



USCCaruso
Catholic Center

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Mass During the Night Family Prayer Service

Presider: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

Let us acknowledge the times which we have not been faithful to God.

Penitential Rite A

All: 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,
(striking your breast, say:)
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
(Then continue with:)
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.

Opening Prayer:

Presider:

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of this light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

Isaiah 9:1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Luke 2:11)

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Announce his salvation, day after day. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord..

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and what fills it resound; let the plains be joyful and all that is in them! Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes; for he comes to rule the earth. He shall rule the world with justice and the peoples with his constancy.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus:

Titus 2:11-14

Beloved:

The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia:

Luke 2:10-11

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke:

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection/Family Discussion on the readings and Gospel:
by Fr. Richard Sunwoo

Christmas 2020

Luke 2:1-14 (Gospel from Midnight Mass)

Today, if you can find a beautiful image of the Nativity, allow yourself to look upon this holy scene, especially at St. Joseph, Mary, and the Christ child. Sit there for a moment and be present to the event. As your eyes float over St. Joseph, make a prayer to him asking for his help, especially for the virtue of temperance and fortitude. Blessed are your eyes to look upon our Holy Family! Look to Mary and see her most loving look as she gazes upon Jesus. Imagine what intense love she has for him! Ask Our Blessed Mother to look upon you with those same eyes today as you, too, look upon Jesus with the love that is in your heart! Finally, look to Jesus!

Today is day for prayer, contemplation, and joy! The wait is over! Jesus is HERE!
I hope that you will welcome Jesus into your homes and in your hearts! What an incredible feat of miracles did The Father have to do in order for Jesus to be here! Indeed, the work of The Father is to love us so much that Jesus would be here! Jesus is God among us! He chose to limit himself and participated in our humanity in its fullest! He waited patiently in the womb for 9 months like all of us and is finally here! He is here now with all of the vulnerability as a baby. Allow St. Joseph to place him into your arms! What trust! What love! As you're holding Jesus in your arms, what will you say to him?

I leave you today with these beautiful words of St. Josemaria Escriva:

Make your way to Bethlehem, go up to the Child, take him your arms and dance! Say warm and tender things to Him, press Him close to your heart... I am not talking childish nonsense: I am speaking of love! And love is shown with deed. In the intimacy of your soul, you can indeed hug him tight!

Nicene Creed:

ALL: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(bow)

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

(raise from bow)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen

Presider: In the peace of this Holy Season.

Intercessions:

1. For our Church and the people of God, that the light of Christ may illuminate our life together:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

2. For the nations and peoples of the world, that the Sun of Justice may dawn upon all lands:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

3. For our parish family, that our work and worship together may celebrate Christ's presence among us:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

4. For all children and young people, that they may know the joy of Jesus' coming every day of their lives:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

5. For the poor, suffering, abused, and the forgotten, and for those who must spend this day alone, that in the miracle of Christ's birth they may experience the healing and the hope of God:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

6. For all who have died in the peace of Christ, that they may be reborn in the life of the Risen Savior:
(Pause for silent prayer).
All: Lord, hear us.

Presider:

Gracious God, your love knows no limit, your compassion no end. Hear the prayers we make as we celebrate your most perfect gift to your human family. The Messiah, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit as the one God, for ever and ever.

Our Father:

Presider: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Amen

Sign of Peace:

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Presider:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All:

And with your spirit.

Presider:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

(At this time please offer a moment of silence before the Spiritual Communion is said.)

Spiritual Communion:

All: I wish my Lord, to receive you with the purity, humility and devotion with which your most holy Mother received you, with the spirit and fervor of the saints.

Closing Prayer:

Presider:

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who are gladdened by participation in the feast of our Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honorable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen