

**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**



**SOLEMNITY OF THE  
NATIVITY OF THE LORD  
24 DECEMBER 2020**

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# MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND CHRISTOPHE PIERRE**

Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America

*Celebrant and Homilist*



**REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI**

Rector of the Basilica

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR VITO A. BUONANNO**

Director of Pilgrimages

**REVEREND RAYMOND A. LEBRUN, O.M.I.**

Spiritual Director

*Concelebrants*



**REVEREND MICHAEL D. WESTON**

*Master of Ceremonies*

# PRELUDE

## MUSIC FROM THE KNIGHTS' TOWER

The 56 Bells of the Knights' Tower Carillon

Robert Grogan, Carillonneur

*Nine o'clock in the evening*

**OF A ROSE SING WE**                      Selden Manuscript, c. 1450

*Mysterium mirabile*

**RIU, RIU CHIU**

*Villancicos de diversos*

*autores, 1556*

## VARIATIONS ON PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

*(1562-1621)*

## THREE EARLY CARILLON SETTINGS

Anonymous Manuscript, 1728

*Alder soetsten nacht*

*Ach wat hoor ick voor soet geklanck*

*Herderkens sa naar Bethleem*

**TU SCENDI DALLE STELLE**      Traditional Italian Carol  
*From Starry Skies Descending*

**SING WE THE VIRGIN MARY**      John Jacob Niles  
*(1892-1980)*

**FROM A CARILLON BOOK FOR THE**  
**LITURGICAL YEAR:**      Roy Hamlin Johnson  
*(1929-2020)*

*Resonet in laudibus*

*Rosa mystica (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)*

*In dulci jubilo*

**MUSIC FROM THE GALLERIES**

Gallery and Chancel Organs

Benjamin LaPrairie, Organist

*Nine thirty o'clock in the evening*

**MARCH UPON HANDEL'S *LIFT UP YOUR HEADS*, OP. 15**

Alexandre Guilmant

*(1837-1911)*

**DIVINUM MYSTERIUM**

Gerald Near

*(b.1948)*

**NOËL SUISSE**

Louis-Claude d'Aquin

*(1694-1772)*

**VOM HIMMEL HOCH, DA KOMM ICH HER,**

**PER CANONES, BWV 769**

Johann Sebastian Bach

i. Canone all'ottava

*(1685-1750)*

ii. Canone alla quinta

v. Canon per augmentationem

**TOCCATA ON *VOM HIMMEL HOCH***

Garth Edmundson

*(1892-1971)*

# MUSIC FROM THE CHANCEL

The Choir and Chamber Orchestra of the Basilica

Peter Latona, Conductor

Andrew Vu, Organist

*Ten o'clock in the evening*

MARY'S MAGNIFICAT

Andrew Carter

*(b. 1939)*

Softly a light is stealing,  
Sweetly a maiden sings,  
Ever wakeful, ever wistful,  
Watching faithfully, thankfully,  
tenderly her King of kings.

My soul doth magnify,  
doth magnify the Lord:  
And my spirit hath rejoiced,  
rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Mary her song to Jesus  
Softly, serenely sings:  
'I will love you, I will serve you,  
May my lullaby glorify,  
magnify my King of kings.'

## CHRISTMAS DAYBREAK

Robert Convery  
*(b. 1954)*

Before the paling of the stars,  
Before the winter morn,  
Before the earliest cockcrow,  
Jesus Christ was born:  
Born in a stable,  
Cradled in a manger,  
In the world His hands had made,  
Born a stranger.

Priest and king lay fast asleep  
In Jerusalem,  
Young and old lay fast asleep,  
In crowded Bethlehem:  
Saint and angel, ox and ass,  
Kept a watch together,  
Before the Christmas daybreak  
In the winter weather.



Jesus on His Mother's breast  
In the stable cold,  
Spotless Lamb of God was He,  
Shepherd of the fold.  
Let us kneel with Mary Maid,  
With Joseph bent and hoary,  
With saint and angel, ox and ass,  
To hail the King of Glory.

# LULLAY, MY LIKING

Gustav Holst  
(1874-1934)

I saw a fair maiden  
Sitten and sing:  
She lulléd a little child,  
A sweeté lording.

*Chorus:*

*Lullay my liking,  
My dear son, my sweeting;  
Lullay my dear heart,  
Mine own dear darling*

That eternal lord is he  
That made allé thing;  
Of allé lordés he is Lord  
Of allé kinges King.

*Chorus*

There was mickle melody  
At that childés birth:  
Though the songsters were heavenly  
They madé mickle mirth.

*Chorus*

Angels bright they sang that night  
And saiden to that child,  
“Blessed be thou and so be she  
That is both meek and mild.”

*Chorus*

Pray we now to that child,  
And to his mother dear,  
God grant them all his blessing  
That now maken cheer.

*Chorus*

AVE MARIA

Henri Mulet  
(1878-1967)

*Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum,  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus  
ventris tui, Jesus.*

*Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.  
Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee!  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

**O LEAVE YOUR SHEEP**

Kenneth Leighton  
(1929-1988)

O leave your sheep, your lambs that follow after,  
O leave the brook, the pasture and the crook,  
No longer weep, turn weeping into laughter,  
O shepherds, seek your goal,  
Your Lord, your Lord, who cometh to console.

You'll find him laid within a simple stable,  
A babe new born, in poverty forlorn,  
In love array'd, a love so deep 'tis able  
To search the night for you.  
'Tis he! 'Tis he! 'Tis he! the Shepherd true!

O kings so great! a light is streaming o'er you  
More radiant far than diadem or star;  
Forego your state! a baby lies before you  
Whose wonder shall be told:  
Bring myrrh! Bring myrrh! Bring frankincense and gold!

**CONCERTO FROM**

**L'ESTRO ARMONICO, RV 230**

Antonio Vivaldi  
(1678-1741)

*Kevin Gebo, Trumpet*  
*Benjamin LaPrairie, Organ*

**ORDER OF MASS**

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**THE PROCLAMATION FOR CHRISTMAS**

Roman Martyrology

*Jacob Perry, Cantor*

# PROCESSION TO THE CRÈCHE

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright;

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in 6/8 time and have a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the upper staff, with accompaniment in the lower staff. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

Round you vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant so

The second system of music continues the piece. It features the same two-staff format with treble and bass clefs. The melody and accompaniment are consistent with the first system. The lyrics are placed below the upper staff.

ten - der and mild, Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace, sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.

The third and final system of music concludes the piece. It maintains the two-staff structure with treble and bass clefs. The melody and accompaniment lead to a final cadence. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

# CAROL AT THE CRÈCHE

*A Boy Was Born*

Benjamin Britten  
(1913-1976)


A boy was born in Bethlehem;  
Rejoice for that, Jerusalem!  
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.

He let himself a servant be,  
That all mankind he might set free:  
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.


Then praise the Word of God who came  
To dwell within a human frame:  
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya.




# PROCESSIONAL CAROL



O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,




O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
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;  
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!

## GREETING

Celebrant: Peace be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Assembly: I confess to almighty God,  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have  
failed to do,  
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.

Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

Chri-ste e - le - i - son.

Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.


Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

# GLORIA



Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus bo-nae vo-lun-ta-tis.

**Choir:** *Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.*




Do-mi-ne De-us, Rex cae - les - tis, De-us Pa-ter om - ni - po - tens.




Do-mi-ne Fi - li u - ni - ge - ni - te, Je - su Chri - ste.

**Choir:** *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.*



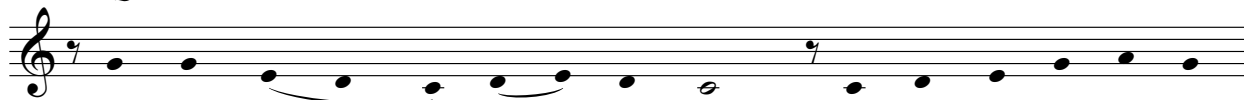
Qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun - - - di, mi-se-re - re no - bis.

**Choir:** *Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.*




Qui se-des ad dex-ter-am Pa - tris, mi-se-re-re no - bis.

**Choir:** *Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.*



Cum San - cto Spi - ri - tu, in glo - ri - a De - i



Pa - - - tris. A - - - - - men.

# COLLECT

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## READING I

Isaiah 9:1-6

## PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13



To-day is born our Sa - vior, Christ the Lord.

The musical notation is a single staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final dotted quarter note. A slur covers the notes for 'Sa - vior, Christ'.

## READING II

Titus 2:11-14

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 2:10-11



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

The musical notation is a single staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final dotted quarter note. A slur covers the notes for 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.'.

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

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

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL**

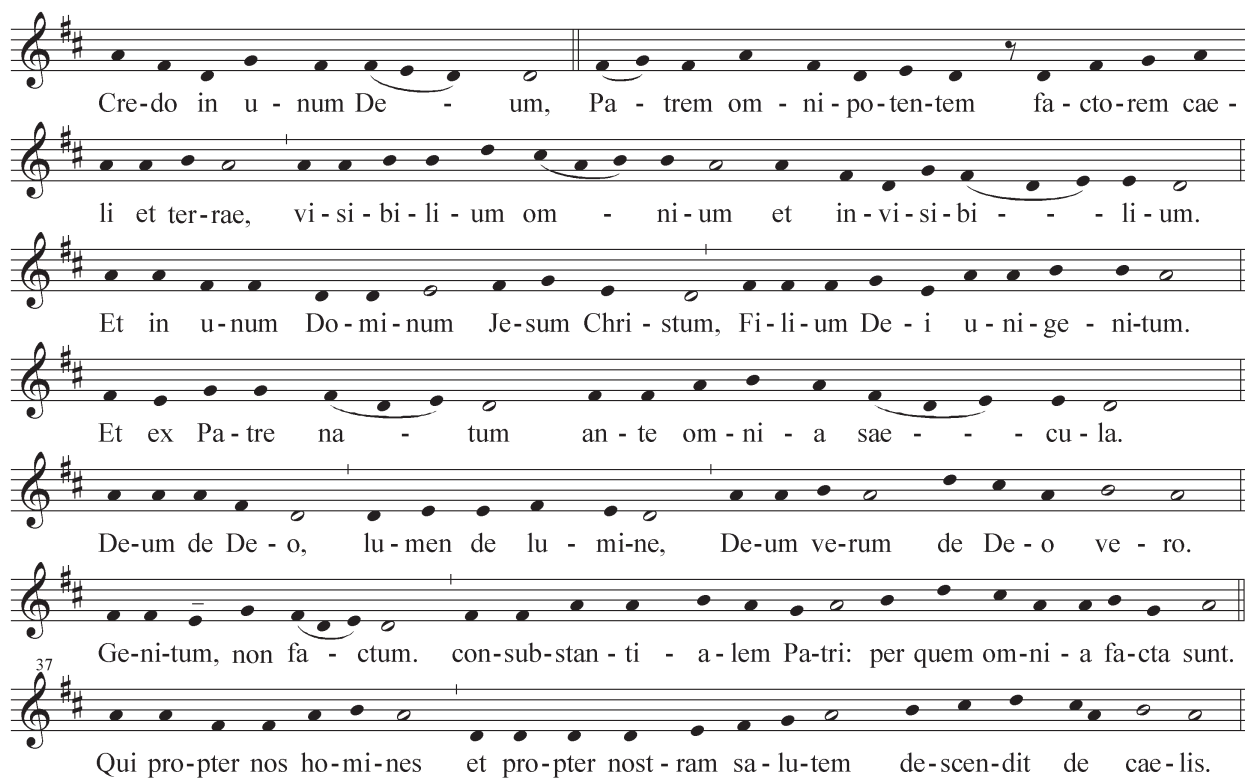
Luke 2:1-14

**HOMILY**

Most Reverend Christophe Pierre

*Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America*

# PROFESSION OF FAITH



Cre-do in u - num De - um, Pa - trem om - ni - po - ten - tem fa - cto - rem cae -  
li et ter - rae, vi - si - bi - li - um om - ni - um et in - vi - si - bi - li - um.  
Et in u - num Do - mi - num Je - sum Chri - stum, Fi - li - um De - i u - ni - ge - ni - tum.  
Et ex Pa - tre na - tum an - te om - ni - a sae - cu - la.  
De - um de De - o, lu - men de lu - mi - ne, De - um ve - rum de De - o ve - ro.  
Ge - ni - tum, non fa - ctum. con - sub - stan - ti - a - lem Pa - tri: per quem om - ni - a fa - cta sunt.  
37 Qui pro - pter nos ho - mi - nes et pro - pter nost - ram sa - lu - tem de - scen - dit de cae - lis.

*(All kneel at this line)*

*(Choir)* Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto  
ex Maria Virgine, et homo factus est.

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

Et in-car-na-tus est de Spi-ri-tu San - cto ex Ma-ri - a Vir - gi-ne, et ho-mo fa-ctus est.

Cru-ci - fi - xus e-ti-am pro no - bis sub Pon-ti-o Pi-la-to, pas - sus et se-pul - tus est.

Et re-sur-re - xit ter - ti - a di-e se-cun - dum Scri - ptu - ras. Et a-scen - dit in  
 66  
 cae - lum, se-det ad dex-te-ram Pa - tris. Et i-te-rum ven-tu-rus est cum glo-ri-a,

ju - di - ca - re vi-vos et mor - tu-os, cu-jus re-gni non e - rit fi - nis.

Et in Spi - ri - tum San - ctum, Do-mi - num et vi-vi - fi - can-tem: qui ex Pa-tre Fi-  
 li - o-que pro - ce - dit. Qui cum Pa - tre et Fi - li - o si-mul a - do - ra-tur  
 et con - glo - ri - fi - ca-tur: qui lo - cu - tus est per pro - phe - tas.

Et u-nam, san - ctam, ca - tho - li - cam et a - po - sto - li - cam Ec - cle - si-am.

Con - fi - te - or u-num Ba - ptis - ma in re - mis - si - o-nem pec - ca - to - rum.

Et ex-pec - to re-sur-re-cti - o-nem mor - tu - o - rum. Et vi - tam ven - tu - ri sae - cu - li.

A - - - - - men.

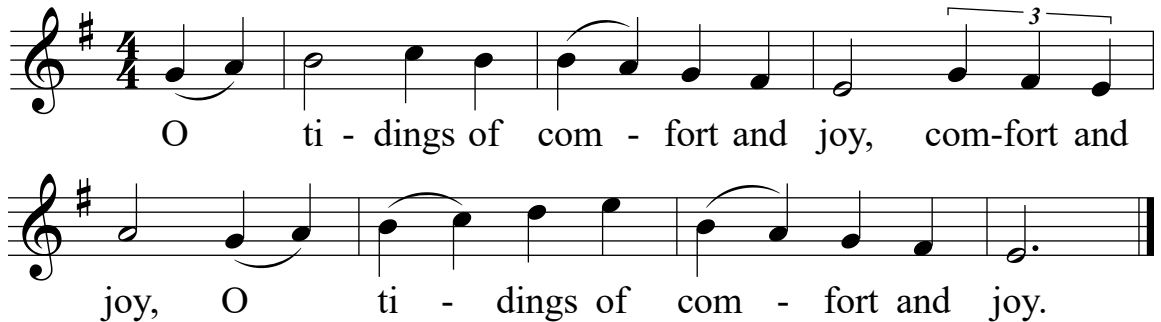
## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com-fort and  
joy, O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Savior Was born upon this day,  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray, *ref.*

From God our heav'nly Father A blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name, *ref.*

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm, and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway This blessed babe to find: *ref.*

But when to Bethlehem they came, Whereat this infant lay,  
They found him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling, Unto the Lord did pray: *ref.*

Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within in this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface: *ref.*

## **PREFACE**

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

Assembly: 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.

## **PREFACE DIALOGUE**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

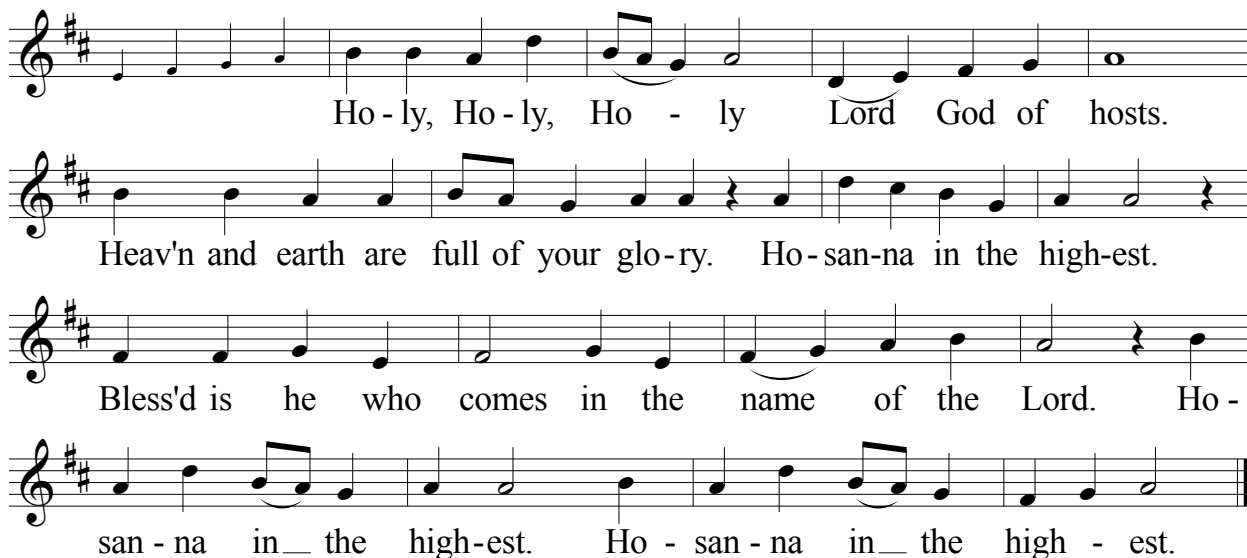
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

Assembly: It is right and just.

