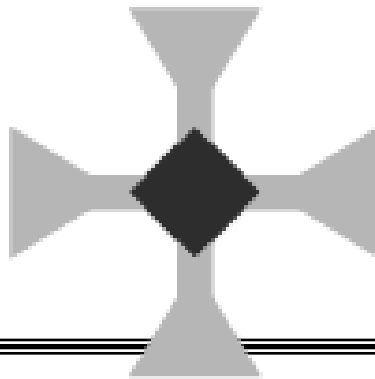
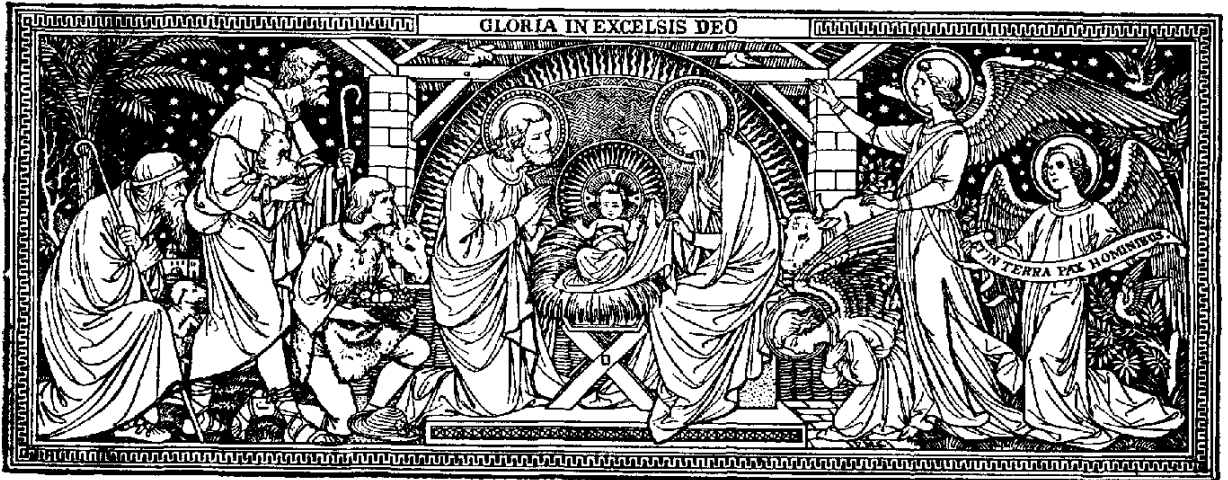


The Order of Mass

The Nativity of the Lord

December 24 & 25, 2024 † 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 10 p.m. Vigil †
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



St. Stephen's Catholic Community † Anoka, MN



*Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord
is born for us; and he will be called Won-
drous God, Prince of peace, Father of future
ages: and his reign will be without end.*

-Entrance Antiphon at the Mass at Dawn

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

CAROL



1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are
4. For, lo, the days are has - tening on, By proph - et



1. song of old, From an - gels bend - ing near the
2. wings un - furled, And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic
3. bend - ing low, Who toil a - long the climb - ing
4. bards fore - told, When with the ev - er - cir - cling



1. earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good
2. floats O'er all the wea - ry world: A - bove its sad and
3. way With pain - ful steps and slow, Look now! for glad and
4. years Comes 'round the age of gold; When peace shall o - ver



1. will to all From heav'n's all gra - cious King;" The
2. low - ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing, And
3. gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing: O
4. all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling, And



1. world in sol - emn still-ness lay, To hear the an - gels sing.
2. ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
3. rest be - side the wea - ry road And hear the an - gels sing.
4. all the world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

Text: CMD; Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876, alt. Music: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900, alt.

THE FIRST NOWELL

THE FIRST NOWELL

Verses



1. The first No - well, the an - gel did say,
2. They look - ed up and saw ___ a star
3. And by the light of that ___ same star
4. This star drew nigh to the ___ north - west,
5. Then en - tered in those wise ___ men three,
6. Then let us all with one ___ ac - cord



1. Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2. Shin - ing in ___ the east, ___ be - yond ___ them far;
3. Three ___ wise ___ men came ___ from coun - try far;
4. O'er ___ Beth - le - hem ___ it took ___ its rest,
5. Full ___ rev - 'rent - ly ___ up - on ___ the knee,
6. Sing ___ prais - es to ___ our heav - 'nly Lord;



1. In fields where _ they lay keep - ing their sheep,
2. And to the _ earth it gave ___ great light,
3. To seek for a king was their ___ in - tent,
4. And there it ___ did both stop ___ and stay,
5. And of - fered ___ there, in his ___ pres - ence,
6. Who with the ___ Fa - ther we ___ a - dore



1. On a cold win - ter's night ___ that was ___ so deep.
2. And ___ so it con - tin - ued both day ___ and night.
3. And to fol - low the star ___ wher - ev - er it went.
4. Right _ o - ver the place ___ where Je - sus lay.
5. Their _ gold ___ and myrrh ___ and frank - in - cense.
6. And _ Spir - it blest ___ for ev - er - more.

