

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord



St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church - O'Fallon, IL

FRONT COVER

NATIVITY FRESCO

Giotto di Bondone, ca. 1310

Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Italy

VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



4:30PM



ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
O'FALLON, ILLINOIS

YOU MAY TAKE THIS WORSHIP AID WITH YOU,
OR LEAVE IT IN THE BASKET IN THE GATHERING SPACE.

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Jim Deiters
Pastor

John Gomez
Dennis Vander Ven
Deacons

Jane Dotson
Director of Family Faith Formation

Stephen Eros
Director of Liturgy & Music

Matthew Flynn
*Director of Adult Faith Formation
& Mission*

SUPPORT STAFF

Paulo D'Amico
Mount Calvary Cemetery Sexton

Marcia Fix
Parish Secretary

Eric Schmitt
Facilities Manager

Jamae Shubirg
Administrative Assistant

Toni Stanton
Business Manager

A Blessed Christmas to You!

On behalf of our staff and all our parishioners, we warmly welcome all visitors who are joining us today. I want to thank all of our faithful parishioners who are here each week and offer their time, talent, and treasure on a regular basis to keep our parish so alive in God's Spirit. I pray that this liturgy will truly fill each of us with a deeper awareness of God's Peace, Joy, and Love, which are given to us through the Holy Spirit.

We offer a special welcome to those in our midst today who are "coming back" to the Church and to those who are looking for a new parish community to join. Our prayer for you is that this Mass will fill you with a new Spirit that will inspire you to come back on a regular basis for Sunday Mass. If you are interested in joining or finding out more about St. Clare Parish, please pick up a welcome packet in the gathering space on your way out of church today. If you are not Catholic but are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, please call the parish office for more information.

Let us lift up our voices at the Mass in praise of God for the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ, who has come to set us free and give us God's Mercy and Love!

Fr. Jim Deiters
Pastor

STAY CONNECTED TO US!

www.stclarechurch.org

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post a photo to let your friends know you're here!

Email Updates: Text STC to 84576 then
Reply with your email address

PRELUDE MUSIC

An Advent Prayer

Randolph Currie (b.1943)

Text: Lucia Welch

Let us lift our voices as we wait the coming Lord;

Let us lift our voices now and offer up a song.

Come, Lord Jesus, come into our hearts;

Come, Lord Jesus, for you our spirits long.

There will be a new Messiah, born a child and yet a king;

He will bring us joy and gladness; He will give us grace to sing:

Come, Lord Jesus, come into our hearts;

Come, Lord Jesus, make the darkness light.

Hope will have a new beginning and a bright new day!

Jesus, born of Mary, comes, as we prepare the way:

Come, Lord Jesus, come into our hearts;

Come, Lord Jesus, be born in us today!



Dance and Sing

Hebrew Folk Melody (Hal Hopson, arr.)

Text: Isaiah 11:1-7

Dance and sing, for the Lord will be with us. Glory, hallelujah.

Peace and justice soon will be with us. Glory, hallelujah.

Clap your hands and sing: Glory, hallelujah.

Joyful voices ring. Glory, hallelujah.

Soon a son will come from Jesse. His delight shall be the Lord.

He shall reign with truth and justice. Come, O Savior, come.

Wolf and lamb shall rest together; calf and lion shall join as friends.

Peace shall come to all the nations. Come, O Savior, come.

Prepare to Receive Him

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Randolph Currie (b. 1943)

Prepare to receive him, the promised Messiah,
the loving and caring, the Savior of all.



Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen



1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath
2. I - sa - iah 'twas for - told it, The Rose I have in
3. This Flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the



sprung! Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing, As seers of old have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo-rious splen - dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry -



sung. It came, a blos - som bright, A -
kind. To show God's love a - right, She
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From



mid the cold of win - ter, When half spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us, And light - ens ev - 'ry load.

Hail Mary

William Ferris (1937-2000)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;
blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Christmas Hymn

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Text: Rev. Hyacinth Blocker, O.F.M. (1904-1969)

Hear Mary crooning a lullaby, Ave!	Now in the heavens the angels sing. Ave!
And angels echoing from the sky, Ave!	All praise to God in the highest bring! Ave!
See Joseph smile with pride and joy,	The shepherds hear the music soar
And whittle a block of wood for a toy	And gather together lambs from their store
To give to the fair little sleeping Boy, Ave!	And run to the stable and Christ adore. Ave!

*Rejoice with them in Bethlehem, and glory give this Christmas Day.
Praise to God and peace to men as long as ages run. Amen*

Christ Was Born on Christmas Day

Medieval Carol
Pat Messick, arr.

Christ was born on Christmas Day in a manger filled with hay;
Sheep and cows around him lay. Christ was born on Christmas Day.

Shepherds heard the song that night as angels all around them bright
Told them of a wondrous sight. Shepherds heard the song that night.

Wise men came with gifts to bring and bowed down to the baby king.
Guided by a star they'd seen, wise men came with gifts to bring.

Hail the Christmas Morn

Richard B. Rosewall

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria, et in terra pax.

With the shepherds let us kneel. At the manger we adore
God's own love on earth revealed. Hail the Christmas morn!

With the magi, let us bow; Jesus, prince of peace is born.
Sing with joy, sing, "Gloria!" Hail the Christmas morn!

What Child Is This

Greensleeves



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come,



Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing, Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for
 peas - ant, king, to own him. The King of kings sal -



an - thems sweet While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an-gels sing;



Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y.

Ding Dong Merrily on High

English Carol
 Ken Berg, arr.

Ding dong merrily on high, In heav'n the bells are ringing:

Ding dong! verily the sky Is riv'n with angel singing

Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, Let steeple bells be swungen,

And "Io, io, io!" By priest and people sungen

Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime Your matin chime, ye ringers,

May you beautifully rhyme Your eve'time song, ye singers

Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

He Is Born

French Carol
Ellen Coman, arr.

He is born, the holy child, play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy child, sing we all of the Savior mild.

Through long ages of the past, prophets have foretold his coming;
Through long ages of the past, Now the time has come at last!

O how lovely, O how pure is this perfect child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure, gracious gift to humankind.

Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us thy heav'nly peace.

Away in a Manger

Müller



1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2. The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
Close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love you, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
And fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fidelis

Setting: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

All sing together following the fanfare.



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. { God of — God, — Light — of — Light, —
3. { Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4. { Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Lo! He comes forth from the Vir - gin's womb.
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
Our ver - y God, be - got - ten not cre - a - ted,
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

Text: *Adeste fideles*; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt.
Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786

SIGN OF THE CROSS & GREETING

Presider: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT: CONFITEOR

I confess to almighty God	through my most grievous fault;
and to you, my brothers and sisters,	<i>Then they continue:</i>
that I have greatly sinned,	
in my thoughts and in my words,	therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
in what I have done	all the Angels and Saints,
and in what I have failed to do,	and you, my brothers and sisters,
<i>And, striking their breast, they say:</i>	to pray for me to the Lord our God.
through my fault, through my fault,	

KYRIE ELEISON

Missa de Angelis

Graduale Romanum

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The first staff is for 'Ký-ri - e, * e - lé - i - son.' The second staff is for 'Chri - ste, e - lé - i - son.' The third staff is for 'Ký-ri - e, e - lé - i - son.' The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes) and rests, with a repeat sign at the end of each staff.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to
 peo - ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -
 dore you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for
 your great glo - ry, Lord God, heav - en - ly King, O
 God, al - might - y Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ,
 On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,
 you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on
 us: you take a - way the sins of the world. re - ceive our
 prayer; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther,
 have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the
 Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-6

A son is given us.

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!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 96

Stephen Eros (b. 1990)



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

1. Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.
2. Announce his salvation, day after day.
Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.
3. Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.
4. They shall exult before the LORD,
for he comes; for he comes to rule the earth.
He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

God has spoken to us through the Son.

Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love
of God our savior appeared,
not because of any righteous deeds we had done
but because of his mercy,
he saved us through the bath of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,
whom he richly poured out on us
through Jesus Christ our savior,
so that we might be justified by his grace
and become heirs in hope of eternal life.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Paul French



*Good news! I proclaim to you good news and great joy!
Today is born your Savior, Christ the LORD. - Luke 2:10-11*

Priest/Deacon: The Lord be with you.

Priest/Deacon: A reading from...

Assembly: *And with your spir-it.*

Assembly: *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.

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.

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."

Priest/Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: *Praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ.*

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,

ALL GENUFLECT
and by the Holy Spirit was
incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

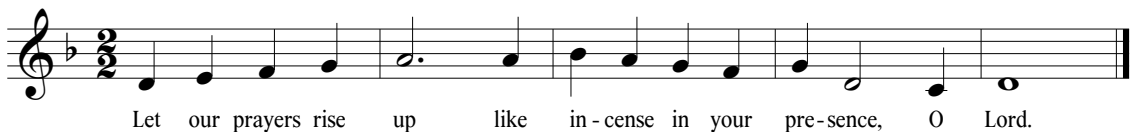
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate,

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

Psalm 141

Stephen Eros



LITURGY OF THE EUGHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Shepherds, Run Along

Polish Carol
Stephen Mager



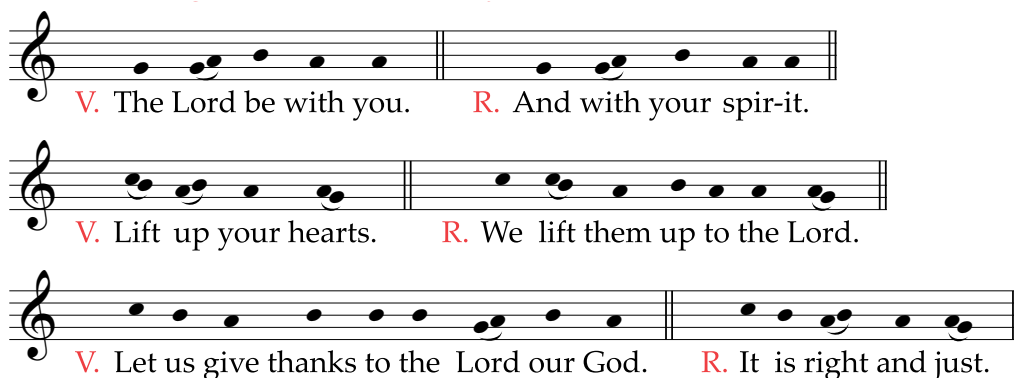
Shepherds, run along
and bring your pipes to play!
On your way to Bethlehem
without delay!

Haste ye to the manger lowly;
come and see the Holy Child,
Jesus mild.

There upon the hills
surrounding Bethlehem
Came an angel messenger
with news for them:
“Glory to God in heaven,
to us a Son is given:
heav’nly birth, peace on earth!”

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER



V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.

V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.

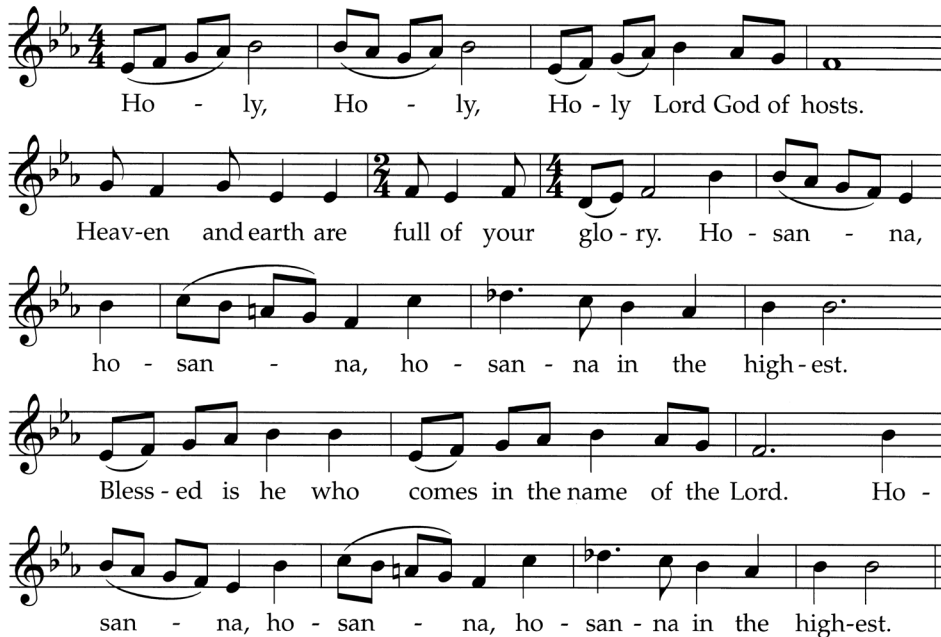
V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

MASS OF WISDOM

Steve Janco

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high-est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Sa - vior of the world, for by your
Cross and Res - ur - rec - tion you have set us free.

The musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes.

GREAT AMEN

A - men. A - men. A - men.

The musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a melodic line with a final cadence, with lyrics written below the notes.

COMMUNION RITE

LAMB OF GOD

Cantor *All*
*Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have
Cantor *All*
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world, grant us peace.

The musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It includes parts for Cantor and All, with lyrics written below the notes.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

CAROL

Angels We Have Heard On High

French Carol

Setting: Michael Burkhardt (b.1957)

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

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

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

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cël - sis De - o. in ex - cël - sis De - o.

Let Our Gladness Know No End

Bohemian Carol

Jonathan Tuuk

Let our gladness know no end, Alleluia!
 For to earth did Christ descend, Alleluia!
 See the loveliest blooming rose, Alleluia!

From the branch of Jesse grows, Alleluia!
 Into flesh is made the Word, Alleluia!
 Our true refuge and our Lord, Alleluia!

Huron Carol

'Twas in the moon of winter-time
When all the birds had fled,
That God the Lord of heav'n and earth
Sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim,
And wandering hunters heard the hymn:

*"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born,
In excelsis gloria."*

Canadian Carol Terre Johnson, arr.

Within a lodge of broken bark
The tender Babe was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin
Enwrapp'd His beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,
The angel song rang loud and high...

O children of the forest free,
The angels' song is true.
The Holy Child of earth and heaven
Is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant Boy
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.

CAROL

Silent Night

German Carol

Setting: A. Dennis Sparger (b.1942)



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm,
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child,
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
Heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

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

CONCLUDING RITES

RECESSIONAL CAROL Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Setting: David Willcocks

All sing together following the fanfare.



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n 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 each child of earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.
Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

YOU MAY TAKE THIS WORSHIP AID WITH YOU,
OR LEAVE IT IN THE BASKET IN THE GATHERING SPACE.

POSTLUDE ON "MENDELSSOHN"

David Willcocks

SCHEDULE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

You are welcome to take this worship aid home.

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Saturday, December 24 & Sunday, December 25

30 Minutes of music presented before each Mass

4:30pm – Cherub & Treble Choirs with Parish Instrumentalists

11:00pm – Parish Choir with Chamber Orchestra

10:00am – Carol Settings for Cantor & Brass Quintet



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday, December 31 – 4:00pm

Sunday, January 1 – 8:30am & 10:30 am



MONTHLY 24 HOUR EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sunday, January 1 following 10:30 Mass through

Monday, January 2 – Benediction at 11:45 a.m.

PLEASE JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY FOR MASS!

Saturday at 5:00pm & Sunday at 8:30am, 10:30am

QUIET ON CROSS STREET – HOLY HOUR

Eucharistic Adoration & Confession

Tuesdays Evenings from 6:00 to 7:00

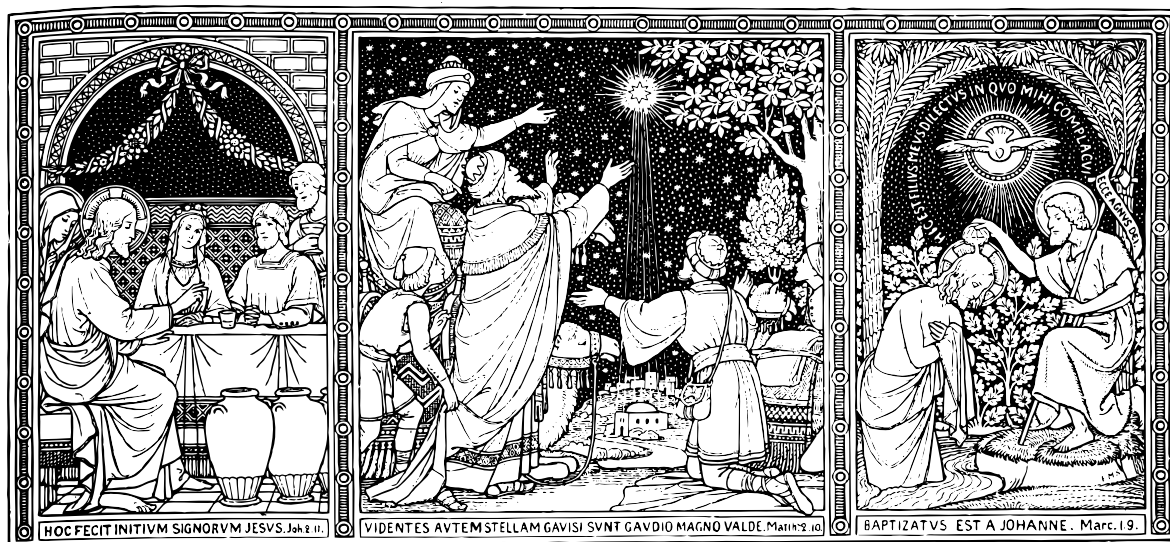
SONGS OF THANKFULNESS & PRAISE

A concert of Christmas music presented by our parish choirs

Sunday, January 8 – 6:00pm

SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

*A concert of Christmas music presented by
the Choirs of St. Clare of Assisi Parish*



Sunday, January 8 – 6:00pm