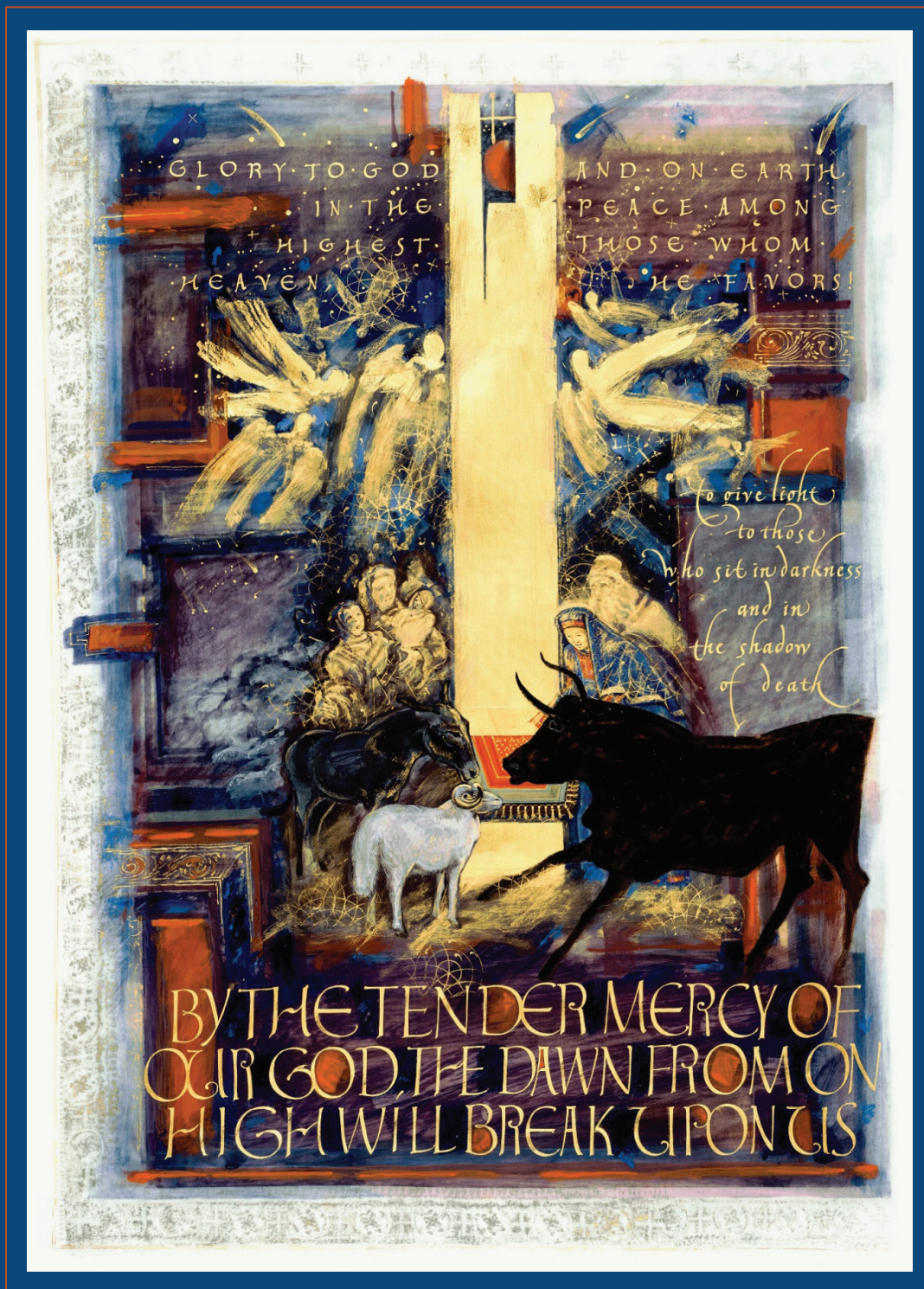


CHRISTMAS 2025



Church of Saint Ann
The City of Washington

The Saint John Bible Heritage Edition has been given to Saint Ann Church by the Subpriory of Our Lady of Lourdes of the Order of Malta and is located in the Mary Chapel (forward left) in the church under the stewardship of Monsignor Watkins, Pastor of Saint Ann Church and Chief Chaplain of the Subpriory of Our Lady of Lourdes. Here in the District of Columbia, this seven-volume set of this magnificent illuminated text is also housed at The Library of Congress and The National Cathedral.

Cover: **Birth of Christ**

Mary became pregnant while still betrothed, as “the divine family plan moves in ways that contravene traditional family values.” The artist, Donald Jackson’s choice to include all women – even Hagar – signals a strong feminist reading of Matthew’s genealogy, even as it lessens Matthew’s focus on outsiders and the marginalized.

In one subtle symbolic connection, Jackson emphasizes the miracle of maternity in the birth of Jesus. In *Birth of Christ*, the frontispiece to Luke, Jackson supplies the only illumination of Jesus’ mother Mary in *The Saint John’s Bible*. Here, she leans joyfully over the manger, with its Jesus absent because we are to place him there in our own lives.

The Saint John’s Bible was commissioned by Saint John’s Abbey and University and was created by Donald Jackson, Senior Scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s Crown Office, along with a collaborative team of scribes and artists. This is the first illuminated, handwritten Bible of monumental size to be commissioned by a Benedictine monastery in more than 500 years. All 73 books from the Old and New Testaments using the New Revised Standard Version are presented in volumes of approximately 1,150 pages.

The work of the Saint John’s Bible was done in a scriptorium in Wales. Now compete, Saint John’s University in Collegeville, Minnesota, is the Bible’s home. The Saint John’s Bible was made using traditional materials such as *vellum* (calfskin), ancient inks, gold and silver leaf and platinum, and was written with quill pens fashioned from goose, turkey and swan feathers.

Artist: **Donald Jackson**

Jackson, born in 1938 in Lancashire, England, is a British calligrapher, official scribe and calligrapher to the Crown Office of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Donald Jackson, MVO, the artistic director and scribe for *The Saint John’s Bible*, received one of the highest honors bestowed upon laypeople by the Vatican.

Jackson was inducted into the Order of St. Gregory the Great, a papal knighthood granted for outstanding service to the Catholic Church. Jackson received the honor in a special ceremony June 15, 2016 at Westminster Cathedral in London from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster. Jackson was nominated for the award by Bishop Donald Kettler of the Diocese of St. Cloud. “In the course of its creation and since, *The Saint John’s Bible* has touched the lives of Catholics within our diocese as well as millions around the world,” Kettler said. “Mr. Jackson and the Benedictine monks of Saint John’s Abbey have once again pointed to the central role of the Bible to the vitality of the Catholic Church.” Jackson, one of the world’s leading calligraphers, has been the artistic director and principal illuminator of *The Saint John’s Bible* since 1998. For more than 50 years, he has also been responsible for the creation of official state documents in Great Britain as senior illuminator to the crown office of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Jackson resides in Wales and is a member of the Anglican Communion. It is rare for non-Catholics to receive papal knighthood.

“Mr. Jackson has made a singular contribution to contemporary Christian art,” said Rt. Rev. Nicholas Holtam, the Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Salisbury, a longtime friend of Jackson’s. “There is no doubt in my mind that he has provided spiritual insight and inspiration to countless numbers of Anglicans and Roman Catholics alike.”

The honor further fulfills Saint John’s goal to share the Word of God with the world. “Through his talent, Mr. Jackson has demonstrated once again the power of the artist to be in service to the sacred,” said Abbot John Klassen, OSB, of Saint John’s Abbey. Jackson was at his Scriptorium in Wales when he learned about the honor. “I give my sincere thanks to His Holiness Pope Francis for this award and to those who proposed it,” said Jackson. “I am delighted to accept it as both a symbol of his recognition of what has been achieved and of his encouragement for Saint John’s mission to ‘ignite the spiritual imagination’ of all peoples. Long may *The Saint John’s Bible* journey continue to do that.” The Pontifical Order of St. Gregory the Great was established in 1831 by Pope Gregory XVI. This special honor is bestowed upon men and women in recognition of their personal service to the Holy See and to the Roman Catholic Church, through their unusual labors, their support of the Holy See and their excellent examples set forth in their communities and their countries.

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christmas 2025

Reverend Monsignor James D. Watkins
Pastor of St. Ann's Church

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Lectors – Altar Servers – Ushers – Greeters
Parishioners

Mr. Robert N. Bright
Director of Music & Organist

Choir of the Church of Saint Ann
Saint Ann's Brass Ensemble

Prelude of Carols at 4:30pm
Christmas Eve Mass with Brass and Choir at 5:00pm
with Children's Pageant

Prelude of Carols at 7:30pm
Christmas Eve Mass with Brass and Choir at 8:00pm

Prelude of Carols at 10:30am
Christmas Day Mass with Brass and Choir at 11:00am
Donald Cardinal Wuerl, *Celebrant & Homilist*

My dear Parishioners and Friends,

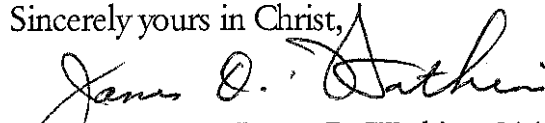
It is Christmas! Christ is born! It is my great joy to welcome all of you this holy night to Saint Ann Church and to express my warmest wishes to you and your families for a most blessed Christmas and joyful New Year.

To all of our parishioners who so faithfully take part in the life and prayer of the parish throughout the year, I want to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that you do to bring about the Kingdom of God in our corner of the world in the Tenleytown neighborhood. So many of you are volunteers who graciously devote so much time and energy to our many parish ministries, organizations, and activities. The Parish comes alive in the Spirit through you and continually depends upon you and your generosity to sustain it.

To all our friends and guests who come tonight, know that you are most welcome now and throughout the year at this gem of a church at Tenley Circle. I also look to you to help us by your prayers and generosity, which enable us to continue our many programs and activities and the on-going maintenance and restoration needs of this magnificent edifice in which we are all so privileged to worship. Help us to extend this hospitality to so many other visitors who come here, and allow us to remain a strong witness of the faith in upper northwest Washington.

Thank you for joining us this evening. May the Lord bless you now and always with the love of Jesus, born of Mary this day in Bethlehem.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Rev. Msgr. James D. Watkins, S.T.L., Ph.D.
Pastor

Out of courtesy and respect, kindly silence your cell phone.

*Bathrooms are located forward through the left arch of the church
and back behind the altar.*

A small room off the vestibule of the church is available for children's needs.

Please consider eGiving on FaithDirect

Please be very generous to reflect your appreciation and support for St. Ann's Church at this time of year. Your contribution greatly helps us to continue to provide a sacred place for worship and prayer and parish programs now and throughout the year.

In your generosity, please use the QR Code located either below or on the back of your pew for a one-time gift or a recurring gift to the parish,
or go online to
STANNDC.ORG/GIVE

Thank you!



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PRELUDE TO HOLY MASS

MUSIC AT CHRISTMAS

At this time, the church lights are dimmed to concert setting.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

All join in singing together

1. Hark the her - ald an - gels sing, Glo - ry to the new born King!
2. Hail the heav'n born prince of peace, hail the Sun, of Right-ous - ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners re - con - ciled!
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with heal - ing in his wings;

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die, —

with th'an gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem."
born to raise the sons of earth, born to — give them se - cond birth.

Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing Glo - ry - to the new - born King.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788.
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1808-1847.

77 77 D and Refrain
Mendelssohn

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother,
or how can you write down a baby's first cry?
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Shepherds and wise men
will kneel and adore him.
Seraphim round him
their vigil will keep.
Nations proclaim him their Lord and
their Savior but Mary will hold him
and sing him to sleep.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger.
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay,
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation.
A child with his mother that first Christmas morn.
A child with his mother that first Christmas morn.

Candlelight, angel light,
firelight, and star-glow.
Shine on his cradle
till breaking of dawn.
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing;
the Christ child is born.

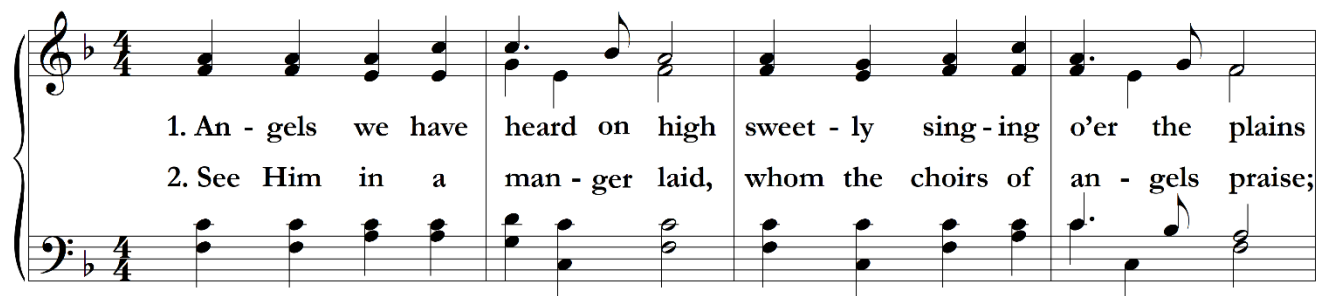
O Holy Night
Timothy Augustin, Tenor

Adolphe Adam
(1803 - 1856)

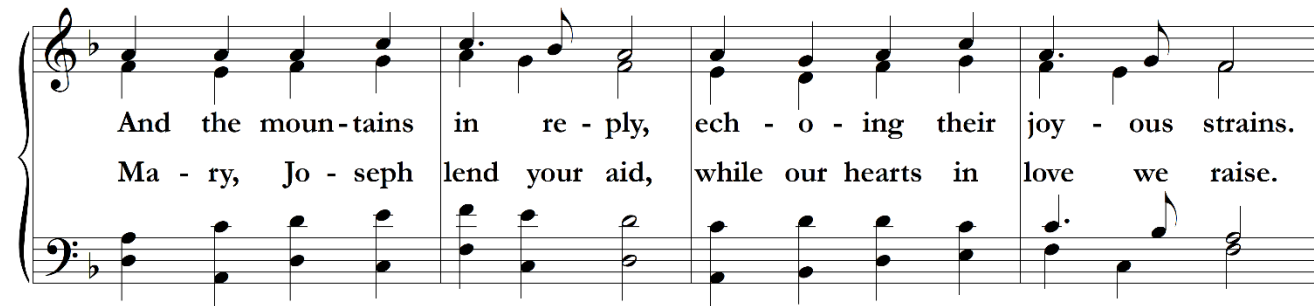
O holy night!
the stars are brightly shining.
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'til he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks
a new and glorious morn!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
with glowing hearts
by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
in all our trials born to be our friend.

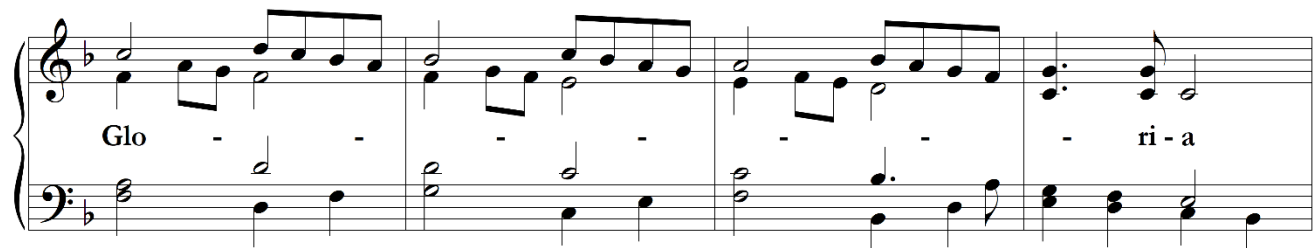
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night divine!



1. An - gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains
2. See Him in a man - ger laid, whom the choirs of an - gels praise;



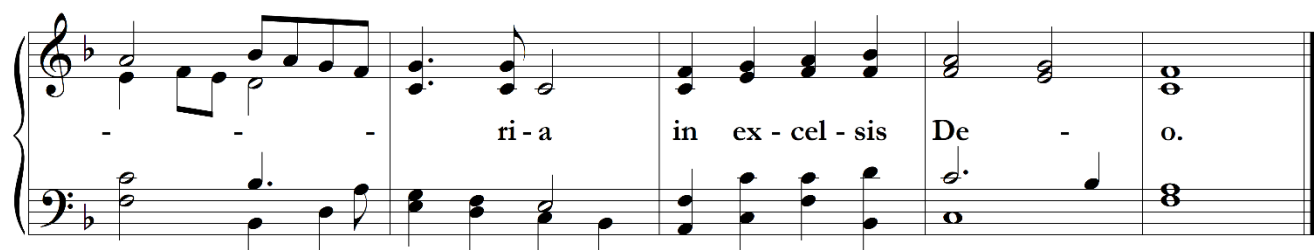
And the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.



Glo - ri - a



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



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

Words: French carol; tr. James Chandwick, 1813-1882, alt.

Music: *Gloria*, French carol: arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1887-1958.

77.77. with Refrain

1. The first no - well the an-gel did say, was to cer-tain poor
2. Then let us all with one ac - cord sing - prai - ses

shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields as they lay,
to our heav'n - ly Lord, that hath made heav'n and

keep - ing their sheep on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
earth of naught, and with his blood man - kind hath bought;

No - well, No - well No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: English Carol, 18th Cent.Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th Cent; harm. John Stainer 1840-1901.

Irregular with Refrain

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesus;
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space.
Resmiranda, Resmiranda, Resmiranda, Resmiranda.
By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three,
Pares forma, Pares forma, Pares forma, Pares forma.
The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gaudeamus, Gaudeamus, Gaudeamus, Gaudeamus.
Leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow this joyful birth;
Transeamus, Transeamus, Transeamus, Transeamus.

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen
(b. 1943)

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

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord,
lying in a manger.
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy
to bear Jesus Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

SOLEMN EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

MASS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Processional to the Manger Scene

Lux Aurumque

Eric Whitacre
(b. 1970)

Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.

Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold
and the angels sing softly
to the newborn baby.

A Brief History of the Nativity Scene

Nativity sets, or crèches, are depictions of the birth of Jesus Christ, traditionally displayed during the Christmas season. Their history is rooted in Christian tradition, evolving with cultural and regional variations over the centuries - the earliest nativity scenes date back to the 13th century. Saint Francis of Assisi is often credited with popularizing the nativity scene when he staged a live recreation of the birth of Jesus in 1223. He used real people and animals in the town of Greccio, Italy, to bring the story of Christ's birth to life for those who could not read the scriptures. This living nativity inspired a lasting tradition of depicting the holy family, animals, and other figures related to the biblical story.

By the 14th century, static nativity scenes, often made of wood or clay, began to appear in churches throughout Italy and other parts of Europe. These early crèches were mainly displayed in churches and were often large, with life-sized figures. During the Baroque period (17th and 18th centuries), nativity scenes grew more elaborate. They became central to Christmas celebrations in Southern European countries like Spain, Portugal, and Italy, and began to be displayed in homes and churches. In Italy, especially in Naples, artisans began creating intricate nativity scenes, known as "presepio," with beautifully crafted figures, often including detailed background scenes of everyday life in 18th-century Naples.

In the 19th century, nativity sets became more widely available and were often mass-produced. They became common in homes across Europe and the Americas. In the 20th century, plastic and other modern materials made affordable nativity sets for the public. Today, nativity scenes can range from simple, minimalist designs to intricate displays with dozens of figures. They remain a central part of Christmas traditions in many Christian homes and communities, serving as a religious symbol and a cultural artifact.

Blessing of the Manger Scene

The Celebrant blesses the Manger Scene with Holy Water and incenses it.

*Celebrant: My brothers and sisters, I proclaim good news to you –
tidings of great joy to be shared by the whole people.
This day in David's city a Savior has been born to you,
the Messiah and Lord.*

***Assembly:* This day Christ is born:
today the Savior has appeared.
This day the angels are singing on earth:
archangels are rejoicing.
Today the just are glad and say,
“Glory to God in high heaven.”**

Celebrant: The Word became flesh.

***Assembly:* And made his dwelling among us.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have made manifest your love.
When our need for a Savior was great,
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.*

*Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise up our thoughts to him,
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,
and who lives and reigns forever and ever.*

***Assembly:* Amen.**

Roman Martyrology

The Proclamation of the Birth of Jesus Christ

James Bailey, Tenor

The Twenty-fifth day of December,
when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world,
when God in the beginning created heaven and earth,
and formed man in his own likeness;
when century upon century had passed since
the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood,
as a sign of covenant and peace;
in the twenty-first century since Abraham,
our father in faith,
came out of Ur of the Chaldees;
in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel
were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt;
around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;
in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;
in the year seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of Rome;
in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,
the whole world being at peace, Jesus Christ,
eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,
desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence,
was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and when nine months had passed since his conception,
was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah,
and was made man:
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

The procession is reformed at the doors of the church.

After the Proclamation, the church lights are fully brightened.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

All sing together the first verse in Latin and, thereafter, the English verses.

1. A - des - te fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan tes, Ve - ni - te, ve -
2. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
3. Sing choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing Je - sus to

ni - te in Beth - le - hem. Na - tum vi - de - te, re - gem an - ge -
come ye to Beth - le - hem. Come, and be - hold him, born the King of
ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove! Glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the
thee — be glo - ry giv'en; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap -

lo - rum. Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do -
an - gels. O come, let us a - dore him, O come let us a -
high - est, pear - ing,

re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
dore him, come let us a - dore him - Christ, the Lord!

Words: John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Fredrick Oakley, 1802-1880 and others.

Music: *Adeste Fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786.

Irregular

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting

Act of Penitence

All: I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and my words, in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
All strike their breast.
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Celebrant: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Assembly: Amen.

Please be seated.

Kyrie	<i>Missa O Magnum Mysterium</i>	Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548 - 1611)
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Gloria	<i>Missa O Magnum Mysterium</i>	Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548 - 1611)
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Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-6

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

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the moun - tain o-ver the hills and ev - ry where.

Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

Words: Afro-American spiritual, 19th cent; adpt. John W. Work, 1901-1968.

Music: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, 1935-2009.

76.76 with Refrain

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens,
there shone a holy light.

Repeat Antiphon

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! Above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus,
that hailed our Savior's birth.

Repeat Antiphon

Down in a lowly manger,
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation,
that blessed Christmas morn.

Repeat Antiphon

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

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.**

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL
Mass of the Angels and Saints

Luke 2:10-11
Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)



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

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

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.



1. It came up - on the mid - night clear that glo - rious song of old. —

2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled.



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:

And still their heav - en - ly mu - sic floats, O'er all the wea - ry world:



“Peace on the earth good will to all, from heav - en’s all gra - cious King”:

A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hove - ring wing.



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay. To hear the an - gels sing.

And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt.

Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis, 1819-1900.

CMD

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.

1. They look - ed up, and saw a star, shin-ing in the
2. Then en - tered in those wise men three, full rev - erent-

1. east, be - yond them far, and to the earth, it
2. ly - up - on their knee, and of - fered there, in

1. gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
2. his pres - ence, their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

No - well, No - well No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: English Carol, 18th Cent.

Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th Cent; harm. John Stainer, 1840-1901.

Irregular with Refrain

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.**

Joy to the World

(Sung at the 5:00pm Mass only)



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
 ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room, —
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - teous - ness, —
 and heaven and na - ture sing, and — heaven and na - ture
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 sing, and heaven and heaven - and na - ture sing.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: *Antioch*, George Frederic Handel, 1685-1759; adpt. and arr. Lowell Mason 1792-1872.

CM with refrain

HOMILY

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings,
announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation,
and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!"

Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy,
for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion.

Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem!

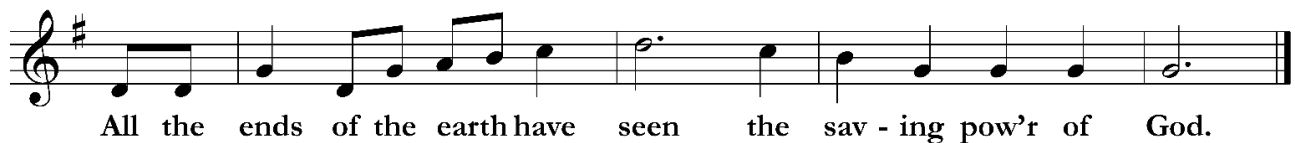
For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations;
all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord. **R./ Thanks be to God.**

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

James V. Marchionda



O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has worked wonders,
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

Repeat Antiphon

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.

Repeat Antiphon

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.

Repeat Antiphon

Sing psalms to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of a song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
raise a shout before the King, the LORD.

Repeat Antiphon

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways
to our ancestors through the prophets;
in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son,
whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe,
who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being,
and who sustains all things by his mighty word.
When he had accomplished purification from sins,
he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high,
as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.
For to which of the angels did God ever say:
You are my son; this day I have begotten you?
Or again: *I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me?*
And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says:
Let all the angels of God worship him.

The Word of the Lord. **R./ Thanks be to God.**

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu ia, al - le - lu - ia.____

Al - le - lu____ ia al - le lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord,
for today a great light has come upon the earth.*

The Lord be with you. **R./ And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy gospel according to John. **R./ Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning, was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came to be through him, and without him, nothing came to be.

What came to be through him was life,

and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

A man named John was sent from God.

He came for testimony, to testify to the light so that all might believe through him.

He was not the light but came to testify to the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came to be through him,
but the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him, he gave power to become children of God,
to those who believe in his name,
who were born not by natural generation
nor by human choice nor by a man's decision
but of God.

And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.

John testified to him and cried out, saying,

"This was he of whom I said,

"The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.""

From his fullness, we have all received grace in place of grace

because while the law was given through Moses,

grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God.

The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.

The gospel of the Lord. **R./ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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,

All kneel at the words of incarnation:

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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Music during the Preparation of the Altar & the Offerings
Christmas Eve Mass & Christmas Day Mass

Gloria

Josep Ollé i Sabaté
(b. 1987)

Translation from the Catalan by Clyde Moneyhun

Gloria, Jesus is born on Christmas morn,
humble and poor, for us to adore.
He tells us that love is a gift from above,
and with faith in him we can all be friends.
Without hatred or war, we can open our doors
to help each other as sisters and brothers.
Without pain or hunger we can cherish on another;
With good will and forgiveness every day will be Christmas.
Ponç Pons!

Hodie Christus Natus Est

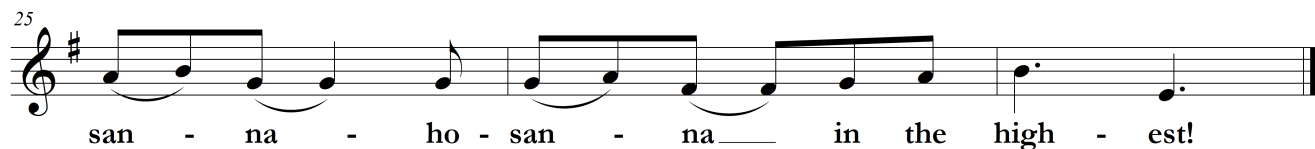
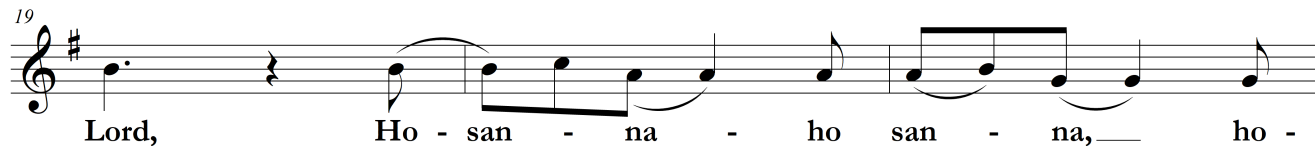
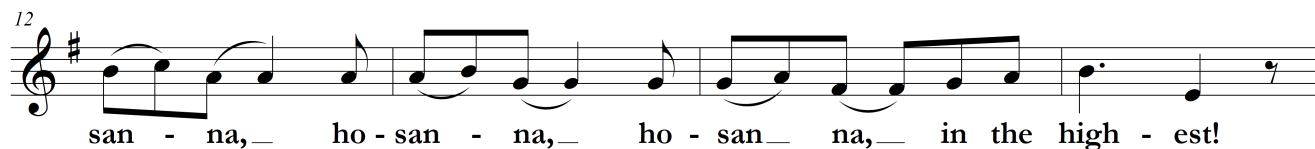
François Poulenc
(1899 - 1963)

*Hodie Christus natus est:
Hodie salvator apparuit:
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
letantur archangeli:
Hodie exultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia!*

Today Christ is born:
Today the savior has appeared:
Today the angels sing on earth,
the archangels rejoice:
Today righteous rejoice, saying,
Glory to God in the highest.
Alleluia!

PREFACE ACCLAMATION
Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)



MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION
Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)

When we eat - this Bread and drink - this Cup,
we pro-claim - your Death, O Lord, un - til you come - a - gain.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a quarter rest, then continues with a melody. The second staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

GREAT AMEN
Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)

Cantor/Choir:

A - men, a - men, a - men,

Assembly:

a - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Cantor/Choir and the second is for the Assembly. Both staves have a similar melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE

MUSIC AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD
Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven R. Janco
(b. 1961)

Prince of peace you take a-way the sins of the world have
Word made flesh
Light of the world
mer - cy on us. Grant us peace.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a melody with lyrics. The second staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

MUSIC AT HOLY COMMUNION

Stars

Music: Ēriks Ešenvalds
(b. 1977)
Poem by Sarah Teasdale
(1884 - 1933)

Alone

Alone in the night on a dark hill with pines around me
spicy and still, and a heaven full of stars.

Over my head white and topaz and misty red;
Myriads with beating Hearts of fire the aeons.
Cannot vex or tire;

Up the dome of heaven like a great hill.
I watch them marching stately and still.

And I know that I am honored
to be witness of so much majesty.

Ave Maris Stella

Josep Ollé i Sabaté
(b. 1987)

*Ave, maris stella, Dei mater alma,
atque semper virgo, Felix cæli porta.*

Hail, star of the sea, Nurturing Mother of God,
and ever Virgin happy gate of Heaven

*Sumens illud Ave Gabrielis ore,
funda nos in pace mutans Evæ nomen.*

Receiving that "Ave" from the mouth of Gabriel,
Establish us in peace, transforming the name of "Eva."

*Solve vincla reis, profer lumen cæcis,
mala nostra pelle, bona cuncta posce.*

Loosen the chains of the guilty, send forth light to the
blind, Our evil do thou dispel, entreat all good things.

*Monstra te esse matrem,
sumat per te precem
qui pro nobis natus tulit esse tuus.*

Show thyself to be a Mother:
Through thee may he receive prayer
Who, being born for us, undertook to be thine own.

*Virgo singularis, inter omnes mitis,
nos culpis solutos mites fac et castos.*

O Unique Virgin, meek above all others,
Make us, set free from our sins, meek and chaste.

*Vitam præsta puram, iter para tutum,
ut videntes Jesum semper collatamur.*

Bestow a pure life, prepare a safe way:
That seeing Jesus, we may ever rejoice.

*Sit laus Deo Patri, summo
Christo decus, Spiritui Sancto
tribus honor unus. Amen.*

Praise be to God the Father,
To the Most High Christ be glory, to the Holy Spirit
Be honour, to the Three equally. Amen.

At this time, the church lights are dimmed to concert setting.

POST-COMMUNION CHORAL MEDITATION

The Dream Isaiah Saw

Glenn Rudolph
(b. 1951)

Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay,
leopards will join with the lambs as they play,
wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade,
blood will darken the earth that God made.

Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
life redeemed from fang and claw.

Peace will pervade more than forest and field:
God will transfigure the violence concealed,
deep in the heart of systems of gain,
ripe for the judgment the Lord will ordain.

Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
bring the dream Isaiah saw:
justice purifying law.

Nature reordered to match God's intent,
nations obeying the call to repent,
all of creation completely restored,
filled with the knowledge and love of the Lord.

Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
knowledge, wisdom, worship awe.

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight, Glo - ries
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won-drous star, lend Thy light; With the

6
 vir - gin moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten-der and mild,
 stream from heav-en a - far. Heaven-ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu - ia;
 beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 an - gels let - us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to - our King;

10
 Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born."
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord at Thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. John Freeman Young 1820-1885.

Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863; harm. Carl H. Reinecke, 1824-1910.

Irregular

At this time, the church lights are fully brightened.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CONCLUDING RITES

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Pastor: Bow down for the blessing.

Celebrant: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

***Assembly:* Both now and forever.**

Celebrant: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

***Assembly:* Who made heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: May almighty God bless you, the + Father,
And the + Son, and the + Holy Spirit.

***Assembly:* Amen.**

Celebrant: The Mass is ended; go in peace.

***Assembly:* Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL

Hallelujah Chorus

George Friedric Handel
(1685 - 1759)

We request that you remain in place until the conclusion of the Hallelujah Chorus.

With special thanks to all who made our Christmas celebration so beautiful:

***The children of our parish and school of religion
for their participation in the Christmas Pageant***

With Appreciation

Mr. Robert N. Bright
Mrs. Rae Ann Bevington
Mrs. Natalie Plumb Lucey
The Team Leadership Volunteers of the Parish Youth Program
Mr. David M. Brake
The Priests and Seminarians of the St. John Society
The Parish Greeters and Ushers and Lectors
The Parish Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
The Parish Altar Servers
The Parish Pastoral Council & The Parish Financial Council
The Parish Money Counters
Mrs. Ledivina E. Largado and The Mother Butler Guild
The Parish Young Adult Group - ARK
The Parish Men's Bible Study
Mrs. Monica Young and the Teachers of The Parish School of Religion
Ms. Elizabeth Snee and The Scouts, Troop 100
The Knights of Columbus, Washington Council 224
Ms. Grace Gori
Ms. Deborah Sternberg
Mr. & Mrs. Jim and Chris Kernan
Miss Susan E. Watkins
Mr. John C. Piuanno
Mr. Christopher Hackett
Mr. Richard A. Goodridge
Sunday Live Stream Volunteers
Mr. Patrick Ogu
Mr. Demetri Callas
Mr. Leonel Argumedo
Mr. Manuel Membreno
Mr. Santos Membreno
Mr. Gonzalo Sarmiento
Ms. Evelin Avilez
The Parishioners of Saint Ann's Church
and all who helped to decorate the church for Christmas

*The flowers for this Christmas Season
are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of*

POLLY HEATH

Robert N. Bright
Director of Music & Organist

Grace Gori
Deborah Sternberg
Cantors

Festival Choir of St. Ann's Church

Soprano
Luciana Carter
Melissa Coombs
Denise Gulley
Annadaire Ingram
Alizon Reggioli
Deborah Sternberg

Tenor
Timothy Augustin
James Bailey
Kyle Burke
Lance Fisher
Vito Pietanza

Alto
Judy Davis
Elizabeth Flagg
Grace Gori
Natalia Kojanova
Patricia Portillo

Bass
Alex Alburquerque
Harvey Fort
Gene Galvin
José Sacin

*Music engraving and typography
Robert Bright/Design*

Music Acknowledgments:

Joy To The World, O Come, All Ye Faithful, It Came Upon A Midnight Clear, Silent Night, Go Tell It On The Mountain, Hark!
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Church of Saint Ann
Wisconsin Avenue at Tenley Circle, N.W.
City of Washington
www.stanndc.org

3:00pm Concert Series 2025-2026

January 18, 2026
“From Past to the Future”
Alexander Fiterstein, Clarinet
Amit Peled, Cello

April 26, 2026
AGMA Relief Fund Concert
Fundraiser for Musical Artists in Need
Members of Washington National Opera

February 15, 2026
“Panorama of Russian Romances”
Anastasia Sidorva, Soprano
Vera Danchenko-Stern, Piano

May 24, 2026
“Made in Maryland”
Featuring local Maryland
composers and musicians
Mount Vernon Orchestra

March 8, 2026
Dominic Fiacco, Organist
Organist St. John the Divine, NYC

May 31, 2026
Washington Men’s Camerata
Scott Tucker, Artistic Director

March 22, 2026
“Cello Gang”
Mount Vernon Virutosi
Amit Peled, Conductor

June 7, 2026
“Echos and Emembers”
Josu de Solaun Soto, Piano

April 19, 2026
“From Moscow through Paris
to New York” on Two Pianos

June 14, 2026
Alcee Chriss III, Organist
Organist and Music Director
Trinity Wall Street, NYC

All concerts are free and open to the public. Free-will offerings are graciously accepted.
For more information, check our website at www.stanndc.org.

Church of Saint Ann is located one block south of the
Tenleytown/AU Metro station Red Line on Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Merry Christmas

and a

*Blessed
New Year!*

The GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us,² just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eye witnesses and servants of the word,³ I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first,^a to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus,⁴ so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord.⁷ But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

8 Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty,⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord & offer incense.¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him.¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.¹⁴ You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,¹⁵ for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.¹⁶ He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.¹⁷ With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years."¹⁹ The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.²⁰ But now, because you did not believe my words,

which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

21 Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary.²² When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak.²³ When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

24 After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said,²⁵ "This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God."³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah & greeted Elizabeth.⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?"⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

THERE
FORE
THE
CHILD
TO BE
BORN
WILL BE
HOLY;
HE WILL
BE
CALLED
SON
OF
GOD

^a Or for a long time

^b Other ancient authorities add Blessed are you among women.

^c Gk: I do not know a man.

^d Other ancient authorities add of you.

^e Or believed, for there will be.