“The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
a light has shone.
For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.”
Love Freely Given

It’s when we face for a moment the worst our kind can do, and shudder to know the taint in our own selves, that awe cracks the mind’s shell and enters the heart: not to a flower, not to a dolphin, to no innocent form but to this creature vainly sure it and no other is god-like, God (out of compassion for our ugly failure to evolve) entrusts, as guest, as brother, the Word.

-Denise Levertov-

In retrospect, it is easy to forget that the Incarnation was a free choice. That it did not have to happen. God did not have to come among us as a baby, weak and vulnerable, susceptible to all the things that the world—and human sinfulness—can throw at a person. God did not have to come to us at all.

Now, there are reasons that we take for granted that God had to enter the world to redeem the human race—in part, because we cannot imagine it not happening, cannot imagine what it would be like to be truly left on our own, left to our own devices. But we can also take it for granted because something like it had always happened before. After all, isn’t that what God does? God, the Creator of the Universe, time and again, rescues us from our own fears, our own mistakes, our own acts of rebellion and self-will. Since that first day in the Garden—when we were so afraid that the One who had breathed life into us might not want to give us all that we desired—we have tried to take what we want on our own, picking it like fruit from a tree, at the behest of our constant companion, the serpent. And it always seemed to end so badly. We always ended up hiding in the bushes, afraid and embarrassed and realizing we have just learned more than we ever wanted to know—and that we had lost a little bit more of Paradise. But God was always there, even when we had to face the consequences of our actions. We left the Garden and were blocked from returning, but there was God, right behind us as we went out into the world.

And then later, when we discovered jealousy and war, killing our brother because he seemed happier and more loved than we felt, God didn’t wipe us out or even walk away; but guarded us even as we ran to the ends of the earth (hiding in a different way, that time, because we didn’t want to face our parents and ask forgiveness). God was there when that serpent in our heart convinced us to sell our brother, Joseph, into slavery, because we resented how much our father loved him—even though we knew our father loved us, too. That time, God helped Joseph become a great man, and gave him power enough to save all his brothers, even when they did not deserve it; and then God blessed Jo-
Joseph and his brothers until they became a great people. Later, there was the time when we wanted to be popular, and so we walked away from God again, saying God embarrassed us by being different than the gods of our neighbors. We ask for a king, and God—even after our rejection—gave us Saul, and then David, whom God always loved, even though he was the youngest and least expected to succeed, and even though there was that terrible thing with Bathsheba. But, each time that we walked away or hid from God, each time we tried to prove that we could do it ourselves, God stayed with us and was right there when we turned around. So, maybe that is why we could take it for granted that saving us is what God does, and what God would do. But still, we never quite trusted it; we were always afraid. Maybe next time would be different, we thought; maybe next time, God won’t be there when we call. And so we continued the cycle—testing the boundaries of God’s love for us, surprised by God’s persistence, then fearful of the day love would reach its limit.

And, honestly, at any time, God could have stopped. There was no force that compelled God to save us—no demand of justice, no co-dependent compulsion that moved the divine heart, no self-interest that was served by our repeated rescue. A million other species have risen and fallen, just on our little planet, and life goes on. God’s creation continues to exist. So, there was no reason for God to save us, over and over again. There was (and is) no merit that makes our salvation inevitable, or even deserved. Except that God loves us. God loves us—that’s it. And loving us, God does not want us to perish; but more than that, because God loves us absolutely and entirely, and in a way that makes no sense to any reasonable person, God also wants us to get over our fear that someday we may reach the limits of God’s patience, our fear that somehow God might leave us—a fear that always makes us susceptible to the serpent’s cunning, to those temptations of avarice and power, of violence and pride that come to us in so many different forms.

The Incarnation of God in Jesus is a purely free act of unconditional love. It is God’s eternal promise of communion with us in everything we are, and everything God is. This promise is made irrevocable by the blood and flesh of this tiny baby, Mary’s child and God’s own Son. Conceived of an unmarried maiden in an occupied country; born far from the safety of his parents’ home, in a hovel meant for animals; unwelcome in the places of power and among people of influence; unnoticed by all but a few shepherds, the most outcast members of the community, Jesus does not enter this world like an all-powerful deity, seeking supplicants. Rather, he comes like One seeking companions, sisters and brothers who know what it is to be frail and outcast, cold and alone; who know what it is to suffer all the disorders born of Original Sin and human failure. He comes as One who needs to suckle, as we have suckled, and to be held, as we have been held. With total freedom, God—in this child Jesus—becomes totally dependent upon us, and so surrenders to us everything that we once feared we could not have, and everything that we could ever desire. Not by our power, not by our snatching it from the tree of the Garden, but as a pure and eternal gift it comes to us, this grace of life in its fullness. God gives it to us. . .or rather, God gives himself to us, and so makes us one with God. To put it in the words of St. Irenaeus of Lyon: “Because of his boundless love, Jesus became what we are, that he might make us to be what he is.”

May this boundless love, this eternal gift, bless us all this Christmas. May it free our world from fear, and each of us from the power of fear. May the child given to us by perfect love allow us to love every child as though she or he were perfect—because each of them is, a perfect child of God and a sister or brother of God’s Son. Merry Christmas!

Connecting with St. Joseph - 
WELCOME!

All are welcome at the table!

New? Visiting? Interested? Are you visiting for the first time? Interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities at St. Joseph Parish? Please join our weekly e-news blast at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Sign up for our eNewsletter” link in the upper right corner of the homepage. Thank you!

Register! Are you a Catholic attending Mass at St. Joseph Parish, yet haven’t officially registered? Join us!

Why register? St. Joseph Church is a vibrant parish offering many avenues for ministry, connecting with other parishioners and spiritual development. We’d love to get to know you, connect with you, and inform you of our various activities, groups and events going on at the church. Please pick up a registration form in the back of the church or go online to register at www.stjosephparish.org and click on the “Join Our Parish” link. We look forward to connecting with you. Thank you!

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pg. 26 - 10 am Mass in the Day
The Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass 24 December 2017 4 pm

Pre-Mass Carols

O Little Town of Bethlehem
1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
   Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
   Yet in the dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;
   The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,
   While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond’ring love.
   O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth!
   And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.
3. O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray;
   Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
   We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
   O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
   For Jesus Christ our Savior Was born upon this day,
   To save us all from Satan’s power When we were gone astray. ref
   Reft
   O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!
2. In Bethlehem in Judah This blessed babe was born,
   And laid within a manger Upon this blessed morn:
   For which His mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn. ref
3. Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place,
   And with true love and charity Each other now embrace;
   This holy tide of Christmas All others shall replace. ref

What Child Is This?
1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping.
   Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping? ref
   Reft
   This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
   Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.
2. Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
   Good Christian fear; for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading. ref
3. So bring him incenses, gold, and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him.
   The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. ref

Prelude

Choral: The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy
1. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy.
   The Virgin Mary had a baby boy And they say that his name was Jesus.
   He come from the Glory, He come from the Glorious Kingdom,
   Oh yes, believer, oh, yes, believer. He come from the Glory, He come from the Glorious Kingdom.
2. The angels sang when the baby was born…He come from the Glory…
3. The shepherds came where the baby was born. …He come from the Glory…
4. The wise men saw where the baby born…He come from the Glory…
Blessing of the Creche

1. Silent night, Holy night, All is calm, all is bright
   Round yon virgin, mother and child, Holy infant, tender and mild
   Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, Holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light
   Radiant beams from thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,
   Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

3. Silent night, Holy night, Shepherds quake, at the sight
   Glories stream from heaven above, Heavenly, hosts sing Hallelujah.
   Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Entrance Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
   Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
   Sing! All ye faithful, sing in exultation.

2. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation.
   Come and behold him,
   Glory to God!

   Lo! He comes forth from the virgin’s womb.
   Our very God, born the King of angels.
   Glory in the highest:

4. O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
   O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plain.
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strain.
First Reading
For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch.

Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

Psalm Response
Psalm 96

Second Reading
When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue, he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt. With uplifted arm he led them out of it. Then he removed Saul and raised up David as king; of him he testified, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish.' From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'"

Gospel Acclamation

Holy Gospel
The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king.
David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph. Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile.

After the Babylonian exile, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.

Thus the total number of generations from Abraham to David is fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian exile, fourteen generations; from the Babylonian exile to the Christ, fourteen generations.

Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

Homily  
John D. Whitney, S.J.

Offertory Song  
Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings.

Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the incarnate Deity,
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
Preface Dialogue

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Great Amen

Lamb of God
All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

If you have a gluten allergy, & need a gluten free host, please come to the presider & indicate this.

Communion Songs

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain, O-ver the hills and ev - ry - where;

Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

Verses

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er
di - lant flocks by night, Be - hold through - out the angel
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When, lo, a - bove the earth Rang out the an - gel
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born, And God sent us sal -
heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
chorus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
vation That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Away In A Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
2. The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay Close by me for -
Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in
down where he lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care, And fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.
Choral: He Came Down That We Might Have Love

He came down that we might have love. He came down that we might have love.
He came down that we might have love. Hallelujah, forevermore!

He came down that we might have peace...
He came down that we might have joy...
He came down that we might have life...

Song of Praise

Choral: We Wish You A Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas. We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Recessional

Joy To The World
The Nativity of the Lord
Mass in the Night 24 December 2017 6 pm

Pre-Mass Carols

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
   For Jesus Christ our Savior Was born upon this day,
   To save us all from Satan’s power When we were gone astray. ref
   Refrain:
   O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!

2. In Bethlehem in Judah This blessed babe was born,
   And laid within a manger Upon this blessed morn:
   For which His mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn. ref

3. Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place,
   And with true love and charity Each other now embrace;
   This holy tide of Christmas All others shall replace. ref

Good Christian Friends Rejoice
1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
   O give heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!
   Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
   Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
   Now you hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
   He has opened heaven’s door, And we are blest for evermore.
   Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
   Now you need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
   Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
   Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

O Little Town of Bethlehem
1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
   Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
   Yet in the dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;
   The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,
   While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond’ring love.
   O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth!
   And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.

3. O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray;
   Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
   We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
   O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.
Entrance Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him, Sing! All ye citizens of heaven above, Glory to God!
2. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation. Lo! He comes forth from the virgin's womb. Our very God, born the King of angels; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Gloria

Glorify to God in the highest, and on earth peace to peoples of good will.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
First Reading

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David’s throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Psalm Response

Psalm 96

Second Reading

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

Gospel Acclamation

Christmastime Alleluia

Holy Gospel

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Homily

Deacon Steve Wodzanowski
Offertory Song

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the ever-las-ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteous-ness!

Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sin-ners re-con-ciled!
Late in time be-hold him come, Off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with heal-ing in his wings.

Joy-ful, all you na-tions, rise; Join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the'in-car-nate De-i ty,
Mild he lays his glo-ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With the'an-gel ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el.
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec-ond birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

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Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And with your spir- it.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass of Christ the Savior

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are
full, are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the high-est.
All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

If you have a gluten allergy, and need a gluten free host, please come to the presider and indicate this.

Communion Songs

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ry where;

Verses

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When,
3. Down in a low-ly man-ger The

si-lent flocks by night, Be-hold through-out the
lo, a-bove the earth Rang out the an-ge-l
hum-ble Christ was born, And God sent us sal-

heav-ens There shone a ho-ly light.
cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth.
va-tion That bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

D.C.
Angels We Have Heard On High

1. Angels we have heard on high
   Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
   Which in spire your heavenly song.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
   Why your joyous strains prolong?
   Christ the Lord, the new-born King.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
   Him whose birth the angels praise;
   While our hearts in love we raise.

