



Bear Fruit

Orlagh in the City

Feast of Holy Family

December 28th 2025



Welcome – Introduction + Prayer - Candle

Prayer -Heavenly Father, we ask you awaken us to your presence here this morning; to speak to our hearts, to help us to listen and to bear fruit and follow you in the ways that are everlasting.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit – St Augustine

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my thoughts may all be holy;

Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
That my work, too, may be holy;

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
That I love but what is holy;

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
To defend all that is holy;

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
That I always may be holy. **Amen**



Gloria - French 1842

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.



Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? **Refrain**



Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain**

PRAYER - May your Word take root in our heart and bear fruit.



FIRST READING- Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14

He who fears the Lord respects his parents. The Lord honours the father in his children and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Pause



SECOND READING Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love.

And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom.

With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Pause



Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;
let the message of Christ find a home with you.

Alleluia!



Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘**Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.**’

So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: **I called my son out of Egypt.**

After Herod’s death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘**Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.**’ So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled: ‘**He will be called a Nazarene.**’

[O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - The Piano Guys](#)

Lectio:

Share how the Word speaks to your life. Not a Bible Study or a discussion.



A HEALING RITUAL FOR FAMILY – LETTING GO

Step 1 Carrying the burden – recognising the hurt

[Prayer to the Holy Spirit – St Augustine](#) (During Ritual)

Step 2 Reflections

Nothing is impossible for God ‘[Hope](#)’ P64 Francis

Where is God? ‘[This December Day](#)’ Brendan Kennelly

Presence ‘[South](#)’ Shackleton

Psalm 51 (excerpt)

Prayer

Step 2 Letting Go- with Gods’ help

[Prayer to the Holy Spirit – St Augustine](#) (During Ritual)

[Silent Night – The Piano Guys](#)

Prayer – Our Father



THE ROAD AHEAD

Based on - A Prayer for Those Who Journey by Joyce Rupp, OSM

Our journey through life,

Always Homeward Bound

Sometimes struggle and strife

An unfolding mystery;

Sometimes a treasure found

Wandering from early morning

Facing fear of the unknown,

Learning who is friend or foe

Living with doubts and growing shadows

Never quite sure which way to go?

When the road of life seems long,

When the dying and rising

Get to be too much;

Be that Star by night,

be that Cloud by day

Leading us Home,

To the comfort of your touch.



All Sing: DING DONG MERRILY (Standing)

Tune French- Tabourot (16 C). Words English - Ratcliffe Woodward (19 c.)

Ding dong, merrily on high!

In heav’n the bells are ringing;

ding dong, verily the sky

is riv’n with angel singing.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime

your matin chime, ye ringers;

may ye beautifully rhyme

your evetime song, ye singers.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis