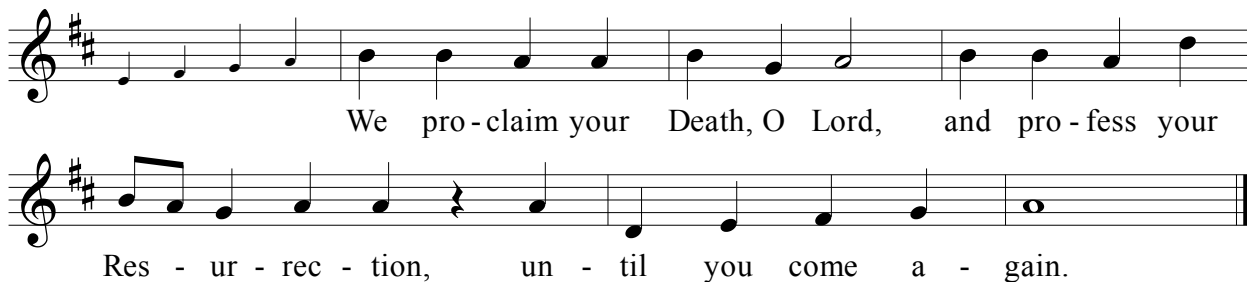
## PREFACE ACCLAMATION



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

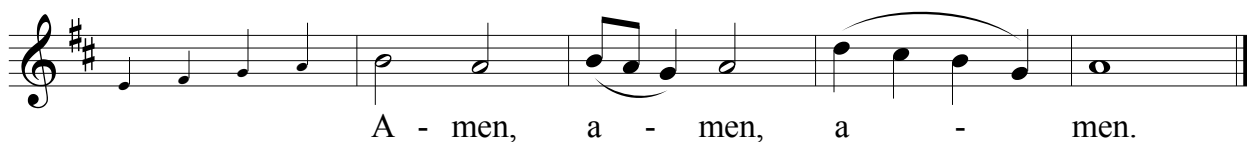
## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: The mystery of faith.



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.

## GREAT AMEN



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

# COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY

SIGN OF PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

# LITANY AT THE RITE OF FRACTION

*(Choir) Missa Praeperate corda vestra*

Steffano Bernardi  
*(1577-1637)*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the 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.

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

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

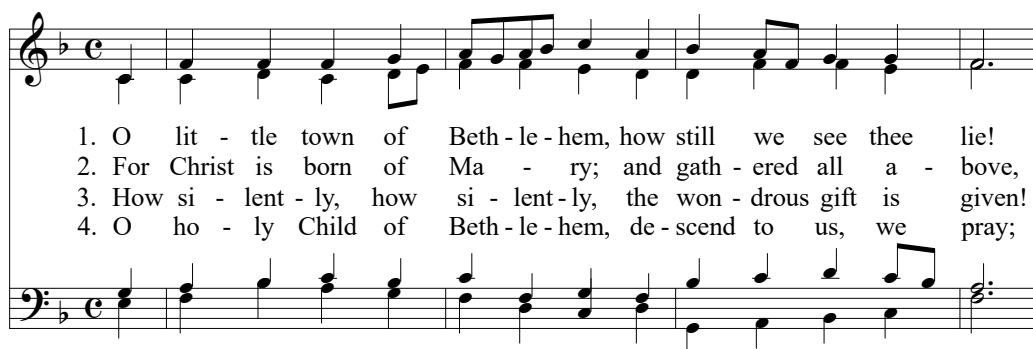
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

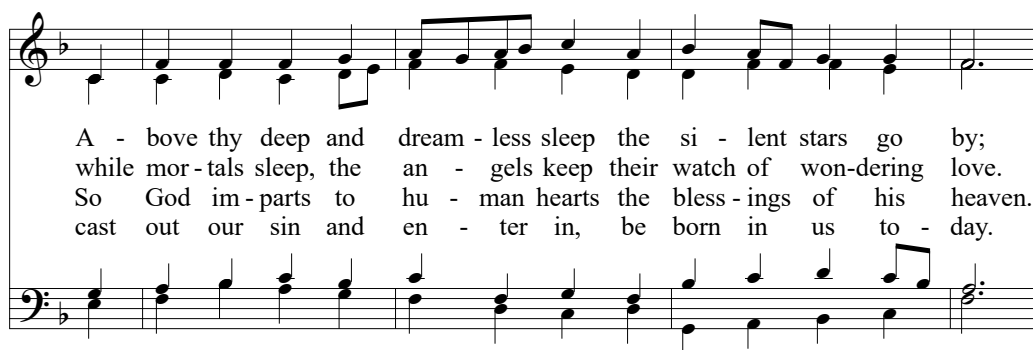
## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Verbum caro factum est,* The Word became flesh,  
*et vidimus glóriam eius.* and we have seen his glory.

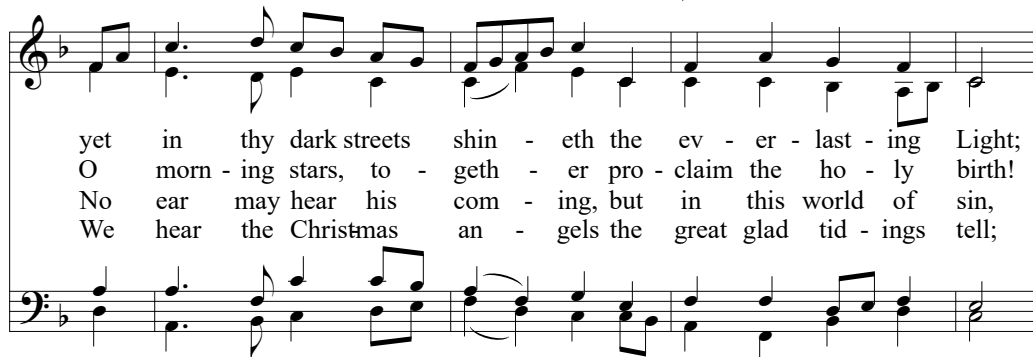
# COMMUNION CAROL



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 given!  
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christmas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christen - ters in.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

*Hodie Christus natus est*    Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck  
(1561-1621)

*Hodie Christus natus est  
hodie salvator apparuit:  
hodie in terra canunt angeli,  
laetantur archangeli:  
hodie exsultant justi dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia!*

Today Christ is born;  
today the Savior has appeared.  
Today on earth the angels sing,  
the archangels rejoice:  
today the just exult saying:  
Glory to God in the highest, alleluia!

*(Antiphon at the Magnificat, Vespers II of Christmas Day)*



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Bow down for the blessing.

Celebrant: May the God of infinite goodness,  
who by the Incarnation of his Son  
has driven darkness from the world  
and by that glorious Birth  
has illumined this most holy night,  
drive far from you the darkness of vice  
and illumine your hearts with the  
light of virtue.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: May God, who willed that the great joy  
of his Son's saving Birth  
be announced to shepherds by the Angel,  
fill your minds with the gladness he gives  
and make you heralds of his Gospel.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: And may God,  
who by the Incarnation brought together  
the earthly and heavenly realm,  
fill you with the gift of his peace and favor  
and make you sharers  
with the Church in heaven.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, ✠ and the Son,  
✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with  
you for ever.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

# RECESSIONAL CAROL



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-eous-ness!



Peace on earth, and mer-cy mild God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Mild he lays his 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!"  
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.



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

## POSTLUDE

vi. Final *from* Symphony No. 1

Louis Vierne  
(1870-1937)

**CHRISTMAS  
AT THE BASILICA OF THE  
NATIONAL SHRINE**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

9 AM, 12:00 AM & 4:30 PM  
*Great Upper Church*

SOLEMN MASS AT NOON  
*His Eminence*

**WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY**  
Archbishop of Washington  
*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

*Broadcast live by the Eternal Word Television Network*

(Please note: No Scheduled Confessions on Christmas Day)



SPANISH MASS: 2:30 PM  
*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND MARIO E. DORSONVILLE**  
Auxiliary Bishop of Washington  
*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

*Broadcast live by the Eternal Word Television Network*

**2020-2021 JUBILEE YEAR**

**100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE PLACING  
OF THE FOUNDATION STONE  
OF THE BASILICA  
OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

For the period of the Jubilee, September 23, 2020 - September 23, 2021, the Holy Father, Pope Francis has granted a *Plenary Indulgence* (remission of temporal punishment due to sin) to the truly penitent members of the faithful who fulfill the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, prayers for the Holy Father's intentions), if they undertake a sacred pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and there devoutly participate in the Jubilee rites, or will at least devote a considerable period of time in pious reflection and prayer on the Christian vocation, for the increase of priestly and religious vocations, and for the defense of the institution

of the human family, having poured out their humble prayers to God, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Those pious faithful, the elderly, the infirm, or those impeded by some other serious reason, are equally able to obtain the *Plenary Indulgence* if, having detestation of sin and the intention of being there, as it is permitted above, fulfilling the three usual conditions, during the anniversary celebrations, in the presence of an image of the heavenly Patroness, they spiritually join themselves, offering their prayers, sorrows, and difficulties of their own life to the merciful God through Mary.

*Decretum*, Paenitentiarum Apostolica, July 16, 2020

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# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



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