

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Song: Sing We Now of Christmas **G-495**

1 Sing we now of Christmas,
Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises
to the babe so dear.

Refrain:
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

2 Angels called to shepherds,
"Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Bethlehem,
find the lambkin blest." [Refrain]

3 In Bethlehem they found him;
Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger,
watching the holy child. [Refrain]

4 From the eastern country
came the kings afar,
bearing gifts to Bethlehem
guided by a star. [Refrain]

5 Gold and myrrh they took there,
gifts of greatest price;
there was ne'er a place on earth
so like paradise. [Refrain]

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

CLOW Dismissal @ 9 a.m. Mass: Seek Ye First **G-715**

*Psalm 128: **Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways, and walk in his ways.***
(Text: Abbey Psalms & Canticles © 2010, 2018 USCCB; Music: © 2024, Philip Jakob)

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Alleluia

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Homily

Dismissal of Catechumens: *Go now in peace, go now in peace,
Christ will be your way, your truth, your life.*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts & Altar: A Weary Couple **G-500** (to the tune of 'O Danny Boy')

A weary couple lodged within a stable,
the only space where they could spend the night.
Were other trav'lers happy to be able
to keep her labor out of mind and sight?
But choirs of angels heard the mother's weeping,
and heaven rang with songs of peace on earth.
They went unheard by those in comfort sleeping,
for Jesus came among the outcasts at his birth.

An angel came to Joseph in his dreaming
and warned him so his family could flee.
As they escaped king Herod's evil scheming,
the son of God became a refugee.
How many children die without such warning?
How many mothers will not be consoled,
their voices choked with anger, tears, and mourning,
for songs unsung and stories never to be told?

But still the angels sing their hymn of "Glory"
beyond our fears that never seem to cease.
For Christ has come, and God's unfolding story
redeems the world to live in love, goodwill, and peace.

Eucharistic Acclamations: Mass of Creation **G- 419, 420, 421**

COMMUNION RITE

Our Father

Lamb of God: Mass of Creation

Communion Song: Come Sing a Home and Family G-498

1. Come, sing a home and fam - i - ly In Naz - a -
2. At Mar - y's ta - ble Je - sus learned To bless, give
3. By Jo - seph's side young Je - sus learned To work and
4. What - ev - er form our fam - 'ly takes, The gos - pel
reth of old, Whose hum - ble grace a no - ble place In
thanks, and eat, To wel - come all as hon - ored guests By
read and pray, The law and love of God a - bove Placed
way we seek: To feed the hun - gry, heal the sick, Lift
Chris - tian life now holds: A maid - en's ho - ly,
wash - ing wea - ry feet. Her sweep - ing floors and
in his heart to stay. While cra - dled by the
up the poor and weak. In dai - ly life and
vi - brant faith, Which said, "Let it be done!" A dream - er
light - ing lamps, Her knead - ing bread with leav'n, Her jour - neys
car - pen - ter, The boy came to dis - cern That prod - i -
sim - ple tasks Our song must nev - er cease Of dream - ing
who risked life and limb Pro - tect - ing God's own Son.
to the well fore - told To Christ the reign of heav'n.
gal, for - giv - ing arms A - wait a child's re - turn.
work - er, maid - en bold, And child of last - ing peace.

Communion Song: Silent Night G-476

1 Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night,
Darkness flies, all is light;
Shepherds hear the angels sing,
"Alleluia! hail the King!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born."

3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

4 Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend the light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

CONCLUDING RITE

Dismissal Chant: Joy to the World G 471

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

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