



# St Mary's Catholic Parish

**The  
Church  
at  
Home**



St Mary's  
Dartmouth, MA

# *Welcome*

In this booklet you will find a number of resources meant to help you continue the practice of the faith. Even though separated, we are still united by our love and faith in Jesus Christ and as members of the Body of Christ.

If you have questions or requests, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office. The Parish Office's phone number is 508-992-7505, the hours are 9am to 5pm, Monday - Friday. Our mailing address is: 789 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth, MA 02748. Our website is [stmarysdartmouth.org](http://stmarysdartmouth.org).

St Mary's Parish Dartmouth  
789 Dartmouth Street  
South Dartmouth, MA 02748  
508-992-7505

[www.stmarysdartmouth.org](http://www.stmarysdartmouth.org)

## Current Schedules

### **Livestream**

Our livestream is running 24/7! If you have access to the internet, go to [stmarysdartmouth.org](http://stmarysdartmouth.org) and click on "Watch" at the top of the page to find the link to the Stream. The current schedule is:

### **Mass**

Monday - Thursday - 8AM

Saturday - 4PM

Sunday - 8AM, 10AM, 5PM

### **Christmas Masses**

Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, Midnight

Christmas Day - 10:00 am

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Tuesday 6PM to 7PM

December 8 All day adoration with 8:00 am Mass and Benediction at 4:40 pm

## Making a Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

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

Never permit me to be separated from You.

*(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)*

## Unable to Go to Confession

1. In Prayer, express to the Lord your sorrow for your sins and what they are. Let Him know of your love and desire for Him.
2. Pledge that you will go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as you are able and it is safe to do so.
3. Make an Act of Contrition:

*My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You Whom I should love above all things, I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.*



# ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

+God, come to my assistance; Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

## **Psalm 5:2-10, 12-13**

To my words give ear, O Lord,  
give heed to my groaning.  
Attend to the sound of my cries,  
my King and my God.

It is you whom I invoke, O Lord.  
In the morning you hear me;  
in the morning I offer you my prayer,  
watching and waiting.

You are no God who loves evil  
no sinner is your guest.  
The boastful shall not stand their ground  
before your face.

You hate all who do evil:  
you destroy all who lie.  
The deceitful and bloodthirsty man  
the Lord detests.

But I through the greatness of your love  
have access to your house.  
I bow down before your holy temple,  
filled with awe.

Lead me, Lord, in your justice,  
because of those who lie in wait;  
make clear your way before me.

No truth can be found in their mouths,  
their heart is all mischief,  
their throat a wide-open grave,  
all honey their speech.

All those you protect shall be glad

and ring out their joy.  
You shelter them; in you they rejoice,  
those who love your name.

It is you who bless the just man, Lord:  
you surround him with favor as with a shield.

## **Reading: Romans 13:11-12**

It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep,  
for our salvation is closer than when we first  
accepted the faith. The night is far spent; the  
day draws near. Let us cast off deeds of  
darkness and put on the armor of light.

## **Responsory**

Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.

- Christ, Son of the living God, have  
mercy on us.

You are the one who is to come,  
- Have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit  
- Christ, son of the living God, have  
mercy on us.

## **Canticle of Zechariah:**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he  
has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born  
of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from the hands of all  
who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.



This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*In a moment of quiet, offer to the Lord your prayers and intentions. Please pray for our Church, diocese and parish as well. Also, for those struggling physically, emotionally, spiritually and financially due to the pandemic.*

**Our Father.....**

**Prayer**

Almighty Father, you have brought us to the light of a new day: keep us safe the whole day through from every sinful inclination. May all our thoughts, words and actions aim at doing what is pleasing in your sight. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

+God, come to my assistance; Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

### **Psalm 15**

Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent and dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
And speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue;

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who cast no slur on his neighbor,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honors those who fear the Lord;  
He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan

and accepts to bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

### **Reading - Philippians 3:20b-21**

We eagerly await the coming of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will give a new form to this lowly body of ours and remake it according to the pattern of his glorified body, by his power to subject everything to himself.

### **Responsory**

Come and set us free, Lord God of power and might.

- Come and set us free, Lord God of power and might.

Let your face shine upon us and we shall be saved,

- Lord God of power and might.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

- Come and set us free, Lord God of power and might.

### **Gospel Cantic**

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*In a moment of quiet, offer to the Lord your prayers and intentions. Please pray for our Church, diocese and parish as well. Also, for those struggling physically, emotionally, spiritually and financially due to the pandemic.*

### **Our Father.....**

#### **Prayer**

Almighty Father, you have brought us to the light of a new day: keep us safe the whole day through from every sinful inclination. May all our thoughts, words and actions aim at doing what is pleasing in your sight. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## **CHRISTMAS MORNING PRAYER**

+God, come to my assistance; Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

### **Psalm 63:2-9**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gave on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

## **Reading:** Hebrews 1:1-2

In times past, God spoke in fragmentary and varied ways to our fathers through the prophets; in this, the final age, he has spoken to us through his Son, whom he has made heir of all things and through whom he first created the universe.

## **Responsory:**

The Lord has made known, alleluia, alleluia.  
- The Lord has made known, alleluia, alleluia.

His saving power.  
- Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit  
- The Lord has made known, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Canticle of Zechariah:**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the

Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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## **Prayer**

Almighty Father, you have brought us to the light of a new day: keep us safe the whole day through from every sinful inclination. May all our thoughts, words and actions aim at doing what is pleasing in your sight. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



# CHRISTMAS EVENING PRAYER

+God, come to my assistance; Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

## **Psalm 110:1-5,7**

The Lord's revelation to my Master:  
"Sit on my right:  
Your foes I will put beneath your feet."

The Lord will wield from Zion  
your scepter of power:  
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth  
on the holy mountains;  
from the womb before the dawn I begot  
you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not  
change.  
"You are a priest for ever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old."

The Master standing at your right hand  
will shatter kings in the day of his great  
wrath.

He shall drink from the stream by the  
wayside  
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

## **Reading 1John 1:1-3**

This is what we proclaim to you:  
what was from the beginning,  
what we have heard, what we have heard,  
what we have seen with our eyes,  
what we have looked upon  
and our hands have touched—  
we speak of the word of life.

(This life became visible;  
we have seen and bear witness to it,  
and we proclaim to you the eternal life  
that was present to the Father  
and became visible to us.)

What we have seen and heard  
we proclaim in turn to you  
so that you may share life with us.  
This fellowship of ours is with the Father  
and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

## **Responsory**

The Word was made flesh, alleluia, alleluia.  
- The Word was made flesh, alleluia,  
alleluia.

He lived among us.  
- Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit.  
- The Word was made flesh, alleluia,  
alleluia.

## **Gospel Cantic**

My + soul proclaims the greatness of the  
Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly  
servant.

From this day all generations will call me  
blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever. Amen.

*In a moment of quiet, offer to the Lord your prayers and intentions. Please pray for our Church, diocese and parish as well. Also, for those struggling physically, emotionally, spiritually and financially due to the pandemic.*

## **Our Father.....**

### **Prayer**

Almighty Father, you have brought us to the light of a new day: keep us safe the whole day through from every sinful inclination. May all our thoughts, words and actions aim at doing what is pleasing in your sight. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## *NIGHT PRAYER*

+God, come to my assistance; Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

*Take a moment for an examination of conscience.*

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

### **Psalm 91**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
And abides in the shade of the Almighty  
Says to the Lord: 'My refuge,  
My stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

It is he who will free you from the snare

of the fowler who seeks to destroy you;  
he will conceal you with his pinions  
and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night  
Nor the arrow that flies by day,  
Nor the plague that prowls in the darkness  
Nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side,  
Ten thousand fall at your right,  
You, it will never approach;  
His faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look  
To see how the wicked are repaid,  
You who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!'  
And have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
No plague approach where you dwell.  
For you has he commanded his angels,

### **Canticle of Simeon**

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;  
Your word has been fulfilled:

My own eyes have seen the salvation  
Which you have prepared in the sight of  
every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations  
And the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now and will  
be forever. Amen.

### **Concluding Prayer**

Lord, We have celebrated today the mystery  
of the rising of Christ to new life. May we  
now rest in Your peace, safe from all that  
can harm us,  
And rise refreshed and joyful,  
To praise you throughout another day.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Blessing**

May the all-powerful Lord grant us a restful  
night and a peaceful death. Amen.

### **Antiphon in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,  
Our life, our sweetness and our hope.  
To you do we cry,  
Poor banished children of Eve.  
To you do we send up our sighs  
Mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious advocate,  
Your eyes of mercy toward us,  
And after this exile  
Show us the blessed fruit of your womb,  
Jesus.  
O clement, O loving,  
O sweet Virgin Mary.

