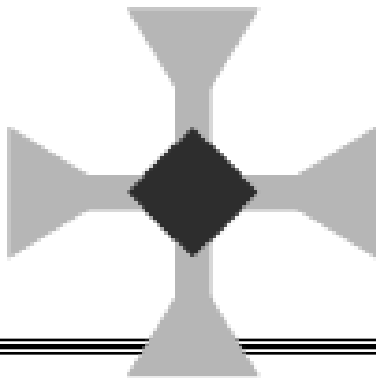


The Order of Mass  
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the Mother of God

December 31, 2024 & January 1, 2025

† 5 p.m. Vigil † 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. † 6 p.m.



*St. Stephen's Catholic Community † Anoka, MN*

*Welcome to St. Stephen's Catholic Community!  
We are so glad you are here to worship with us today.  
Upon the conclusion of Mass, please return your worship aid  
to one of the entrances of the church. Thank you!*

## **The Jubilee Prayer**

**Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ,  
our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy  
Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the  
coming of your Kingdom.**

**May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the  
seeds of the Gospel.**

**May those seeds transform from within both humanity and  
the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will  
shine eternally.**

**May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us,  
*Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.**

**May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Re-  
deemer throughout the earth.**

**To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.**

**Amen**

*The Mass is made up of two parts:*

*The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. There are also certain rites that open and conclude the celebration.*

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The purpose of the Introductory Rites is to ensure that the faithful who come together as one establish communion and dispose themselves to listen properly to God's word and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.*

### Entrance Song

### Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger.  
2. An - gels sang a - bout his birth; Wise men sought and found him.  
3. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger.



There he lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger.  
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round him.  
He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger.



Such a babe in such a place, "Can he be the Sav - ior?"  
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing.  
Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his fa - vor.  
All the plains were lit that night; All the hills were ring - ing.  
Praise his name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text: Joseph S. Cook, 1859–1933

Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM, 7 6 7 6 D; *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; arr. by Ernest C. MacMillan, 1893–1973

# Gloria

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.

*Choir (Cong. ad lib.):*  
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.

*All:*

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.

Text: ICEL, © 2010  
 Music: *Holy Name of Jesus Mass*, Norah Duncan IV, © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.



## Collect

*The Collect is made up of three parts:*

1. *The invitation (“Let us Pray”).*
2. *Silent prayer by all gathered.*
3. *The formal prayer proclaimed by the priest, which “collects” the individual prayers of the people and offers them to God.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*In the readings God speaks to His people, opening up to them the mystery of redemption and salvation, and offering spiritual nourishment; and Christ himself is present through His word in the midst of the faithful.*

### Reading I

Numbers 6:22-27

*A reading from the Book of Numbers.*

The LORD said to Moses:

“Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them:

This is how you shall bless the Israelites.

Say to them:

The LORD bless you and keep you!

The LORD let his face shine upon  
you, and be gracious to you!

The LORD look upon you kindly and  
give you peace!

So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites,  
and I will bless them.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

*All respond: Thanks be to God.*

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 67

May God bless us in his mer - cy, mer - cy.

May God be gracious and bless us  
and let his face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your salvation. *R.*

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy;  
with uprightness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. *R.*

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
that all the ends of the earth may  
revere him. *R.*

Text: Verses, *The Abbey Psalms and Canticles*, © 2018, 2010, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC;  
refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL  
Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Responsorial Psalm (6 pm)

Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

*Response: May God bless us in his mercy.*

## Reading II

Galatians 4:4-7

*A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians.*

Brothers and sisters:

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,  
born of a woman, born under the law,  
to ransom those under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as sons.

As proof that you are sons,  
God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying out, "Abba, Father!"  
So you are no longer a slave but a son,  
and if a son then also an heir, through God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

*All respond: Thanks be to God.*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please Stand.*

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

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 8/8 time. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The second staff continues the melody: C4 (half), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes.

Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

## **Gospel**

Luke 2:16-21

*This is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, which is why we stand for the reading, the priest kisses the Book of the Gospels and proclaims the reading, and there is often candles and incense used.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All respond: *And with your spirit.***

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**All respond: *Glory to You, O Lord.***

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All respond: *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.***

## **Homily**

*Please be seated.*





## **Profession of Faith**

*The whole people respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings and explained in the homily, and honor and confess the great mysteries of the 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,  
*(bow)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man *(stand upright)* .

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*

*We pray for the needs of the Church, the world, and our community.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*A collection is taken for our parish during the Preparation of Gifts.  
Every second Sunday of the month, St. Stephen's takes a second collection to support  
various charitable and advocacy organizations.*

To support our parish electronically, scan the QR code:



## Preparation of Gifts

Blessed One



1. O bright Moth - er of mer - cy, so pure and so brave, we  
2. Your con - sent to God's Spir - it was fruit - ful and free, ac -  
3. Now we hail you, O daugh - ter of mer - cy and light; O



hon - or your vir - tue and dig - ni - ty praise. Ev - 'ry  
cept - ing God's Son in a great mys - ter - y. For the  
pray we em - brace peace and good, love and right. You are



an - gel sa - lutes you, the earth calls you blessed. We  
Lord you re - mained ev - er - vir - gin in faith, de -  
splen - did, en - throned a - bove moon, star, and earth. O



look to you, Moth - er, for mer - cy and rest.  
liv - ered from doubt and as - sist - ed by grace.  
queen of the heav - ens, your Son saved the world!

### Refrain



A - ve, a - ve, a - ve, a - ve, a -



ve, a - ve, bless - ed one.

## Invitation to Prayer

*Please Stand.*

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All respond:** *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*This is the center and high point of the entire Mass. This prayer requires that all listen to it with reverence and in silence.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All respond:** *And with your spirit.*

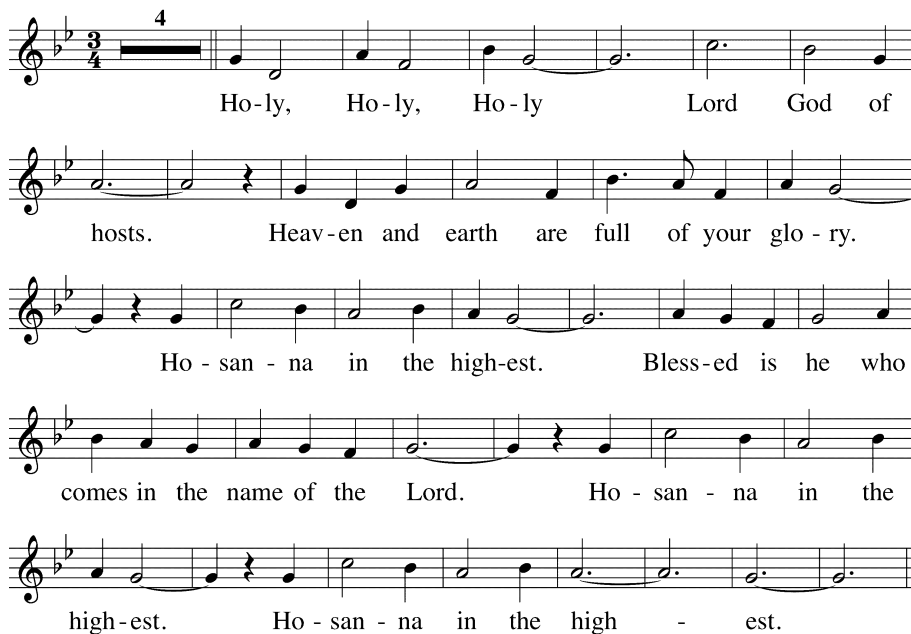
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

**All respond:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All respond:** *It is right and just.*

## Preface Acclamation



4  
Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of  
hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.  
Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the  
high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*Please Kneel.*

***“When you kneel before an altar, do it in such a way that others may be able to recognize that you know before whom you kneel.”***

**-St. Maximilian Kolbe**

*Throughout the rest of the Eucharistic Prayer, the Holy Spirit is called down upon the gifts (The Epiclesis; bells are rung once at this point); the words of Christ at the Last Supper are prayed; Christ’s perpetual sacrifice on the cross is remembered; and prayers are made for the Church, the world, and all the people, living and dead.*

## **Memorial Acclamation**



Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff contains the lyrics: "We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur -". The second staff contains the lyrics: "rec - tion un - til you come a - gain, un - til you come a - gain." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats.

Text: ICEL, © 2010  
Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

## **Amen**

*This “Amen” is affirmation, our statement of “I believe”, to the entire Eucharistic Prayer.*



One staff of musical notation in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The lyrics are: "A - men, a - men, a - men!". The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

*Please Stand.*

## **The Lord’s Prayer**

**Celebrant:** ...as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**All respond:** *For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.*

## Lamb of God

*The priest puts a piece of the host into the chalice to signify the unity of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the work of salvation.*

*Cantor:* Lamb of God, *Assembly:* you take a-way the sins of the  
world, *To repeat* have mer - cy on us.  
*Last time* world, grant us peace.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

## Communion

*All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward. Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with arms crossed over the chest to signal the desire to receive a blessing.*

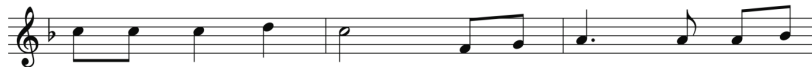
## Communion Song

## I Receive the Living God

I re - ceive the liv - ing God, And my  
heart is full of joy. I re - ceive the liv - ing  
God, And my heart is full of joy.



1. Je - sus says: I am the Bread Sent to  
 2. Je - sus says: I am the Vine, Far from  
 3. Je - sus says: I am the Way, And my  
 4. Je - sus says: I am the Truth. If you  
 5. Je - sus says: I am the Life, Raised in  
 6. Je - sus says: I am the Day, Shin - ing



you from God Most High. Take and eat, and you will  
 whom no life can grow. If you join your - self to  
 path is straight and true. Fol - low me to where I  
 fol - low close to me, You will know me in your  
 tri - umph from the dead. As one Bod - y now re -  
 bright - ly through your night. Wel - come me, and you will



live; You need nev - er fear to die.  
 me, A rich har - vest you will know.  
 lead; There my Fa - ther waits for you.  
 heart, And my word will make you free.  
 main, Mem - bers joined to me, the Head.  
 walk By the Spir - it's guid - ing light.

D.C.

## Meditation

## Ave Maria



A - ve, Ma - ri - a, grá - ti - a ple - na,



Dó - mi - nus te - cum, be - ne - dí - cta tu



in mu - li - é - ri - bus, et be - ne - dí - ctus fru - ctus



ven - tris tu - i, Je - sus. San - cta Ma - ri - a,



Ma - ter De - i, o - ra pro no - bis pec - ca - tó - ri - bus,



nunc et in ho - ra mor - tis no - strae. A - men.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

### Blessing

*Transformed by the power of the Liturgy, we are sent out to seek, love, and serve Jesus Christ through those we meet outside of Mass.*

### Dismissal

### Closing song

### Sing of Mary



1. Sing of Mar - y meek and low - ly, Vir - gin - moth - er  
 2. Sing of Je - sus, son of Mar - y, In the home at  
 3. Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther; Glo - ry be to



pure and mild, Sing of God's own Son most ho - ly,  
 Naz - a - reth. Toil and la - bor can - not wea - ry  
 God the Son; Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it;



Who be - came her lit - tle child. Fair - est child of  
 Love en - dur - ing un - to death. Con - stant was the  
 Glo - ry to the Three in One. From the heart of



fair - est moth - er, God the Lord who came to earth,  
 love he gave her, Though he went forth from her side,  
 bless - ed Mar - y, From all saints the song as - cends,



Word made flesh, our ver - y broth - er,  
 Forth to preach, and heal, and suf - fer,  
 And the church the strain re - ech - oes



Takes our na - ture by his birth.  
 Till on Cal - va - ry he died.  
 Un - to earth's re - mot - est ends.



SEEK, LOVE, & SERVE JESUS CHRIST  
**[www.ststephenchurch.org](http://www.ststephenchurch.org)**

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday-Friday)

5:00 p.m. Saturday

8:30 a.m. Sunday

10:30 a.m. Sunday

12:30 p.m. Sunday (En Español)

6:00 p.m. Sunday

For the latest Parish Bulletin, scan the QR code:

