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www.ololma.org

MASSES
Daily: Mon - Fri : 8:00 AM
Saturday 4:30PM LIVE,
Sunday 10AM LIVE and ZOOM
PENANCE Saturdays 2:30-3:30 PM



Rev. Brian O'Toole
Pastor
Rev. Francis J. Roach
In Residence
Cheryl Orrell
Admin Asst/Bookkeeper
Mary Jo Castrale
Jeremiah's Inn Ministry
John Riley
Music Ministry
Mr. Paul Carey
Maintenance
Judy Verdini
Religious Ed

Mission Statement:

"Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, disciples of Jesus Christ in Worcester, MA, reaches out with love into the neighborhoods to welcome, serve, support, and engage the community in Jesus. In creating a welcoming relationship with Eucharistic and prayerful celebrations, we gather to make a difference by coming closer to God and one another."

December 24, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent



"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!"

~Luke 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

Daily Rosary-Praying of the Rosary will continue after the 8am daily mass in the church on Monday through Friday and at 9:15am before the 10am Sunday Mass both Live and via Zoom. If you need the Zoom information, please contact the rectory.

Mass Intentions & Calendar

Sat, Dec 23

4:30 pm **George and Emily Yankus** req by Cindy and Art
Janet Kunigonis 2yr anniv req by the family

Sun, Dec 24 4th Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom

4:30 pm **Christmas Eve Mass**

Mon, Dec 25 The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am

10:00 am

Tue, Dec 26

8:00 am

Wed, Dec 27

8:00 am

Thu, Dec 28

8:00 am

Fri, Dec 29

8:00 am

Sat, Dec 30

4:30 pm **Ellen Cote** birthday remembrance req by the family

Sun, Dec 31 The Holy Family / New Year's Eve

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom **Sandra Packard** req by Beverly Cote

SCRIPTURE READINGS

24 SUN 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

25 MON Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17,
22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 **Night:** Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2,
2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12/
Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

26 TUE Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and
17/Mt 10:17-22

27 WED 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

28 THU 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

29 FRI 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

30 SAT 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Merry Christmas

*"Wishing you all a season that is merry and bright
with the light of God's love."*

Christmas Masses

Sunday, Christmas Eve at 4:30 pm
Monday, Christmas Day at 8:00 am
and 10 am.

On Sunday, December 24th, we will still have our Sunday morning mass at 10:00am to celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent and light the last candle.

Invite someone to Mass this Christmas Season!

So many messages during the Christmas Season are about coming home, and being with family and friends. Consider inviting someone with you and your family to Mass this Christmas. For some visitors, it may have been a while since they were in church or at Mass. Please help them experience the joy of our Christmas Masses and make them feel at home.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Offertory	12/9-12/10	\$2,236.00
Online Giving		615.00
Christmas		65.00
Candles		167.78
Christmas Flowers		120.00
Fuel & Heating		30.00
Solemnity of Mary		40.00
Immaculate Conception		217.00
Mass Offerings		30.00
Memorial Donations		125.00
Prayer Shawl Donation		10.00
Retirement Fund for Religious		420.00
Room & Board		1,000.00
Snow Removal		570.00

*Thank you for your continued, generous support.
We appreciate your support of the church.*

4th Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle of Advent represents **Love**, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the "**Angel's Candle**," the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the color **purple**, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.

As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. **Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us.** This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." (Romans 15:13)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth involve a disparate group of people---the sinless virgin, the upright Joseph, an indifferent innkeeper, Jewish shepherds, pagan magi, the ruthless Herod, incurious scribes, and murderous soldiers. Among this radically varied group, there was one thing in common. They were all---each one of them---loved by God. They were each the reason Christ was born. To each He would call. For each He died.

What was true that long ago night in Bethlehem remains true this day in our world. God loves each one of us. He loves those in the pews each week, twice a year or not at all. He loves those who have just come from the confessional and those who have not yet made it there. He loves those who acknowledge and worship Him and those who do not recognize Him and are far off.

Jesus Christ is the one savior of the world. He loves us all and He calls us all. As people whose freedom God respects, our response is critical. It determines if we find peace in this life and in the next. His peace is a gift. We do not earn it. We can only accept it. We accept it by believing in Him and what He has revealed, by striving to follow Him with our lives, and, by our repentance, accepting His freely offered, limitless mercy for our failures.

I pray that, whatever our situation and circumstance this Christmas, we may all be deeply moved by the wonderful love of God who so loved the world that He sent His Son as our Savior. May we turn anew to Jesus Christ, find a welcome place in His Church, and with it the joy, peace and hope God intends for us all.

With every prayerful best wish for a Merry Christmas, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

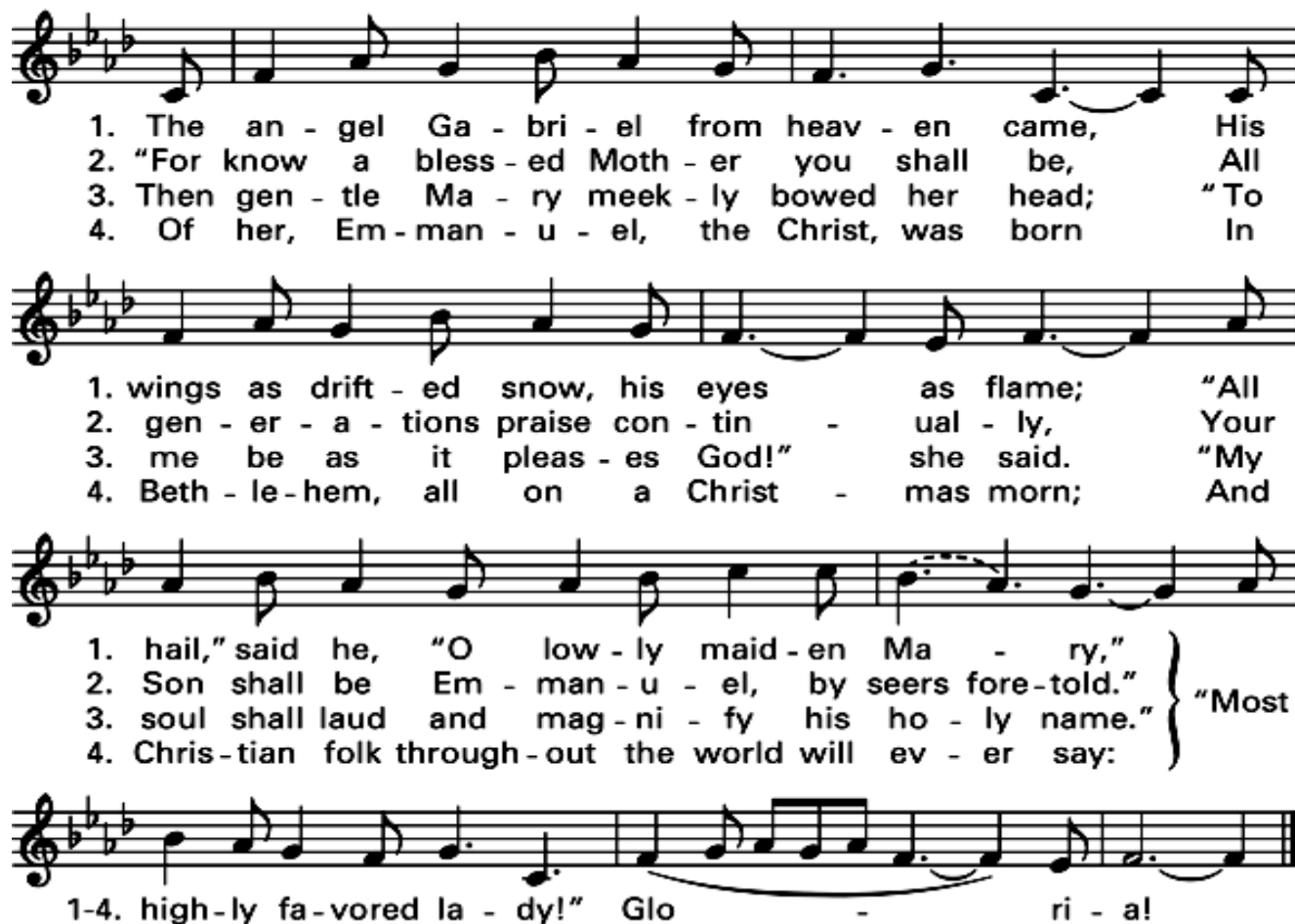
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CYCLE B

GATHERING HYMN

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE



1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His
2. "For know a bless - ed Moth - er you shall be, All
3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head; "To
4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In

1. wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
2. gen - er - a - tions praise con - tin - ual - ly, Your
3. me be as it pleas - es God!" she said. "My
4. Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn; And

1. hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en Ma - ry," }
2. Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told." }
3. soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name." } "Most
4. Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: }

1-4. high - ly fa - vored la - dy!" Glo - ri - a!

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

2 SAMUEL 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 89

Tim Schoenbachler



SECOND READING

ROMANS 16:25-27

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

LK 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "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 called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

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, 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. ·

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Please respond: “Come Lord Jesus Come.”

Lord Jesus Christ, who by your gift of your Body and Blood, are really present in our lives, hear the prayers of the Church of Worcester. Give us the faith of your Church, confident in your presence in our Masses, our tabernacles and our lives. Give us the faith to offer our lives to you, joined with the perfect sacrifice, which you offered on the altar of the Cross. Good and loving Shepherd, teach us how to lead your children home, that we might long together to glorify your name at the Supper of the Lord. For you are Lord forever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

See How The Virgin Waits

Slovak Folk Melody



1. See how the Vir - gin waits for him; Ma - ry in won - der
2. Gent - ly she hears the dis - tant breeze sway - ing the sil - ver
3. Now a new pat - tern on the loom; now a new pres - ence



1. waits for him. Shake off your slum - ber: come all full of
2. ol - ive trees. What is she think - ing as the sun is
3. in the room. Wak - ing or sleep - ing, all her love she's



1. won - der. Je - sus is com - ing as the Prince of Peace.
2. sink - ing, wait - ing the birth - day of her first - born Son?
3. keep - ing, wait - ing the com - ing of the Son of God.

HOLY, HOLY

MASS OF RENEWAL

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

MASS OF RENEWAL

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again

GREAT AMEN

MASS OF RENEWAL

OUR FATHER

SIGN OF PEACE

LAMB OF GOD

MASS OF RENEWAL

COMMUNION

Mary, Sing With Joyful Heart

Steve Angrisano

Verses



1. Ma - ry, sing with joy - ful heart: "You shall bear Em -
 2. "Sing, my soul, of God's great love! Sing, my heart, your
 3. An - gels sing as shep - herds watch: "Praise to God, his
 4. "Now I see the world's true light! Glo - ry shines on
 5. "Where is Je - sus, child of grace?" "Here, in God my



1. man - u - el!" Vir - gin Moth - er, full of
 2. song of joy! Praise his won - ders, praise his
 3. peace on earth! Christ the Sa - vior, Shep - herd -
 4. Is - ra - el! God's great glo - ry, Christ the
 5. Fa - ther's house! Where the Son is, there is



1. grace, pray for us to God, your Son!
 2. name, praise his gift of God, my Son!"
 3. King, sleeps in straw in Da - vid's town!"
 4. Lord, comes to claim his dwell - ing - place!"
 5. God! I am God's new house of prayer!"

Refrain



A - ve, a - ve, a - ve, Ma - ri - a!




A - ve, a - ve, a - ve, Ma - ri - a!

RECESSIONAL


O Come, O Come Emanuel

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL


Verses



1. O come, O come, Em - man u - el, And
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who
 3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who
 4. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From
 5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And
 6. O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And
 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In




1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in
 2. or - d'rest all things might i - ly; To us the
 3. to thy tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient
 4. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy
 5. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the
 6. cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse thou
 7. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our




1. lone - ly ex - ile here, Un - til the Son of
 2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her
 3. times didst give the law, In cloud and maj - es -
 4. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry
 5. way that leads on high, And close the path to
 6. gloom - y clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ow
 7. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

Refrain



1. God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man u -
 2. ways to go.
 3. ty and awe.
 4. o'er the grave.
 5. mis - er - y.
 6. put to flight.
 7. Prince of Peace.



el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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