

PRELUDE: *Performed by Tom Fagan*

In Dulci Jubilo – J.S. Bach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tw-uevxikpU>

Ou s'en vent ces gais Bergers – Belbastre

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJNiDI7CKMM>

INTRODUCTORY RITES:

Introduction:

Welcome to today's Liturgy of the Word on this celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. Merry Christmas!

We acknowledge our presence on the traditional territories of the Indigenous communities that preceded the founding of our parish.

– pause –

Full, conscious, and active participation is encouraged in today's celebration. All are invited to pray and sing together. Our participation, in whatever form, is a gift and ministry to each other.

Today's homily is offered by our Pastor, Fr. Jim Bleackley.

Let us begin with a moment of silence as we prepare our hearts and minds for transformation and renewal.

ONE Minute of Silence

Sharing in God's peace - let us welcome each other.

Entrance Chant:

O Come All Ye Faithful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSDgapVwyD0>

Greeting:

Leader: **In the name of the + Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

ALL: **Amen.**

Penitential Act:

Leader: Gathered together in Christ, let us ask forgiveness with confidence, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.

Pause

Leader: Lord Jesus, you are the Prince of Peace, the Holy One of God: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are the Light that shines in the darkness: Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you are the image of the new humanity: Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

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

ALL: Amen.

Gloria:

Leader: Together let us sing praise to God.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOPkiFXjqII>

Collect:

Leader: Let us pray: *- pause -*

Who are we, Lord God,

that you should come to us?

Yet you have visited your people

and redeemed us in your Son.

As we prepare to celebrate his birth,

make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your Word,

and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,

whose day draws near:

your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God for ever and ever.

ALL: **Amen**

Leader: Let us prepare to listen to God's Word.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

*** Please see the document titled “Readings for the Nativity of the Lord”. The readings from the Children’s Lectionary are also included for those families with young children. The second reading is omitted when the readings for children are used. Pre-recorded readings are available via this link: <https://bible.usccb.org/podcasts/audio/2021-12-25-usccb-night-mass-readings>

First Reading..... Isaiah 9. 2-4, 6-7

RESPONSE AT THE END OF THE FIRST READING:
Lector: **The word of the Lord.**
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

**** 30 seconds of silence****

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 96

https://www.livingwithchrist.ca/mp3/C-024%20Christmas%20-%20Nativity%20of%20the%20Lord%20Night%20ABC%20-%20Psalm%2096.mp3?_ga=2.94797020.1754817654.1640104982-1279089305.1591722439

Second Reading..... Titus 2. 11-14

RESPONSE AT THE END OF THE SECOND READING:
Lector: **The word of the Lord.**
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

**** 30 seconds of silence****

Gospel Acclamation..... Luke 2. 10-11

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmNOh8jkWJQ>

RESPONSE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL:

Lector: **A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.**

ALL: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel..... Luke 2. 1-16

RESPONSE AT THE END OF THE GOSPEL:

Lector: **The Gospel of the Lord.**

ALL: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY..... Fr. Jim Bleackley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=De5s4s9Ew78>

Profession of Faith:

**** Following the reflection, the Leader invites those gathered to profess their faith with the Apostles' Creed. Pg. 15 in the Sunday Missal.*

Leader: **Let us profess our faith together:**

ALL: **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.**

Prayers of the Faithful:

Leader: My friends, on this holy night, let us bring our prayers before God.

****Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Good and gracious God, your Son Jesus is a light for the world, a gift to humankind, from the beginning of time to the end. Hear our prayers and help us to recognize your presence in our world, in the faces of each person we encounter, and in our hearts. We pray in Jesus' name who live and reigns for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

HYMN:

Child of the Poor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fK27ayWWq0U>

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

Leader: At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Leader: Deliver us, God, from every evil.
Graciously grant peace in our days,
that by the help of your mercy,
we may always be free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ALL: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Leader: Lord, Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
“I leave you peace, my peace I give you.”
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your Kingdom, where you live for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen

Sign of Peace:

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Closing Prayer:

****The following Closing Prayer may be substituted with St. Joseph Parish's Mission Prayer (see PDF)*

Leader: Let us pray:
Lord our God,
we celebrate with joy the birth of our Redeemer.
Grant that through worthy and holy lives
we may be welcomed into his glorious company for
ever.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen

CONCLUDING RITES:

Leader: **May almighty God bless us, the Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit.**

ALL: **Amen**

Leader: **Let us go in the peace of Christ.**

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN:

Joy to the World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZhgp97y7Q>

POSTLUDE: *Performed by Tom Fagan*

Fantasia on In Dulci Jubilo – J.S. Bach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZdykRJMLgU>