

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CHRISTMAS DAY Mass of the Day

Entrance Antiphon

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.

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

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 Is 52:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!' Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion. Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Resp. Psalm Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. (R.)

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. (R.)

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading Heb 1:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father, or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness, He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace,

since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God;

it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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,

Universal Prayers

and life everlasting. Amen.

Presider: 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

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate the joyous season of Christmas, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your wonderful support and cooperation throughout the year. Your faith, commitment, and generosity continue to inspire me, and I am truly blessed to serve as your parish priest.

During this special time of Christmas, please know that you and your families will be in my prayers. May the light of Christ fill your hearts and homes with peace, love, and joy.

As we prepare to welcome the New Year and embark on our Jubilee Celebration, I pray that your lives be filled with renewed hope and blessings during this significant year. The upcoming canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis is a great inspiration for our youth, and I hope his example will guide and encourage them in the years to come.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and a hope-filled New Year. May God's abundant grace bless you and families. vour With prayers blessings,

Fr. George Anthicad

Parish Office Closure: The parish is currently closed to the public and will re open on January 7 2025. For anointing of the sick, please contact 0428017273. If anyone passes away and you need to contact the funeral ministry please call 0428220997.

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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.