

Quiet prayer | Homily | Creed | Intercessions

I believe in **God**,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

O little town of Bethlehem
O 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.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will
receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

Communion

Silent Night; O Holy Night

Closing Hymn

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 heaven,
and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods,

rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world
with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE!



ORLAGH IN THE CITY



Christmas Mass 2025

Καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο
καὶ ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν

Opening Hymn

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:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;

Very God,
Begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God
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!

Lighting of the Christmas Candle

Gloria

Glory be to God in heaven:
Let all people hear the call.
Peace to those who honour God
Who bear good will and love to all.
Gracious ruler, loving creator,
We adore and give you praise.
Hear our song of glad thanksgiving
For your grace, your loving ways.

Praise to you, O Jesus Christ,
The Son, the Lamb,
who once was slain.
Now you are alive forever,
Help us all God's life to gain.
You alone are blessed and holy:
Jesus Christ, beloved Son.
Sharing glory with the Spirit
And with the Eternal One.

Opening Prayer

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Saviour of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host, that we may sing your glory on high.

Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God for ever and ever.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (9:1-7)

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Psalm “Sing a new song unto the Lord”

*Sing a new song unto the Lord;
Let your song be sung
from mountains high
Sing a new song unto the Lord
singing alleluia*

*He was created of a mother
whom He created.
He was carried by hands
that He formed.
He cried in the manger
in wordless infancy.
He, the Word, without whom
all human eloquence is mute.*

St Augustine



Yahweh's people dance for joy
O come before the Lord
And play for him on glad tambourines
And let your trumpet sound

Rise, O children, from your sleep;
Your Saviour now has come

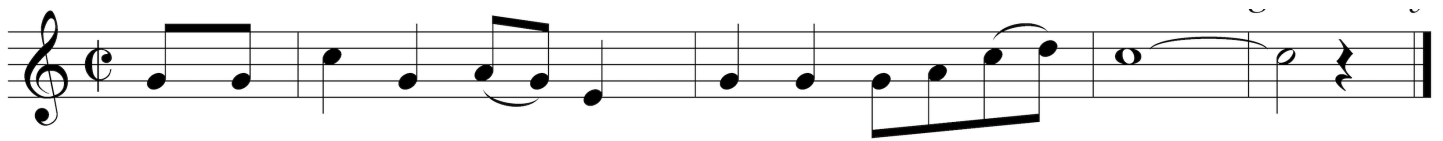
He has turned your sorrow to joy
And filled your soul with song

Glad my soul for I have seen

The glory of the Lord
The trumpet sounds;
the dead shall be raised
I know my Saviour lives

A reading from the Letter to Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia!_____

I bring you good news of great joy:
today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (1:39-45)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”