

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / B

25 DECEMBER 2020

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

see back page for respective Mass

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the Son of God and the Son of Mary: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Word made Flesh, the splendour of the Father: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT *see back page for respective Mass*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

see back page for respective Mass

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED
Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, /



who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS:

see back page for respective Mass

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I, II OR III OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. 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.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

see back page for respective Mass

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

see back page for respective Mass

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

SOLEMN BLESSING

P. 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 (day), drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

R. Amen.

P. 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.

R. Amen.

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

R. Amen.

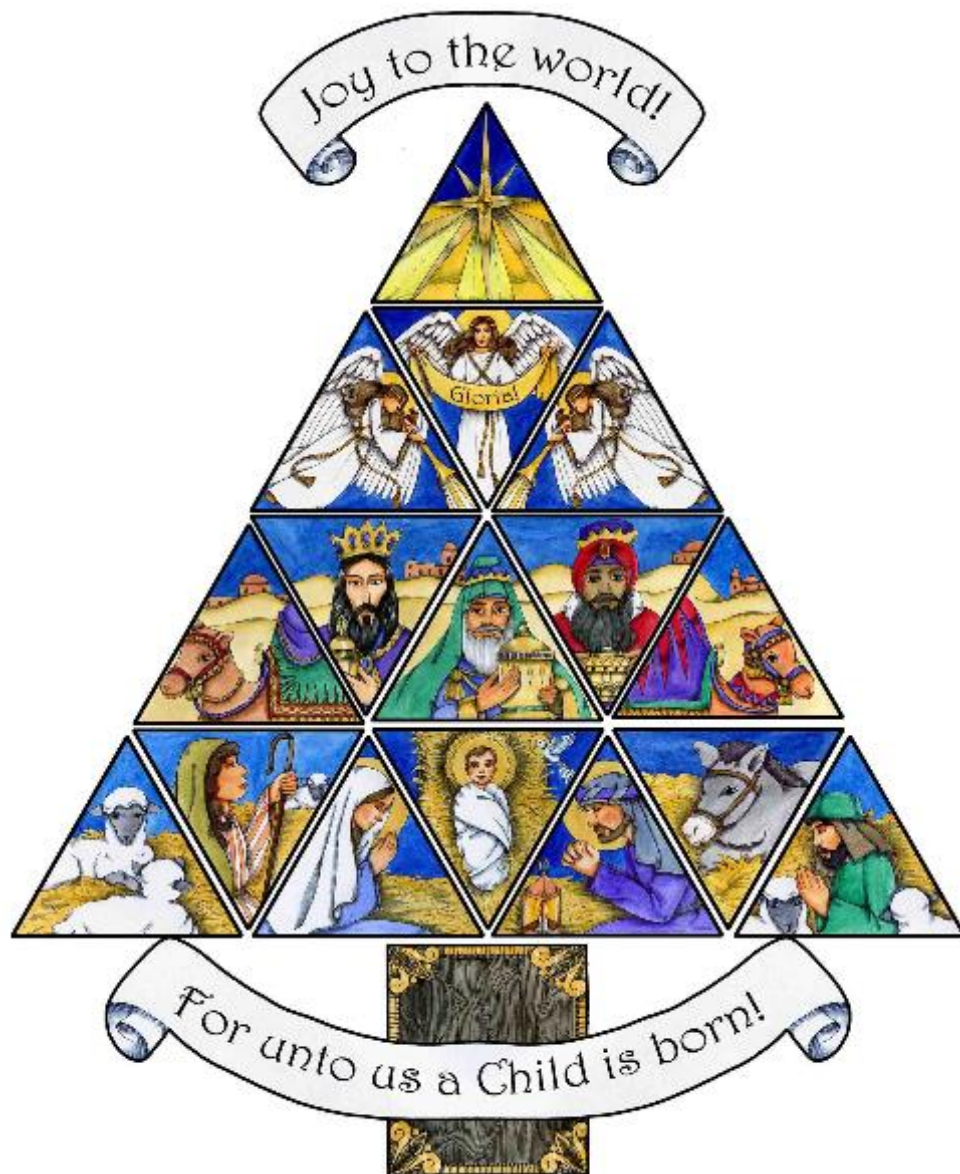
P. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE,
JOYFUL AND
PEACE FILLED CHRISTMAS!



"Today is Born Our Saviour, Christ the Lord!"





ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD



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REC: Attilia Kazacos

Thank you for all the lovely cards & gifts ... Fr Jack

BOXING DAY MASS ON SATURDAY 26TH DECEMBER WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 9.10AM

Dear Parishioners,

As you will have heard, the Archbishop has now appointed a permanent Parish Priest for St Martha's, Fr John Hayes, who will begin his ministry here at the end of January. This appointment arises out of many changes across the Archdiocese over the next two months. Fr John Hayes is one of the most experienced pastors in the Archdiocese, most recently at Pagewood and Maroubra for many years. The Archbishop's policy is that parish priests normally move after 12 years in order to both share their gifts with other parishes, and to allow for renewal within parishes. He is very grateful to Fr John for his willingness to take up this new ministry. This change will give Fr Jack Cichy the chance for overdue sabbatical leave. We are very grateful to Fr Jack for his conscientious ministry at St Martha's over the past few years. I know that some parishioners have objected to Fr Jack's moving on; while this is a good sign of your appreciation for him, the movements of priests is a normal part of diocesan life, which I would ask you all to accept. The Archbishop has to balance the needs of all the parishes, the gifts of different priests, and particular circumstances at any given time. As mentioned, there is currently a need for significant changes across the Archdiocese, and each change triggers the need for other changes, and so on. I trust that all parishioners will welcome Fr Hayes, and work with him to continue the renewal of St Martha's parish in keeping with the Archbishop's new Mission Plan, Go Make Disciples. Once again, on behalf of the Archbishop, I thank Fr Jack very sincerely for his ministry at St Martha's, and I wish him well as he now enjoys time for renewal in preparation for his next appointment. I am sure you will organise a suitable farewell in due course. With prayers and best wishes for a peaceful Christmas, and happy start to the New Year

Fr Gerald Gleeson, Vicar General.



Christmas Day Table Prayer

By Edward Hays

Lord God of Life,
together with the beautiful traditions
of decorating the Christmas tree,
of singing carols and giving gifts,
this Christmas dinner is an important part
of our celebration of the birth
of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Come, Lord our God,
and surround our feast day table
as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas.
Gift us in this meal with the taste of happiness
as we savor this coming together of family and friends.
As sparkling stars and singing angels rejoiced
at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem,
so may we take great joy
in this our Christmas dinner-celebration.
May You, our God, bless it and us
in Your holy name.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED
& CONTRIBUTED TO OUR CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATIONS.

IT HAS BEEN WONDERFUL SHARING THIS
JOYOUS FEAST WITH YOU!



Merry Christmas
Wesołych Świąt
Buon Natale
Milad Majid
Sretan Bozic
Joyeux Noel
Selamat Hari Natal
Buone Feste Natalizie
IL-Milied It-tajjeb
Maligayang Pasko
Chúc Mừng Giáng Sinh
Feliz Navidad
Kala Christouyenna
Sung Tan Chuk Ha
Sheng Dan Kuai Le
Gesënde Kersfees



VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ex 16:6-7

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 62:1-5

RESP PSALM Ps 88: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

SECOND READING Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!

Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:

The Saviour of the word will be our king.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 1:1-25 (or 1:18-25)
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we look forward, O Lord, to the coming festivities, may we serve you all the more eagerly for knowing that in them you make manifest the beginnings of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Isa 40:5
The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may draw new vigour from celebrating the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, by whose heavenly mystery we receive both food and drink. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

MASS DURING THE NIGHT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 2:7

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.
or

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world.
Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 9:1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95: 1-3, 11-13
R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord

SECOND READING Titus 2:11-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 2:10-11

Alleluia Alleluia!
Good news and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 2:1-14
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 1:14
The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 honourable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

MASS DURING THE DAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Isa 9:5

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97:1-6
R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

SECOND READING Hebrews 1:1-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.
Come you nations and adore the Lord.
Today a great light has come upon the earth
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:1-18
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day, when you manifested the reconciliation that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97:3
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O merciful God, that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day, is the author of divine generation for us, so he may be the giver even of immortality. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL.

**MAY THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOUR
BRING YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES
HOPE, PEACE AND JOY.**