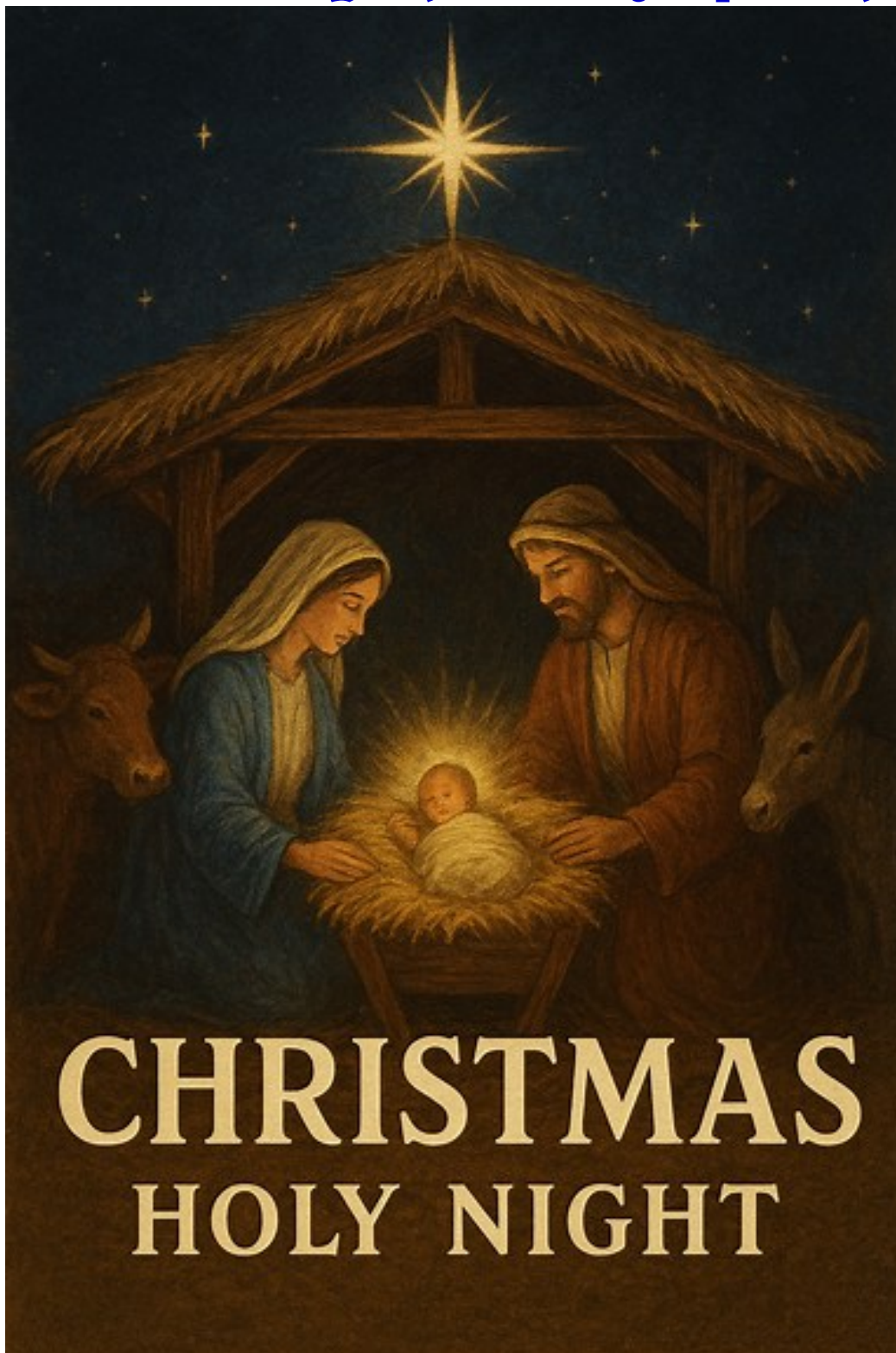


**Saint George the Martyr Parish**



**THE CHRISTIAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF CANADA**

# THE ORDER OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

A Devotion Before Mass on Christmas Eve at the Church-door - (Stand)