Refrain



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



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: Irregular with refrain; trad. English Carol, 17th cent.; verse 6, alt. Music: Trad. English Carol, 17th cent.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

MEDELSSOHN

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847

Setting by Robert J. Powell

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing,
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored;
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace!



"Glo - ry to the new - born King! Peace on earth and
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Late in time be -
Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness! Light and life to



mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no



of the skies; with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim,
De - i - ty, pleased as man with us to dwell,
more may die, born to raise us from the earth,



"Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!" Hark! The her - ald
Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el. Hark! The her - ald
born to give us sec - ond birth. Hark! The her - ald



an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

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O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

ST. LOUIS



1. O lit - tle town of Beth-le-hem, How still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent-ly, how si - lent-ly, The won-drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth-le-hem! De - scend to us, we pray;



1. A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
2. While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.
3. So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless-ings of his heav'n.
4. Cast out our sin and en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.



1. Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last-ing Light:
2. O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3. No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin,
4. We hear the Christ-mas an - gels The great glad tid-ings tell;



1. The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
2. And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.
3. Where meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
4. O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em-man - u - el!

Text: 86 86 76 86; Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893. Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908.

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

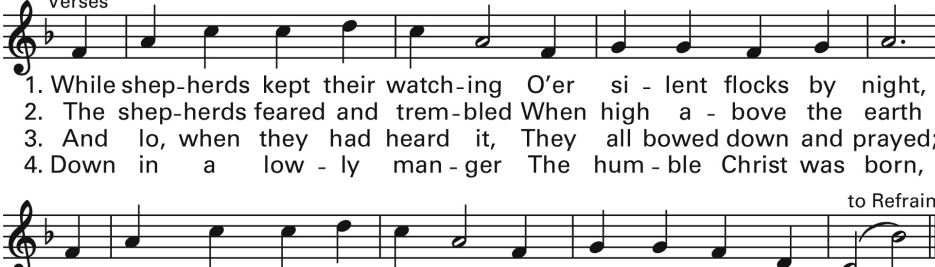
GO TELL IT

Refrain



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.

Verses



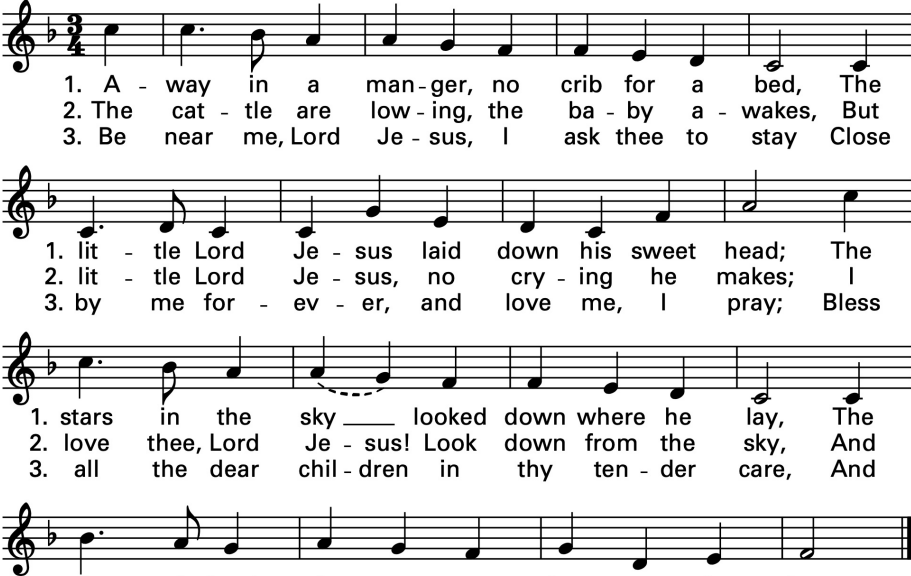
1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When high a - bove the earth
3. And lo, when they had heard it, They all bowed down and prayed;
4. Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born,

to Refrain

1. Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
3. They trav - eled on to - geth - er To where the Babe was laid.
4. And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

AWAY IN A MANGER

MUELLER



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

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

1. stars in the sky — looked down where he lay, The
2. love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, And
3. all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care, And

1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
2. stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
3. fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Catholic Community!
We are so glad you are here to worship with us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Upon the conclusion of Mass, please return your worship aid to one of the entrances of the church. Thank you!

Archdiocesan Prayer for Vocations

O God, we earnestly ask you to bless this archdiocese with many priests, brothers and sisters who will love You with their whole strength and gladly spend their entire lives to serve your

Church and to make You known and loved.

Bless our families, bless our children. Choose from our homes those needed for your work. Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us, pray for our priests, religious, and deacons.

Obtain for us many more.

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

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Verses



1. *Ad - é - ste fi - dé - les, laé - ti tri - um - phán - tes, Ve -*
 1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 3. † Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, †




1. *ní - te, ve - ní - te in Béth - le - hem.*
 1. come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 3. Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!




1. *Na - tum vi - dé - te Re - gem an - ge - ló - rum.*
 1. Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 3. Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain



Ve - ní - te, a - do - ré - mus, ve - ní - te, a - do - ré - mus, ve -
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



ní - te, a - do - ré - mus Dó - mi - num.
 come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

Gloria

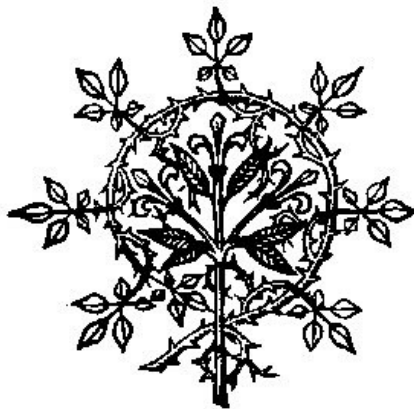
One of the oldest texts of the Mass, the Gloria glorifies and entreats God the Father and the Lamb.

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

Isaiah 9:1-6

A reading from the book of 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!

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 96



Text: Luke 2:11, Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13. Text and music © 1991, Jaime Cortez.
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Reading II

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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Please Stand.

We welcome and greet the Lord who is about to speak to us in the Gospel. During this time, we stand and face the ambo as a special reverence for the Gospel of Christ. The "Alleluia" is sung in every time of year, except Lent.



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Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

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.

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."

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,
(KNEEL) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man **(STAND)**.

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

Angels We Have Heard On High

Verses



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 an - gels



1. o'er the plains, And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o
 2. strains pro-long? Say what may the tid - ings be Which in -
 3. an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the
 4. praise a - bove; Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While we



1. back their joy - ous strains.
 2. spire your
 3. Lord, the new-born King.
 4. raise our

heav'n-ly song?
 hearts in love.

Refrain



Glo - - - ri - a



in ex-cel-sis De - o! De - o!
 to Verse 3

Final



De - o! In ex-cel-sis De - o!

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

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.

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



Amen

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



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:

Assembly:

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

To repeat

world, have mer - cy on us.

Last time

world, grant us peace.

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

Night of Silence/Silent Night

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.



Meditation

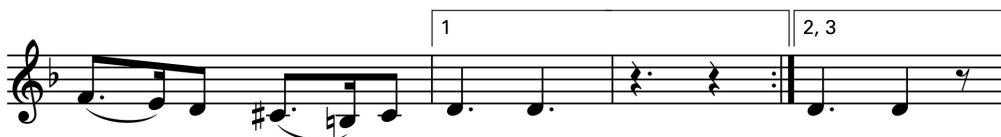
What Child Is This



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is
2. Why lies he in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3. So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas-ant, king, to



1. sleep-ing? Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet, While
2. feed-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear: for sin-ners here The
3. own him; The King of kings sal-va-tion brings, Let



1. shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
2. si-lent Word is plead-ing.
3. 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 Ma-ry.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding the prayer of the People of God and the whole Communion Rite, the Priest says the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated, The people make this prayer their own when they acclaim "amen."

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

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re -
2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns; Let us our
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

1. ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
2. songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and
4. na - tions prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -

1. room, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
2. plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
4. ness, And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

1. sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
2. joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
4. love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: CM with repeats: based on Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1764–1748, alt.
Music: T. Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833; George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759;
adapt. by Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt.

On behalf of our St. Stephen's
Catholic Community Parish and
School faculty and staff, we want to
wish all of you a blessed Christmas!





SEEK, LOVE, & SERVE JESUS CHRIST
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:



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