

Entrance Antiphon

A child is born for us, a son is given to us: dominion is laid on his shoulder, and he shall be called Wonderful-Counsellor.

The Gloria is sung or recited

First Reading

1 John 2:18-21: You have been anointed by the Holy One and have all received the knowledge.

Response to the Psalm

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad.

Gospel Acclamation

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-18: The Word was made flesh.

Communion Antiphon

God sent his only Son into the world, so that we could have life through him.

SATURDAY

THE SOLEMNITY OF HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Entrance Antiphon

Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

The Gloria is sung or recited

First Reading

Numbers 6:22-27: They are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.

Response to the Psalm

O God, be gracious and bless us.

Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7: God sent his Son, born of a woman.

Gospel Acclamation

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.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:16-21: They found Mary and Joseph and the baby ... when the eighth day came they gave him the name Jesus.

The Profession of Faith is recited

Communion Antiphon

Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and for ever.

SOME COMMON MASS TEXTS

THE 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 One, 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.**

THE 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, and life everlasting. Amen.**

THE MARIAN ANTHEM (Alma Redemptoris Mater)

Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, assist your people who have fallen—yet strive to rise again. To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before. You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.



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WEEKDAY MASS SHEET

FIRST WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

27th December 2021 – 1st January 2022



THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

“From 27 December on, there is a continuous reading of the whole of 1 John. The Gospels relate manifestations of the Lord: events of Jesus’ childhood from Luke (29-30 December); passages from John 1 (31 December - 5 January); other manifestations from the four Gospels (7-12 January).”

OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers.

HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS (December)

Catechists: Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

MONDAY

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist, Secondary Patron of the Diocese

Saint John: John's gospel is another form of witness to the Word made flesh; as we read his Gospel we are once more presented with the mystery of this Christmas season.

Entrance Antiphon

This is John, who reclined on the Lord's breast at supper, the blessed Apostle, to whom celestial secrets were revealed and who spread the words of life through all the world.

The Gloria is recited.

First Reading

1 John 1:1-4: What we have seen and heard we are telling you.

Response to the Psalm

Rejoice, you just, in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

We praise you, O God, we acknowledge you to be the Lord. The glorious company of the apostles praise you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

John 20:2-8: The other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first.

Communion Antiphon

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and from his fullness we have all received.

TUESDAY

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

The Holy Innocents: this feast is a harsh reminder of the reality of the incarnation; Christ came into the world precisely to take upon himself such suffering, to share in our human condition even to the point of death. In the midst of Christmas, this feast already points us towards Easter, and the mystery of death and resurrection

Entrance Antiphon

The innocents were slaughtered as infants for Christ; spotless, they follow the Lamb and sing for ever: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gloria is recited.

First Reading

1 John 1:5-2:2: The blood of Jesus Christ purifies us from all sin.

Response to the Psalm

Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler.

Gospel Acclamation

We praise you, O God, we acknowledge you to be the Lord. The noble army of martyrs praise you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-18: In Bethlehem Herod had all the male children killed.

Communion Antiphon

Behold those redeemed as the first fruits of the human race for God and the Lamb, and who follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

WEDNESDAY

Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop and Martyr, Patron of the Pastoral Clergy

Saint Thomas of Canterbury: Thomas was born in London in 1118; he became Chancellor of England and then in 1162 was chosen to be Archbishop of Canterbury. In that position he so strenuously defended the rights of the Church that he made an enemy of King Henry II, who exiled him to France. On his return the followers of the King murdered him in 1170.

Entrance Antiphon

In the presence of kings, O Lord, I will declare your will, for your commands have been my delight.

The Gloria is recited.

First Reading

Colossians 1:24-29: I became the servant of the Church.

Response to the Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Gospel Reading

Luke 22:24-30: I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father conferred one on me.

Communion Antiphon

Whoever loses his life for my sake, will find it in eternity, says the Lord.

THURSDAY

Sixth Day in the Christmas Octave

Entrance Antiphon

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne

The Gloria is sung or recited

First Reading

1 John 2:12-17: Anyone who does the will of God remains for ever.

Response to the Psalm

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad.

Gospel Acclamation

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our town, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:36-40: She spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverances of Jerusalem.

Communion Antiphon

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

FRIDAY

Seventh Day in the Christmas Octave or Saint Sylvester the First, Pope [Optional Memorial]

Saint Sylvester I: became Pope in 314, and lived through the period of settlement under the Emperor Constantine, though there was trouble with the Arian and the Donatist heresies. He died in 335.