INTROIT HYMN - 75 “*O come all ye faithful*”

THE INTROIT. *Psalm* 96. 10-13. - (Kneel)

The Lord’s Prayer and Collect for Purity, and the Greeting - (Kneel)

Our Blessed Lord’s Summary of the Law - (Kneel)

Gloria in Excelsis (Glory be to God on high) - Stand

The Collect for the King’s Majesty - (Kneel)

*The Collect for Christmas-Day* - (Kneel)

THE EPISTLE. *Hebrew* 1. 1-12. - (Sit)

THE GRADUAL. *Psalm* 98. 1-4. - (Stand)

THE GOSPEL. *Saint Luke* 2. 1-20. - (Stand)

THE NICENE CREED - (Stand)

THE SERMON.

OFFERTORY HYMN - 82 “*O little town of Bethlehem*”

The Offertory and Doxology - (Stand)

The Prayer of Intercession - (Kneel)

The Preparation of the Faithful - (Kneel)

The Preparation of the Lord’s Table - (Kneel)

The Exhortation of the Faithful - (Kneel)

The Eucharistic Preface for Christmas - (Stand)

*Sanctus and Benedictus* (Holy, Holy, Holy) - (Kneel)

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND OBLATION - (Kneel)

The Preparation for Holy Communion - (Kneel)

The Ministration of Holy Communion - (Kneel)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN - 739 “*Silent night, holy night*”

The Thanksgiving after Holy Communion - (Kneel)

The Collect after Communion for Christmas - (Kneel)

The Dismissal Anthem for Christmas - (Kneel)

The Blessing and Dismissal - (Kneel)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - 734 “*Away in a manger*”

The Blessing of the Creche - (Stand)

DISMISSAL HYMN - 77 “*Hark, the herald angels sing*”

# CHRISTMAS-EVE

24<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## THE FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS

### A DEVOTION BEFORE MASS ON CHRISTMAS-EVE

*This Devotion following shall be used immediately before the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Christmas-Eve, and may also be so used likewise at every celebration on Christmas-Day.*

*All the candles shall be lighted.*

*Priest: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son.*

*Answer: And shall His Name Emmanuel.*

*Priest: Let us pray.*

**O** GOD, Who hast sent Thy blessed Son Jesus Christ into the world to save us from our sins: Deliver us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, from every evil past, present, and to come; and grant that by the intercession of our most blessed Lady the Virgin Mary, and all Thy Saints, we may enjoy peace in our days; and that, by the help of Thine availing mercy, we may be preserved from all sin, and kept safe from all distress, as we await with joy the blessed hope of the glorious coming of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*The Priest shall first read these Sentences of Scripture following.*

**T**HEREFORE the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Emmanuel. *Isaiah 7. 14.*

The people that sat in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. *Isaiah 9. 2.*

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the Throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgement and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. *Isaiah 9. 6-7.*

*Then shall all stand for the reading of the Gospel, as followeth according to the customary form.*

THE ANNUNCIATION. *Saint Luke 1. 26-35.*

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a Virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the Virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee. And she was troubled at this saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favour with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His Name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David. And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: Therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

*Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray.

O GOD, Who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Thine only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive Him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him when He shall come again to be our Judge; through the same Thy blessed Son our Lord, Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*Then shall the Priest proceed with  
the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.*

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

INTROIT HYMN. *“O Come all ye Faithful”*

*Tune: Adeste Fideles. P.M.*

*Translated from the Latin (18th century),  
by Canon F. Oakley, W.T. Brooke, and others, 1841.*

O COME, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come, and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels :  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created :  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,  
Glory to God,  
In the highest :  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps :  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing :  
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. Amen.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

THE INTROIT. *Psalms 96. 10-13.*

**T**ELL it out among the heathen, that the Lord is King: / and that it is He Who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; and how that He shall judge the people righteously. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; / let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is. Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it: / then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord. For He cometh, for He cometh to judge the earth; / and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with His truth.

**G**LORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost : As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

### THE PREPARATION.

*And the Priest, standing at and facing the Lord's Table, shall say in an audible voice the Lord's Prayer, with the Collect following, the people kneeling.*

**O**UR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**A**LMIGHTY God, unto Whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### THE GREETING.

