home;
 And cheer us by Thy draw ing nigh;
 In one the hearts of all man - kind;

That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 To us the path of knowl - edge show,
 In an - cient times didst give the law,
 That trust Thy might - y power to save,
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 Bid Thou our sad di - vi sions cease,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And teach us in her ways to go.
 In cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 And give them vict - 'ry o'er the grave.
 And close the path to mis er - y.
 And death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to Thee, O Is ra - el!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (11:00AM) Dicte: Pusillanimes

CF. ISAIAH 35:4

Dicte: Pusillanimes confortamini, et nolite timere: ecce Deus noster veniet, et salvabit nos.

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and He will save us.

POSTCOMMUNION (11:00AM)

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

FRANCISCO GUERRERO

Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli porta manes, et stella maris, succure cadenti, surgere qui curat populo: tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum genitorem, Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore, sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere. / O loving Mother of our Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, Hasten to aid thy fallen people who strive to rise once more. Thou who brought forth thy holy Creator, all creation wond'ring, Yet remainest ever Virgin, taking from Gabriel's lips that joyful "Ave!": be merciful to us sinners.



CLOSING

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Show the glo - ry
 2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3. Won - drous birth! O won - drous child Of the Vir - gin
 4. God Cre - a - tor is his source, Back to God he
 5. Now your low - ly man - ger bright Hal - lows night with



of the Son! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God Was the word of God made flesh—
 un - de - filed! Might - y God and man in one,
 runs his course, Down to death and hell de - scends,
 new - born light; Let no night this light sub - due,



That our Lord chose such a birth.
 Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 Ea - ger now his race to run!
 God's high throne he re - as - cends.
 Let our faith shine ev - er new.

VOLUNTARY

TRIO SUPER "NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND", BWV 660

J.S. BACH

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today, Mass begins with the exhortation to “Rejoice always!”, a reminder that we draw closer to Christmas. From here, the liturgical texts of the Mass change from those preparing us for the Second Coming of Christ to those which prepare us for the first coming of Christ at Christmas. We sing the beloved translation of *Veni, Emmanuel* at communion, a translation of the “O antiphons” from the *Magnificat* of Vespers between December 17 and Christmas. This Sunday is the one day in Advent (aside from a solemnity) that the use of the organ or instruments is traditionally permitted by the Church other than for accompanimental purposes. It also suggests a more elaborate use of the organ in general, and so we present two settings of the chorale “Nun komm der Heiden heiland” for the prelude and voluntary. Dietrich Buxtehude’s setting is probably the model for Bach’s famous BWV 659. Both are ornamented chorales, where the soprano melody is subjected to many interesting and lovely variations. BWV 660, the voluntary after Mass, is nearly unique in the repertoire and the subject of endless puzzlement by organists...it is a trio (not weird) for soprano ornamented melody and two basses (very weird!) The left hand plays one bass part, while the feet play another. In an allegorical sense, one could see the temporal powers of world vainly struggling in the bass (lower regions) versus the Savior in the upper region (obviously signifying Redemption and the “higher things”). That said, it remains a very interesting texture, but a wonderful piece all the same. The motet today is Francisco Guerrero’s setting of the Marian antiphon for Advent, *Alma Redemptoris mater*. You can clearly hear his quotation of the chant melody in the first few entries of voices, and it recurs at various times, often in augmentation. It is a very modal setting, with some unexpected turns (including the final few measures). The writing is varied, with great energy at times, and great introspection at others, and a lovely use of *hemiola* (a contrasting meter in the context of a larger meter) in dialogue with the chant melody. The sopranos, in particular, seems to float benignly over the texture with lovely lines. Guerrero, a fascinating character, established a reputation as a young man, which afforded him some liberties, including a trip to the Holy Land (presumably for “fun”, not for penance), during which he was even attacked by pirates. A student of Morales, he is one of the most famous Spanish polyphonists, and spent most of his life in his native country, with a special association with the Cathedral of Seville.



UPCOMING SERVICES AT THE CATHEDRAL

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, CATHOLIC AND NON-CATHOLIC!

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS, DEC. 24-25

5:00PM VIGIL MASS FOR CHRISTMAS WITH CAROLS

8:00PM PONTIFICAL MASS FOR CHRISTMAS WITH BISHOP RAICA, SUNG BY SCHOLA

11:25PM PRELUDE FEATURING CHORAL, ORGAN, AND CONGREGATIONAL WORKS.

12:00AM SOLEMN MIDNIGHT MASS: REIMANN PASTORALEMESSE "CHRISTKINDL MESSE", WITH GREGORIAN CHANT, CAROLS, AND POLYPHONY BY WILLAN.

7:15AM MASS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY (RECITED)

8:30AM PONTIFICAL MASS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY WITH CHANT, CAROLS, AND ARIAS.

11:00AM MASS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY (SUNG WITH SCHOLA)



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

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THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL

2023 ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MASS OBLIGATION PLANNER

Get ready for back-to-back Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Masses this year!

The Fourth Sunday of Advent is Sunday, December 24. Christmas follows the next day. Both are days of obligation. Therefore, we have two obligations to fulfill – we must go to two distinct Masses.

To fulfill one's Sunday or Holy Day obligation, one may do so by attending any Mass between 4:00pm the evening before and 11:59pm of the day itself.

That means, for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, you can go to any Mass between 4:00pm on Saturday, December 23 and 11:59pm on Sunday, December 24. For Christmas, you can go to any Mass between 4:00pm on Sunday, December 24 and 11:59pm on Monday, December 25.

For the purposes of fulfilling one's obligation, the hymns, readings, prayers, or vestment color of the Mass have no bearing. The obligation is to attend any Mass within the timeframe allowed.

The following planner will help you decide which two Masses you will go to at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, in order to fulfill both of your obligations!

1ST OBLIGATION (Fourth Sunday of Advent) <input type="text"/>	Saturday, December 23 <input type="text"/> 5pm
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(pick one from the right side)

Sunday, December 24	7:15am	8:30am	11am	5pm	8pm
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2ND OBLIGATION (Christmas) <input type="text"/>	Sunday, December 24 <input type="text"/> 5pm <input type="text"/> 8pm
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(pick one from the right side)

Monday, December 25	Midnight	7:15am	8:30am	11am
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If there are any questions, do not hesitate to contact Father Jerabek.