## *DEVOTIONS - The Rosary*

*(from usccb.org)*

The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the Apostles' Creed, which summarizes the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The Our Father, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the Hail Mary is the angel's words announcing Christ's birth and Elizabeth's greeting to Mary. St. Pius V officially added the second part of the Hail Mary. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ's life. There are four sets of Mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and—added by Saint John Paul II in 2002—the Luminous.

The repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ's spirit dwells. The Rosary can be said privately or with a group.

**Five Joyful Mysteries** are traditionally prayed on Mondays, Saturdays, and, during the season of Advent, on Sundays:

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation in the Temple
5. The Finding in the Temple

**The Five Sorrowful Mysteries** are traditionally prayed on Tuesdays, Fridays and, during the season of Lent, on Sundays:

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death

**The Five Glorious Mysteries** are traditionally prayed on Wednesdays and outside the seasons of Advent and Lent, on Sundays:

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption
5. The Coronation of Mary

**The Five Luminous Mysteries** are traditionally prayed on Thursdays:

1. The Baptism of Christ in the Jordan
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. Jesus' Proclamation of the Coming of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist

## Praying the Rosary



Familiarize yourself and/or your group with the prayers of the rosary.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Holding the Crucifix, say the Apostles' Creed.
3. On the first bead, say an Our Father.
4. Say one Hail Mary on each of the next three beads.
5. Say the Glory Be
6. For each of the five decades, announce the Mystery (perhaps followed by a brief reading from Scripture) then say the Our Father.
7. While fingering each of the ten beads of the decade, next say ten Hail Marys while meditating on the Mystery. Then say a Glory Be.

*(After finishing each decade, some say the following prayer requested by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.)*

8. After saying the five decades, say the Hail, Holy Queen, followed by this dialogue and prayer:

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, whose Only Begotten Son,  
by his life, Death, and Resurrection,  
has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life,  
grant, we beseech thee,  
that while meditating on these mysteries  
of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
we may imitate what they contain  
and obtain what they promise,  
through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



# DEVOTIONS - Divine Mercy

(from usccb.org)

## **Optional Opening Prayers:**

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls,  
and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy,  
envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a  
fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed

For each of the five decades (On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray)

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved  
Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer (Repeat 3 times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole  
world.

## **Optional Closing Prayer**

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look  
kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair  
nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which  
is Love and Mercy itself.

# PRAYERS

## Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe  
that you are one God in three divine  
Persons,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
I believe that your divine Son became man  
and died for our sins and that he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe these and all the truths  
which the Holy Catholic Church teaches  
because you have revealed them  
who are eternal truth and wisdom,  
who can neither deceive nor be deceived.  
In this faith I intend to live and die.  
Amen.

## Act of Hope

O Lord God,  
I hope by your grace for the pardon  
of all my sins  
and after life here to gain eternal happiness  
because you have promised it  
who are infinitely powerful, faithful, kind,  
and merciful.  
In this hope I intend to live and die.  
Amen.

## Act of Love

O Lord God, I love you above all things  
and I love my neighbor for your sake  
because you are the highest, infinite and  
perfect  
good, worthy of all my love.  
In this love I intend to live and die.  
Amen.

## Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my  
heart.  
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do  
good,  
I have sinned against You Whom I should  
love above all things,  
I firmly intend, with Your help, to do  
penance, to sin no more, and to avoid  
whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ, suffered and died  
for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.  
Amen.

## Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and  
the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of the saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.  
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
Be it done unto me according to your  
word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh.  
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
That we may be made worthy of the  
promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your  
grace into our hearts, that we to whom the  
Incarnation of Christ your Son was made  
known by the message of an angel, may by  
His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory  
of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ  
Our Lord. Amen.

# ADVENT

## Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

### First Week

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

### Second Week

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

### Third Week

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### Fourth Week

All-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

- Author Unknown

## An Advent Prayer

Lord God, we adore you because you have come to us in the past.

You have spoken to us in the Law of Israel.

You have challenged us in the words of the prophets.

You have shown us in Jesus what you are really like.

Lord God, we adore you because you still come to us now.

You come to us through other people and their love and concern for us.

You come to us through men and women who need our help.

