

The Nativity of the Lord

Mass at Dawn

Liturgical Colour: White.

Readings at Mass

Readings for the Dawn Mass, celebrated at dawn on Christmas Day:

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 9: 1, 5; Lk 1: 33

Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is
born for us;
and he will be called Wondrous God,
Prince of peace, Father of future ages:
and his reign will be without end.

Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your
incarnate Word,
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,
may also shine through in our deeds.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Isaiah 62:11-12

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

This the Lord proclaims
to the ends of the earth:
Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Look,
your saviour comes,
the prize of his victory with him,
his trophies before him.'
They shall be called 'The Holy People',
'The Lord's Redeemed.'
And you shall be called 'The-sought-after',
'City-not-forsaken.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 96(97):1,6,11-12

*R/ This day new light will shine upon the earth: the
Lord is born for us.*

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice,
let all the coastlands be glad.
The skies proclaim his justice;
all peoples see his glory. *R/*
2. Light shines forth for the just
and joy for the upright of heart.
Rejoice, you just, in the Lord;
give glory to his holy name. *R/*

Second reading

Titus 3:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for
mankind were revealed, it was not because he was
concerned with any righteous actions we might have
done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own
compassion that he saved us, by means of the
cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with
the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured
over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this
so that we should be justified by his grace, to become
heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Lk2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Now when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

May our offerings be worthy, we pray, O Lord,
of the mysteries of the Nativity this day,
that, just as Christ was born a man and also shone
forth as God,
so these earthly gifts may confer on us what is
divine.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Zec 9: 9

Rejoice, O Daughter Sion; lift up praise, Daughter
Jerusalem:
Behold, your King will come, the Holy One and
Saviour of the world.

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, Lord, as we honour with joyful devotion
the Nativity of your Son,
that we may come to know with fullness of faith
the hidden depths of this mystery
and to love them ever more and more.
Through Christ our Lord.

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