*The Priest shall first kiss the Holy Table; and then turning himself to face the people, he shall greet them in the Name of the Lord, saying,*

**G**RACE be unto you, and peace,  
from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

### THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW.

*Then shall the Priest rehearse our Blessed Lord's Summary of the Law.*

**O**UR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; and thou shalt love the LORD thy GOD with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great Commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

*People.* Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these Thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee.

### KYRIE ELEISON.

*Then shall the Priest return to his place standing before the Holy Table, and this following shall then be said or sung in Greek or in English, the people all still humbly kneeling as before.*

**K**YRIE, eleison. / Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christe, eleison. / Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Kyrie, eleison. / Lord, have mercy upon us.

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS.

*Then may be said or sung by all standing,*

**G**LORY be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise



Thee, we bless Thee, *(Here all shall bow.)* we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, *(And here all shall bow with reverence.)* Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, *(And here all again shall bow.)* receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, ✠ art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### THE COLLECTS.

*Then shall the Priest turn himself to the people, and shall say or sing,*

**T**HE Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us pray.

*Then shall the Priest turn again to the Lord's Table,  
and shall say or sing this Collect for the King's Majesty following.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: Have mercy upon Thy people in this Dominion, and all the realms and countries of our Commonwealth; and so rule the heart of Thy chosen servant *CHARLES*, our King and Governor, that he (knowing Whose minister he is) may above all things seek Thy honour and glory: and grant that we, and all his subjects (duly considering Whose authority he hath) may faithfully serve, honour, and humbly obey him, in Thee, and for Thee, according to Thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*Then shall be said or sung the Collect appointed.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Who hast given us Thine only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made Thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by Thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### THE EPISTLE. *Hebrews* 1:1-12

The Epistle is written in the First Chapter  
of Saint Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews,  
beginning at the First Verse.

**G**OD, Who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, Whom He hath appointed Heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds; Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express Image of His Person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: being made so much better than the angels, as He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent Name than they. For unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten Thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and He shall be to me a Son? And again, when He bringeth in the First-begotten into the world, He saith, And let all the angels of God worship Him. And of the angels He saith, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of Thine hands: they shall perish; but Thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail.

*And the Epistle ended, the Minister shall say,*

Here endeth the Epistle.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*And all shall answer saying,*

Thanks be to God.

*Then shall all the people stand, and the Gradual Psalm appointed for the First Mass of Christmas-Day shall be sung or said.*

THE GRADUAL. *Psalm 98. 1-4.*

**A**LLELUIA, Alleluia. O Sing unto the Lord a new song, / for He hath done marvellous things. With His own right hand, and with His holy arm, / hath He gotten himself the victory. The Lord declared His salvation, / His righteousness hath He openly shewed in the sight of the heathen. He hath remembered His mercy and truth toward the house of Israel, / and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL. *Saint Luke 2. 1-20.*

*Then shall the Priest read the Gospel, the people still standing.*

*And he that shall read the Gospel shall first say,*

**T**HE Lord be with you.



*And all shall answer,  
And with thy spirit.*

*Then shall he announce that portion of the Gospel  
which is to be read at the First Mass of Christmas-Day, saying,*

✠ The holy Gospel is written in the Second Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke beginning at the First Verse.

*Then shall be sung or said,  
Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

**N**OW it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

*And the reading of the Gospel ended, all shall then  
together in like manner as before sing or say,*

**P**raise be to Thee, O Christ.

*Then he that hath read the Gospel shall say,*

**A**nd through the Words of the Gospel,  
may our sins be blotted out.

### THE NICENE CREED.

*Then shall be said or sung the Nicene Creed as followeth,  
the Priest and people still standing as before.*

**I** BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord (*And here all shall bow their heads.*) **Jesus Christ**, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds : God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through Whom all things were made : (*And here all shall devoutly kneel or bow.*) **Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man,** (*And here all shall rise again.*) And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead : Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together (*And here all shall bow.*) **is worshipped and glorified**, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the ☩ Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

### THE SERMON

*And here a Sermon shall be preached  
or an Homily read out to the faithful.*

### THE OFFERTORY.

*Then shall the Priest return to the Lord's Table and begin the Offertory; and first kissing the Altar,  
he shall turn to the people, and say,*

**LET** us present our offerings unto the Lord  
with reverence and godly fear.

*Then shall the Priest say or sing these Sentences following.*

**A**ND they came every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering. *Exodus xxxv.*

Offer unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalms l.*

Give unto the Lord the honour due unto His Name; bring an offering and come into His courts. *Psalm xcvi.*

I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the Name of the Lord; I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the sight of all His people.

*Psalm cxvi.*

Brethren, you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. *II Corinthians viii.*

*Then shall This Hymn following be sung for the Offertory Hymn.*

*Whilst the Offertory Hymn is being sung, the Churchwardens and Sidesmen shall collect the tithes and other offerings of the people, and shall place them in a decent bason provided for that purpose, and shall reverently bring them to the Priest, who shall humbly present and place them upon the Lord's Table.*

OFFERTORY HYMN. “*O Little town of Bethlehem*”

*Tune: Saint Louis. 8 6. 8 6. 7 6. 8 6.*

*Bishop Phillips Brooks, 1868.*

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by :  
Yet in thy dark street shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in Thee to-night.

For CHRIST is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy Birth,  
And praises sing to GOD our King,  
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So GOD imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven :

No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear CHRIST enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in;  
Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell :  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our LORD Emmanuel. Amen.

### THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS.

*And when the Tithes and Offerings are presented,  
the following shall be said or sung,*

**PRAISE** God, from Whom all blessings flow.; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. All things  
come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

*Or else this following may be said or sung instead,*

**BLESSED** be Thou, O Lord God of Israel, forever and ever. All that is in the heaven  
and in the earth is Thine. All things come of Thee; and of Thine own have we given  
Thee. Amen.

*The Priest at the time of the Offertory shall also place upon the Lord's Table so much Bread and  
Wine as he shall think sufficient (setting them upon a fair linen corporas cloth). And the Bread  
shall be the best and purest unleavened wheat Bread, and the Wine the purest grape Wine, that may  
be gotten. And at high and solemn celebrations, the Holy Table and the oblations set thereon may  
then be censed by the Priest.*

### THE INTERCESSION.

*Then shall the Priest say,*  
Let us pray for Christ's holy Catholic Church.

*Then shall the Priest say this Prayer following.*

**ALMIGHTY** and everliving God, Who by Thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make  
prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: We humbly beseech Thee  
most mercifully *to accept our alms and oblations, and* to receive these our prayers,  
which we offer unto Thy Divine Majesty; beseeching Thee to inspire continually the  
universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all they  
that do confess Thy holy Name may agree in the truth of Thy holy Word, and live in

unity and godly love.

We beseech Thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially Thy servant *CHARLES* our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto all his councils, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of Thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, *and specially to Thy servant Robert, our Bishop*, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth Thy true and living Word, and rightly and duly administer Thy holy Sacraments. And we beseech Thee also to bless all others who minister in Thy Name; that every one according to his calling and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee, to Thy honour and glory, and the edifying of Thy holy Church. And to all Thy people give Thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive Thy holy Word, truly serving Thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech Thee of Thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, *especially those for whom our prayers are desired*.

✠ And here we remember before Thee, O Lord, and commend to Thy gracious keeping, all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear, *especially Thy servant N.* And we bless Thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified Thee, remembering chiefly the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord and God; together with all Thy blessed Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Doctors; Martyrs and Confessors; Virgins, Widows, and Matrons; *especially blessed Saint N. whom we remember this day*; and all Thy blessed Saints, in every place, and in every age: beseeching Thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, and assisted by their prayers, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

*(This sacred portion of the Mass is reverently conducted in the Church.)*

*This Hymn following may be sung during the Ablutions  
after Holy Communion.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN. *"Silent night, holy night"*

*Tune: Silent Night. P.M.*

*From the German of the Rev. Joseph Muir (1818).*

*Translated by Jane M. Campbell and others (1863).*

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.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia”,  
CHRIST, the SAVIOUR, is born!  
CHRIST, the SAVIOUR, is born!

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. Amen.