You come to us as we worship you with your people.

Lord God, we adore you because you will come to us at the end.

You will be with us at the hour of death.

You will still reign supreme when all human institutions fail.

You will still be God when our history has run its course.

We welcome you, the God who comes.

Come to us now in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Caryl Micklem, "Contemporary Prayers for Public Worship"

# CHRISTMAS MASS

## **Gathering Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful**

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;

### **Refrain**

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;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God,  
Glory in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing.

## **Gloria**

### **First Reading     Isaiah 62:1-5**

For Zion's sake I will not be silent,  
for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,  
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn  
and her victory like a burning torch.  
Nations shall behold your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
you shall be called by a new name  
pronounced by the mouth of the LORD.  
You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD,  
a royal diadem held by your God.  
No more shall people call you "Forsaken,"  
or your land "Desolate,"  
but you shall be called "My Delight,"  
and your land "Espoused."  
For the LORD delights in you  
and makes your land his spouse.  
As a young man marries a virgin,  
your Builder shall marry you;  
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride  
so shall your God rejoice in you.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

### **Second Reading - Acts 13:16-17, 22-25**

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue,  
he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said,  
"Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen.  
The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors  
and exalted the people during their sojourn in the  
land of Egypt.  
With uplifted arm he led them out of it.  
Then he removed Saul and raised up David as king;  
of him he testified,  
'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart;  
he will carry out my every wish.'  
From this man's descendants God, according to his promise,  
has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.  
John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance  
to all the people of Israel;  
and as John was completing his course, he would say,  
'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he.  
Behold, one is coming after me;  
I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'"

## **Gospel      Mt 1:18-25**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.

When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.

For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

## **Homily**

### **Prayer of the Faithful**

### **Preparation - Came Upon A Midnight Clear**

It came upon the midnight clear  
That glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold  
Peace on the earth, good will to men  
From heaven's all gracious king  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing

## **Communion - Little Town of Bethlehem**

Oh 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 streets shineth, the everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.  
For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above  
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love  
Oh morning stars together, proclaim thy holy birth.  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to men on earth.  
Oh 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 streets shineth, the everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

## **Communion - Angels We Have Heard**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains  
Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly, sweetly through the night  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their brief delight  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing,  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.



### **Meditation Hymn -Silent Night**

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

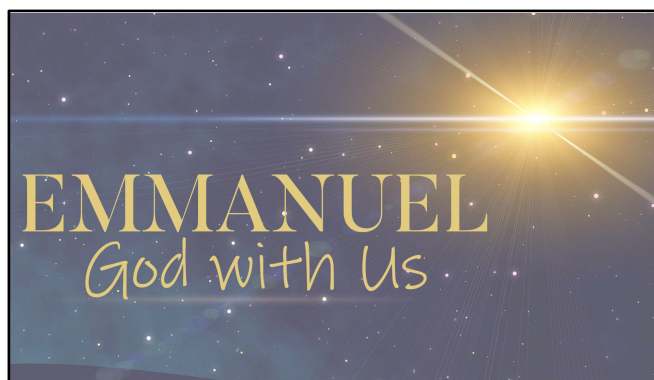
Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, oh, 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

### **Sending Forth- Joy to the World**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven and nature sing  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy



### **God With Us!**

In choosing to be born with us, God chose to be known by us. He therefore reveals himself in this way, in order that this great sacrament of his love may not be an occasion for us of great misunderstanding.

Today the magi find, crying in a manger, the one they have followed as he shone in the sky. Today the magi see clearly, swaddling clothes, the one they have long awaited as he lay hidden among the stars.

Today the magi graze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, humanity in God, God in humanity, one whom the whole universe cannot contain how enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die...

Today Christ enters the Jordan to wash away the sin of the world. John himself testifies that this is why he has come: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world...

Today Christ works the first of his signs from heaven by turning water into wine. But water mixed with wine has still to be changed into the sacrament of his blood, so that Christ may offer spiritual drink from the chalice of his body.

## **Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.**

**We fly to you today as your beloved children.**

**We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.**

**Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.**

**For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.**

**In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be  
patient and kind.**

**Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.  
We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.**

**Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.**

# Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

## **Tantum Ergo**

Down in adoration falling  
This great sacrament we hail;  
Over ancient forms of worship, newer rites  
of grace prevail; Faith will tell us Christ is  
present, when our human senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,  
And the Son who made us free,  
And the Spirit, God proceeding  
From them Each eternally,  
Be salvation, honor, blessing,  
Might, and endless majesty. (Amen.)

**Celebrant:** You have given them bread from heaven.

**All:** Having within it all sweetness.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray

**Celebrant:** Lord Jesus Christ,  
you gave us the Eucharist  
as the memorial of your suffering and death.  
May our worship of this Sacrament of your body and blood  
help us to experience the salvation you won for us  
and the peace of the kingdom  
where you live with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

## **The Divine Praises**

Blessed be God.  
Blessed be His Holy Name.  
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.  
Blessed be the name of Jesus.  
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.  
Blessed be his most Precious Blood  
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.  
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.  
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.  
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.  
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.  
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.  
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.  
Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

## **Holy God We Praise Thy Name**

Holy God, we praise thy name, Lord of all,  
we bow before thee! All on earth thy sceptre  
claim, All in heaven above adore thee.  
Infinite thy vast domain, Everlasting is thy  
reign. Infinite thy vast domain, Everlasting is  
thy reign.

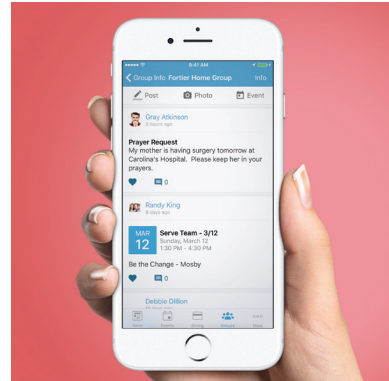
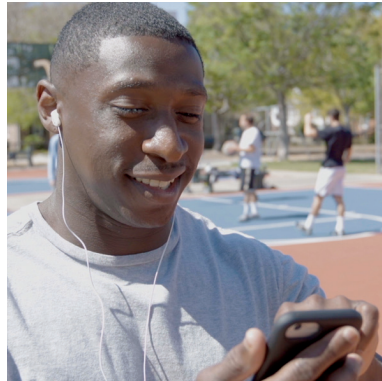
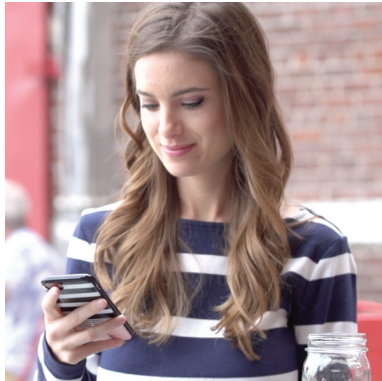
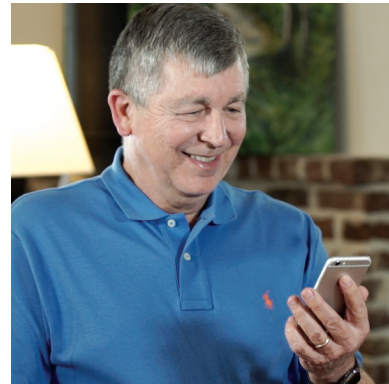
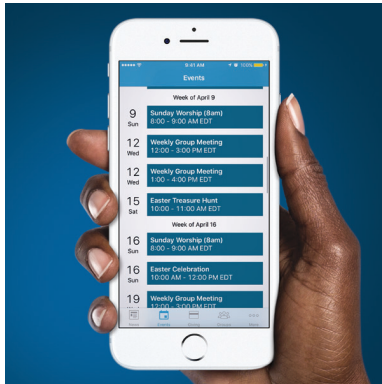
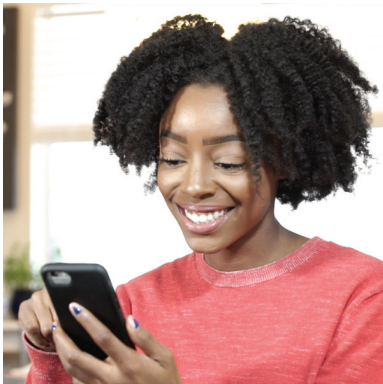
Hark the loud celestial hymn  
Angel choirs above are raising! Cherubim  
and Seraphim in unceasing chorus praising  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord Holy, holy,  
holy Lord. Fill the heavens with sweet accord  
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

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Merry Christmas