

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

DECEMBER 24-25, 2024



"The Nativity with the Infant Saint John" (1495), Piero di Cosimo, National Gallery of Art

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Presented by Greg, Julie, and Anna Bella Foster

Welcome to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. We are glad that you have chosen to worship God with us; 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 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: O COME, DIVINE MESSIAH

VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE

O come, Divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away. Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night, and show Your face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah, The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away.

O come, Desired of Nations, whom priest and prophet long foretold, Will break the captive fetters, Redeem the long-lost fold. Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night, and show Your face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah, The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away.

O come, in peace and meekness, for lowly will Your cradle be, Though clothed in human weakness We shall Your Godhead see. Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night, and show Your face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah, The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away.

NOËLS FOR CHRISTMAS

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN

CAROL: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains. *Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song. *Gloria...*

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Gloria...*

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...*

CAROL: INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Infant Holy, Infant lowly for His bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new. Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow; Christ the child was born for you.



CAROL: GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN

GOD REST YE MERRY

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray. O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same; how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. O tidings...

"Fear not," then said the angel, "Let nothing you affright; this day is born a Savior of Virgin pure and bright, to free all those who trust in Him from Satan's pow'r and might." O tidings...

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and charity each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas is filled with heavenly grace. O tidings...

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (10:00AM) *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 faith-ful, 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 & 10:00AM)

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



GLORIA (ALL MASSES)

MASS VIII

G ^v Ló-ri- a in excélsis Dé- o. Et in térra pax homí-nibus bónae vo-lun tá- tis.

Lau dá- mus te. Benedí- cimus te. A do- rá- mus te. Glo- ri- fí- cámus te. Grá- ti- as á- gi-
 mus tí- bi prop ter mágnam gló- ri- am tú- am. Dómine Dé- us, Rex caeléstis, Dé- us Pá-
 ter omní- po- tens. Dómine Fí- li uni- géni- te Jé- su 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 depre ca- ti- ónem nós- tram. Qui sédes ad délix 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, Jé- su Chrí ste. Cum Sán cto Spí- ri- tu, in gló- ri- a Dé- i Pá- tris. A-
 men.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

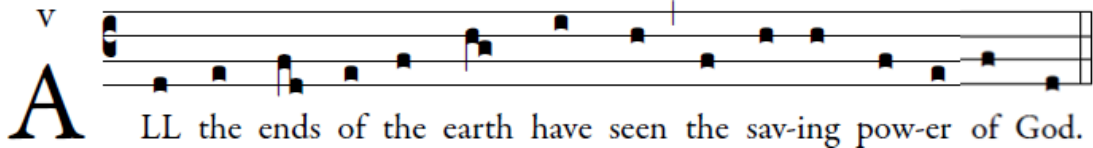
RESPONSORIAL PSALM (5:00 & 8:00PM)

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



RESPONSORIAL PSALM (10:00AM)

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



ALLELUIA



GOSPEL *After the proclamation of the Gospel at Mass with Bishop Raica, 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..."*

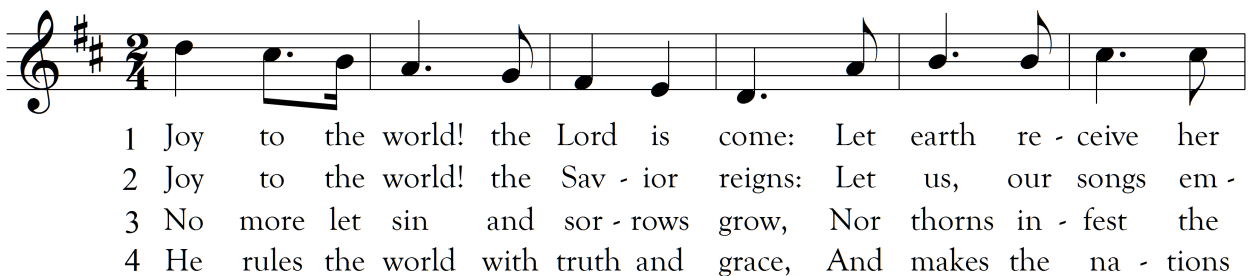
UNIVERSAL PRAYER (GENERAL INTERCESSIONS)

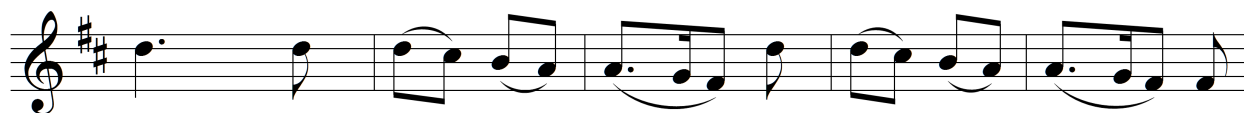
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH





King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room, And
play; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains; Re -
ground; He comes to make his bless - ings flow Far
prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, And



heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n, and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

SANCTUS (ALL MASSES)

MASS VIII

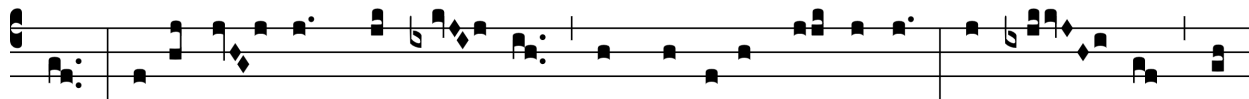
VI

S

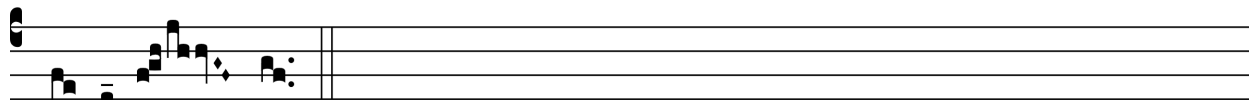
An - ctus, * San ctus, San - ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá -



ba - oth. Pleni sunt cæ - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a. Ho - sán - na in excél -

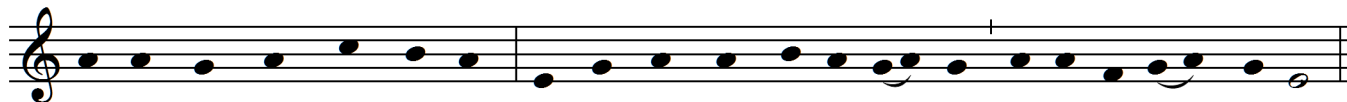


sis. Bene - dí - ctus qui ve - nit in nó - mi - ne Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán - na in



ex cél - 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 (PONTIFICAL MASS)



AGNUS DEI (ALL MASSES)

MASS VIII

VI
A - gnus De- i, * qui tollis peccá-ta mun-di : mi-se-ré- re no- bis. Agnus
De- i, * qui tol- lis peccá-ta mun-di : mi-se-ré- re no- bis. A-gnus De- i, *
qui tollis peccá-ta mun-di : dona no- bis pa- 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 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 (8:00PM)

I WONDER AS I WANDER

TRAD. SPIRITUAL/ARR. J.J. NILES

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die, for poor onery people like you and like I: I wonder as I wander, out under the sky. When Mary birthed Jesus, twas in a cow's stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it then did recall. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

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 (5:00PM)

O HOLY NIGHT

ADOLPHE ADAM

POSTCOMMUNION (10:00AM)

LULLY, LULLA, LULLAY

KENNETH LEIGHTON

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child, By, by, lully, lullay. O sisters too, How may we do For to preserve this day This poor youngling For whom we do sing, By, by, lully, lullay? Herod the king, In his raging, Charg'd he hath this day His men of might, In his own sight, All young children to slay. That woe is me, Poor child, for thee! And ever morn and may, For thy parting, Nor say nor sing By, by, lully, lullay!

—Coventry Carol, 15th Century England

PLEASE RESPECT OUR CUSTOM OF STAYING THROUGH THE CONCLUSION OF THE CLOSING HYMN.

THIS IS OUR CORPORATE ACT OF THANKSGIVING AFTER MASS. THANK YOU!

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



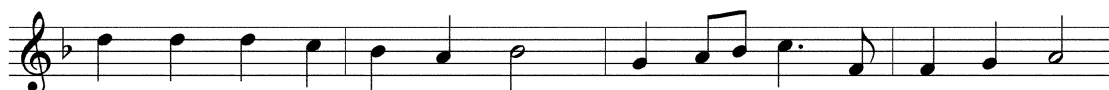
new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild
last - ing Lord: Late in time be - hold him come,
Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,



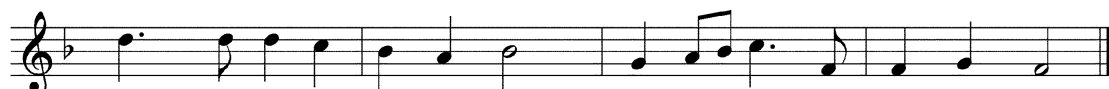
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all you
Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his



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

NOËLS FOR ORGAN

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN

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. For example, the organ voluntaries are from 18th Century France. Louis-Claude Daquin was child prodigy from a family of very learned Italian immigrants to France in the 17th Century. Daquin rapidly ascended to the highest heights of French organists, becoming organist to Louis XV in 1739 and *organiste titulaire* at Notre-Dame-de-Paris in 1755. He is mostly known today for the phenomenal noels you hear, which neatly encapsulate much of the “French Classical” organ school of the 17th and 18th Century. Our pipe organ is especially designed for this repertoire, so enjoy this little trip to Paris!

At the 8:00pm and 10:00am Masses, we are fortunate to have a small schola, and so we offer a polyphonic *Kyrie*. Hans Leo Hassler is one of the chief late Renaissance composers. One of the first to write true instrumental music (albeit after vocal forms), he is nonetheless known for his many choral compositions, including this Mass. Often sung due to its cheery spirit and brevity, it fits the Christmas season perfectly. At 8pm, we hear John Jacob Niles’ famous arrangement for solo soprano and choir of the Afro-American spiritual “I wonder as I wander”. The postcommunion anthem at 10am is one of the classic 20th Century settings of the English carol *Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child*. Kenneth Leighton’s setting of this text (a mother’s lament, in many ways) utilizes the carol’s perspective, placing a soprano soloist in tension with a four-part choir that more or less narrates the text. The choir establishes a gentle triple meter that imitates the rocking of a baby, then eventually comments on the travails that await Our Infant Lord through his earthly life. The soprano soloist, acting in the person of Our Lady, seems to comment sadly until a final resolution on an E major chord, perhaps showing a return to the manger, so to speak, where all is calm and bright. Leighton’s tasteful use of jazz harmony is notable not only for its beauty, but for utilizing jazz’s tonal and harmonic ambiguity to musically “paint” the difficult, unpredictable road that awaits Our Lord.

Merry Christmas!

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