#### THE THANKSGIVING AFTER HOLY COMMUNION.

*And all these things having been completed,  
the Priest shall then turn himself to the people, and shall say,*

**T**HE Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us pray.

*Then shall the Priest turn again to face the Altar, and say,*

**A**LMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank Thee, for that Thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these Holy Mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of Thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of Thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of Thy everlasting kingdom, by the Merits of His most precious Death and Passion. And we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with Thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as Thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

#### THE BLESSING.



*Then shall the Priest kiss the Lord's Table; and turning himself again to face the people, he shall let them depart with this Blessing, the people all kneeling.*

**T**HE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*The following Hymn shall be sung as the Priest proceeds to the Crèche.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN. “*Away in a manger*”

*Tune: Cradle Song. 11 11. 11 11.*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little LORD JESUS laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
The little LORD JESUS asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little LORD JESUS no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, LORD JESUS! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by bedside till morning is nigh.

Be near me, LORD JESUS; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me for ever, and love me I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there. *Amen.*

## THE BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE.

*The Priest.*

**T**HE Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us bless the Lord.

*Answer.* Thanks be to God.

*Priest.* Let us pray.

**A**LL blessing, glory, and thanksgiving be unto Thee, Almighty God our heavenly Father, for that Thou didst give Thine only-begotten Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take our nature upon Himself, and as at this time to be born for us, in great humility, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His most holy Mother: Accept, we beseech Thee, O Father, and bless to our use, this Crèche that it may set outwardly before our eyes the glorious Nativity our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and grant that inwardly in our souls we may bring with the Shepherds and the Kings our own gifts, and pay unto Him

our true devotion; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

*And here the Priest shall sprinkle the Crèche with holy Water.*

*Then shall the Priest say,*

**W**E bless, hallow, and sanctify this Crèche, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; praying Almighty God that we, who behold here the likeness of the Nativity of His Son, by the power of the Holy Ghost, may have the fire of His love enkindled in our hearts, and be made like unto Him, Who for our sakes was made very Man. *Amen.*

*Then shall this Hymn following be sung as the Priest  
and Ministers leave the Church.*

DISMISSAL HYMN. *“Hark! the herald-angels sing”*

*Tune: Mendelssohn. Ten 7's.*

*The Reverend Charles Wesley, 1739.*

Hark! the herald-angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
GOD and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
“CHRIST is born in Bethlehem.”  
*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King.*

CHRIST, by highest heaven adored,  
CHRIST, the everlasting LORD,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
JESUS, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King.*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,

Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
*Hark, the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King.*  
Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL.

*And all being ended, the Priest shall then dismiss the people, saying,*

**T**HE Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us depart in peace;

*Answer.* In the Name of the Lord.

*Amen.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*This Proclamation of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ may be said or sung at the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and at any Mass or Service on Christmas-Day. It is customary that this Proclamation be sung or said at the Holy Eucharist immediately before Gloria in Excelsis, and at the Divine Office before the proper Psalms.*

**H**EARKEN, O ye people! Hear, all ye people throughout the whole world! Hear the good tidings of the Nativity of CHRIST the Lord! Upon this day, the five-and-twentieth day of December, in the five thousand one hundred and ninety-ninth year from the creation of ADAM, after the time when Almighty GOD in the beginning created the heavens and the earth; in the two thousand nine hundred and fifty-seventh year after the Flood; in the two thousand and fifteenth year from the birth of ABRAHAM; in the one thousand five hundred and tenth year from MOSES and the going forth of the people of Israel from Egypt; in the one thousand and thirty-second year from DAVID being anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of DANIEL; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

in the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the City of Rome; in the forty second year of the reign of the Emperor OCTAVIAN AUGUSTUS, the whole world then being at peace; in the Sixth Age of the world, JESUS CHRIST the eternal GOD and the only-begotten SON of the FATHER, desiring to sanctify the world by His most merciful coming, being conceived by the HOLY GHOST in the womb of the Virgin MARY, and nine months having passed since His conception, was born at Bethlehem of Judæa of her whom all generations shall call blessed, He being made very flesh and dwelling amongst men as a MAN. This is the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST according to the flesh.

*And all shall say or sing,*  
Thanks be to God.

*Here endeth the PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD*