



# THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

## CHRISTMAS VIGIL

### Entrance Antiphon

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

### 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.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** *Isaiah 9:1-7 A son is given to us.*

#### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the  
spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear of battle,  
every cloak rolled in blood,  
is burnt and consumed by fire.

For there is a child born for us,  
a son given to us

and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:

Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion

in a peace that has no end,

for the throne of David

and for his royal power,

which he establishes and makes secure  
in justice and integrity.

From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**The Word of the Lord**  
**Thanks be to God**

**Resp. Psalm (R.) Today is born our Saviour,  
Christ the Lord.**

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)

Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth. (R.)

With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth. (R.)

**Second Reading** *Titus 2:11-14 God's grace has  
been revealed to all people.*

#### A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made  
salvation possible for the whole human race and  
taught us that what we have to do is to give up  
everything that does not lead to God, and all our  
worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and  
live good and religious lives here in this present  
world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing  
which will come with the Appearing of the glory of  
our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He  
sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from  
all wickedness and to purify a people so that it  
could be his very own and would have no ambition  
except to do good.

**The Word of the Lord**  
**Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**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 Today a saviour has been  
born for you.*

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the  
whole world to be taken. This census – the first –  
took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria,  
and everyone went to his own town to be  
registered. So Joseph set out from the town of  
Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to  
the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of  
David's House and line, in order to be registered  
together 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 a son, her  
first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes,  
and laid him in a manger because there was no  
room for them at the inn. In the countryside close  
by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and  
took it in turns to watch their flocks during the  
night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and  
the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were  
terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid.  
Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be  
shared by the whole people. Today in the town of  
David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ  
the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a  
baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a  
manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a  
great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and  
singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven  
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**  
**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**

## The Apostles Creed

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.

## Universal Prayers

**Celebrant:** Christ is the light of the world, with His light shining on us this day, let us pray for those who are in any kind of darkness.

**Prayer Leader: The response is . . . .**

**'Lord let your light shine on them this day'**

We pray for the homeless. . . . **Response**

We pray for the hungry. . . . **Response**

We pray for the lonely. . . . **Response**

We pray for those who live in the midst of war and upheaval. . . . **Response**

We pray for prisoners. . . . **Response**

We pray for the sick. . . . **Response**

We pray for those who are away from home this day. . . . **Response**

We pray for those who are grieving. . . **Response**

We pray for those who have died. . . . **Response**

We pray for our own special needs. . . . **Response**

**Celebrant:** God of Love and Mercy, may your Son scatter the darkness of the world, and make this day radiant with His light. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Communion Antiphon** The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.



The Chisholm Parish office will reopen to the public on Wednesday, January 3rd. For urgent matters, please contact the on-call priest at 0428017273. If you need assistance regarding a funeral, reach out to 0428220997.

Dear Parishioners,

As we enter the joy of this Christmas season, I extend my heartfelt wishes to each and every one of you. May the spirit of Christmas fill your hearts with love, peace, and the joy that comes from knowing the true meaning of this blessed occasion.

As we reflect upon the year that is ending, I am filled with gratitude for the countless blessings we have received from our Lord.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to all of you—our parishioners, fellow clergy, dedicated staff, and the tireless members of our various teams in our region. Your unwavering commitment and service to our parish community have been nothing short of inspiring. Together, we have faced challenges, celebrated triumphs, and grown as a spiritual family.

This Christmas, let us cherish the bonds that unite us, remembering the true essence of this holy season. May the love that was born in a humble manger find its place in our hearts, fostering compassion, kindness, and understanding among us.

As we welcome the New Year, let us carry the lessons of the past into the future, seeking opportunities to deepen our faith and strengthen our community. I am confident that, with God's guidance, the coming year will bring forth new blessings, growth, and shared moments of grace.

I offer my prayers for each one of you, asking the Lord to shower His love upon your homes, grant you good health, and fill your lives with joy. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts, illuminating the path of hope and righteousness.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your ongoing support and dedication to our parish. Your contributions, whether big or small, make a significant impact, and I am truly blessed to serve alongside such a vibrant and faithful community.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with God's abundant blessings.

With love and prayers,

Fr George Anthicad

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We are in the country of the Worimi, Gamilleroi, Wonnarua, Gweagul, Darkinjung, Biripi and Awabakal peoples. We respectfully acknowledge their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture and the living memory of their ancestors.