4. See him in a manger laid
   Whom the choirs of angels sing;
   Ech back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Candlelighting

1. Silent night, holy night!
   All is calm, all is bright
   Round yon virgin mother and child.

2. Silent night, holy night!
   Shepherds quake at the sight;
   Glories stream from heaven afar;

3. Silent night, holy night!
   Son of God, love's pure light
   Radiant beams from thy holy face,

   Holy Infant so tender and mild,
   Sleep in heavenly peace,
   Alleluia! Christ, the Saviour is born!

   Sleep in heavenly peace,
   Christ, the Saviour is born!
   Deeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,

   Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Recessional

Joy To the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let
earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare him room,
heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; Let
us, our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains;
peat the sounding joy, Re-peat, re-peat the sounding joy.

3. 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 of his love.

And
10 PM Lessons & Carols

Choral Introit
Unto Us A Child Is Born
Unto us a child is born, come, let us adore! Unto us a Son is giv’n, Alleluia.

1. O shepherds tell us, tell us whom did you see?
   Proclaim the message, speak the word: who has now appeared on earth? Ref.
2. We have seen the newborn Lord, and choirs of angels praising him,
   Singing hymns of peace and joy, Alleluia, alleluia. Ref.
3. We have seen the sinless Maid, the Mother of the newborn Lord.
   Royal Throne for God’s own son, alleluia, alleluia. Ref.
4. We have seen with the Word made flesh, the Word through him all things were made,
   Light who turns the night to day, alleluia, alleluia. Ref.

Opening Prayer

Lesson One
Isaiah 52:7-10
For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, And for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet, Until her vindication shines forth like the dawn, And her victory like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, And all the rulers your glory; And you shall be called by a new name That the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed “Forsaken,” And your land shall no more be termed “Desolate;” But you shall be called “My Delight.”

Choral
O Radiant Dawn
O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.
Isaiah had prophesied, ‘The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.’ Amen.

Carol
O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie! A -
   2. For Christ is born of Mar - y And, gath - ered all a - bove While
   3. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray; Cast
   above thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by; Yet
   mortals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d’ring love. O
   out our sin and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day. We
   in the dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light. The
   morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth, And
   hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell; O
   hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
   prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth!
   come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

17
Lesson Two

Don’t try to explain the Incarnation to me! It is further from being explainable than the furthest star in the furthest galaxy. It is love, God’s limitless love enfleshing that love into the form of a human being, Jesus, the Christ, fully human and fully divine.

Was there a moment, known only to God, when all the stars held their breath, when the galaxies paused in their dance for a fraction of a second, and the Word, who had called it all into being, went with all his love into the womb of a young girl, and the universe started to breathe again, and the ancient harmonies resumed their song, and the angels clapped their hands for joy?

Madeline L’Engle

I stand on the deck of my cottage, looking up at the sky full of God’s children, and know that I am one of them.

Choral

Christmas Lullabye

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem: Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah; But only a mother and baby lie there.
Ave Maria: Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. Ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.

Where are his courtiers, and who are his people? Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people, With peace as his sceptre and love for his crown.
Ave Maria: Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. Ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.

What through your treasures are not gold or incense? Lay them before him with hearts full of love.
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above.
Ave Maria: Hear, O hear the lullaby angels sing. Ave Maria: Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.
Ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.

Carol

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

O give heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born to-day!
Now you hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
Now you need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
He has opened heaven’s door, And we are blest for ever-more.
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his ever-lasting hall.

Christ is born to-day!
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save!

18
Lesson Three

Alfred Delp, S.J.

Nothing has happened to the world, but it is now the ark of God which no storm can overturn, no flood can wreck.

Life has not shaken off its laws or lost its tension, but the Lord has subdued it, made sense of it all. The very tensions are harnessed now to increase the strength and the power of humanity.

God becomes man, but humankind does not become divine. The human order remains unchanged with the same obligations. But it has acquired a blessing, and humanity has grown in stature, has become stronger, mightier.

Let us trust in life because this night will pass and a new day will dawn. Let us trust in life because we do not have to live through it alone.

God is with us.

Choral

Lully, Lulla, Lullaye

Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.
Lullay, thou little tiny Child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.
O sisters too, how may we do, For to preserve this day
This poor youngling for whom we do sing Bye, bye, lully, lullay.
Herod, the king, in his raging, Charged he hath this day
His men of might, in his owne sight, All young children to slay.
That woe is me, poor Child for Thee!
And ever mourn and sigh, For thy parting neither say nor sing,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Carol

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the mid-night clear, That glorious song of old, From
2. Still through the cloven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled, And
3. For lo! The days are hast’ning on, By proph-ets seen of old, When

an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace
still their heav’n-ly mu-sic floats O’er all the wea-ry world. A-
with the ev-er-cir-cling years Shall come the time fore-told, When

on the earth, good will to all, From heav’n’s all gra-cious King." The
bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov’ring wing, And
peace shall o-ver all the earth Its an-cient splen-dors fling, And

world in sol-emn still-ness lay, To hear the an-gels sing.
ev-er o’er its Ba-ble sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
all the world give back the song Which now the an-gels sing.
Lesson Four

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man’s decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.

Choral

The Hills Are Bare At Bethlehem

The hills are bare at Bethlehem, no future for the world they show;
yet here new life begins to grow, from earth’s old dust a greenwood stem.
The stars are cold at Bethlehem, no warmth for those beneath the sky;
yet here the radiant angels fly, and joy burns new, a fiery gem.
The heart is tired at Bethlehem, no human dream unbroken stands;
yet here God comes to mortal hands, and hope renewed cries out: “Amen!”

Carol

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glo-ry to the new-born King!
2. Christ, by high-est heav’n a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
Late in time be-hold him come, Off-spring of the Vir-gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with heal-ing in his wings.

Joy-ful, all you na-tions, rise; Join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the’in-car-nate De-i-ty,
Mild he lays his glo-ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With the’an-gel-ic host pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!”
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el.
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec-ond birth.

Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, “Glo-ry to the new-born King!”

Closing Prayer
The Nativity of the Lord
Mass in the Night 24 December 2017 10:30 pm

Martyrology

Entrance Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come all ye faithful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant. O come ye, O
2. A-des-te fi-de-lis lae-ti-tri-um-phan-tes Ve-ni-te, ve-
3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, Sing in ex-ul-ta-tion, Sing, all ye
come ye to Beth-le-hem; Come and be-hold him.
ci-ti-zens of heav'n a-bove; Glo-ry to God

Born the King of An-gels O Come let us a-dore him. O come, let us a-
Re-gem an-ge-lo-rum Ve-ni-te a-do-re-mus, Ve-ni-te a-do-
dore him. O come let us a-dore him Christ Lord
re-mus. Ve-ni-te a-do-re-mus Do mi-num.

Gloria

Glo-ri-a in ex-cels-is De-o,
glo-ri-a in ex-cels-is De-o.

1. 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.
2. 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;
3. 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.
First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Psalm Response

Psalm 96

Today is born our Savior Christ the Lord.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

Gospel Acclamation

Christmastime Alleluia

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Homily

Julian Climaco, S.J.
Offertory Song

Let the Heavens Be Glad/The Lord Is Come

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice before the Lord, for he comes, he comes, let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice.

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and all within it roar.

Let fields and all they bear be thrilled before the Lord, the Lord is come.

Let the forests shout, let them sing, let them shout: every path made straight before the Lord. With joyful sound, with dancing down upon the earth, the Lord is come.

Preface Dialogue

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass of Christ the Savior

Mystery of Faith

Great Amen
Communion Songs

Of the Father’s Love Begotten

1. Of the Father’s love begotten
2. O that birth for ever blessed,
3. This is he whom seers and sages
4. Let the heights of heav’n adore him;

Ere the worlds began to be,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
Sang of old with one accord,
Angels hosts, his praises sing;

He is Alpha and Omega,
Overshadowed by the Spirit,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Powers, dominions, bow before him

He the source, the ending he
Bore the Savior of our race;
Promised in their faith–ful word;
And exalt our God and King;

are, that have been,
world’s redeemer,
earth besi lent,
years shall see

And that future
First revealed his
Let creation
Ev’ry voice in

*Ev–er–more and ev–er–more!
*Ev–er–more and ev–er–more!
*Ev–er–more and ev–er–more!
*Ev–er–more and ev–er–more!
Nativity Carol

For a child is born, the world rejoices! Shepherds and angels proclaim his birth. This is Jesus the Lord, our Savior and brother, bearing God's peace to the earth.

Candlelighting

Silent Night

Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant so ten-der and mild, Sleep in heav-en-ly peace,
Glo ries stream from heav-en a-far; Heav'n-ly hosts sing al-le-lu-ia! Christ, the Sav-ior, is born! Christ, the Sav-ior, is born!
Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of re-deem-ing grace, Je-sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je-sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Recessional

Joy To the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry us, our songs employ; While fields and heart floods, rocks, hills and plains; Re-
2. Joy to the world! the Sav-ior reigns; Let makes the na-tions prove The glo-ries heaven and na-ture sing, And heaven and na-ture sing, And
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And And

And

Re-

And

And
The Nativity of the Lord
Mass in the Day    25 December 2017    10 am

Pre-Mass Carols

Hark The Herald Angels Sing
1. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth, and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all you nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With the’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord: Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin’s womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see: Hail the’incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

3. Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we may no more may die, Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Cantor: Wexford Carol

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind what our good God for us has done In sending his beloved son. With Mary holy we should pray, To God with love this Christmas Day In Bethlehem upon that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born.

Silent Night
1. Silent night, Holy night, All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin, mother and child, Holy infant, tender and mild Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, Holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light Radiant beams from thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

3. Silent night, Holy night, Shepherds quake, at the sight Glories stream from heaven above, Heavenly, hosts sing Hallelujah. Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.
Entrance Song

O Come All Ye Faithful

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.

Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

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.

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.

Gloria

Glo-ry to God in the high-est,
and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will.

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.
First Reading
How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, “Your God is King!”

Psalm Response
Psalm 96

Second Reading
Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel Acclamation
Christmastime Alleluia

Holy Gospel
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man’s decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.’” From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father’s side, has revealed him.

Homily
John D. Whitney, S.J.
**Offertory Song**

O Little Town Of Bethlehem

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1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! A
2. For Christ is born of Mary And, gathered all above While
3. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast

above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by; Yet
mor-tals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of won-dering love. O
out our sin and enter in, Be born in us to-day. We

in the dark streets shine eth The ever-last-ing Light. The
morn-ing stars, to-geth-er Pro-claim the holy birth, And
hear the Christ-mas an-gels The great glad tidings tell; O

hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to-night.
prai-es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth!

---

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

---

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are

ful, are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the high-est.

---

**Mystery of Faith**

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When we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we pro-

claim your death O Lord, until you come again.

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**Great Amen**

All Are Invited To Come Forward

During communion, we invite all to come forward. If you do not ordinarily receive Eucharist, or choose not to, come for a blessing, indicating your desire by putting your hand on your heart.

IF YOU HAVE A GLUTEN ALLERGY, & NEED A GLUTEN FREE HOST,
PLEASE COME TO THE PRESIDER & INDICATE THIS.

Communion Songs

Cantor: Gesu Bambino

When blossoms flower amid the snows upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light. The angels sang. The shepherds sang. The grateful earth rejoiced. And at His blessed birth, the stars their exultation voiced.

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

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night
That gave the world the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light.
Let every voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell!
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell.

Angels We Have Heard On High

Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
While our hearts in love we raise.
In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, ‘Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.’

-Luke 2:8-11

In the darkened season of this cold, old earth, when we, doubters and mourners one and all, had almost resigned ourselves to a grey and frozen world, You broke upon us, like a sudden dawn, which splits the low-hung clouds and baptizes in beauty, all the hills and valleys, which just a moment before had seemed so dull.

Though long-expected, you surprised us still, and we were taken, whole, without a shot, without a sword unsheathed, without resistance: we gave way. And our poor hearts, chilled and challenged, opened to the grace of Life made flesh, to the joy of Promise come into the world.

Far from that day was the suffering yet to come, the abandonment and wounds, the silent cross. And if they were foreshadowed, we could only sense the light, and feel that sudden grace that filled our world; we, who sat so long as exiles on those hills, heard the songs of angels come to us—and moved beyond our many fears, we came and offered adoration, to One like us, a child of poverty, abundantly loved and loving, through whom God now and always will abide. Amen.

A Shepherd’s Prayer

-Recessional

Joy To the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; Let
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, And

earth receive her King; Let every
us, our songs employ; While fields and
makes the nations prove The glories and

heart prepare him room, And
floods, rocks, hills and plains; Re-
of his righteousness, And

heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature
peat the sounding joy, Re-peat the sound-ing
won-ders of his love, and won-ders of his

sing, And heaven and heaven and na-ture sing.
joy, Re-peat, re-peat the sound-ing joy.
love, and won-ders, won-ders of his love.

Amen.
We Are St. Joseph

For more than a century, the community of St. Joseph Parish has been an example of God’s presence in the world. Ignited by the Eucharist to love & serve, we are called to a passionate and personal relationship with God and our world.

Today, our parish is home to more than 1800 families and a second home to even more friends. Nearly 1/3 of our parishioners are active volunteers in our ministries, contributing both time and talent to our 3 dozen ministries, undertaken to serve those in our parish and to the elderly, ill, and needy in our area. Our parish school forms 600+ children from kindergarten through 8th grade. Our religious education and youth program ministers to nearly 350 families.

Week after week, Sunday after Sunday, hundreds of people gather here to pray and then go forth from this beautiful place to live their Christian faith. In welcoming you here today, we invite you to become a part of the life and mission of St. Joseph by joining us for Sunday Mass and, if possible, by involving yourself in one of the many ministries and activities that are the hallmark of St. Joseph.

We look forward to getting to know you better. Email welcome@stjosephparish.org for more information.
Explore And Get Involved In The Ministries of St. Joseph

A snapshot of how the Gospel is lived out year-round at St. Joseph Parish.
To get involved, call 206-324-2522 or visit www.stjosephparish.org for more information.

Liturgy & Worship

The parish community of St. Joseph gathers together to pray and worship throughout the liturgical year. Prayer, especially the celebration of the Eucharist, binds our community together to give honor and glory to God and to recognize the real presence of Christ and the Spirit in one another.

Daily Mass - Start your day with Holy Mass! Stop by the Parish Center at 7 am and introduce yourself. We look forward to seeing you. For more information, contact Peter Wurmbauer at dailymass@stjosephparish.org

Eucharistic Ministers - This ministry is open to all youth and adults who love the Eucharist, have been confirmed, and who strive to show Christ's love in their daily living. For more information and to become part of this important ministry, please contact team captain Mary Sepulveda at eucharisticministers@stjosephparish.org

Lectors - Lectoring is a ministry of proclamation, giving strong voice to the Word of God found in Sacred Scripture, and announcing the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass. For more information and to become part of this important ministry contact the lector coordinator, Jessica Smits, at lectors@stjosephparish.org

Ushers - Ushers greet people warmly, introduce strangers, help people sit together, distribute worship aids, provide hearing assisted devices and offer hospitality. For more information or to become a part of this important ministry, please contact usher captain Bruce Mirkin at ushers@stjosephparish.org or (206) 391-6155.

Choir - Choir rehearses Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm and sings at the 9 am Mass on Sunday mornings as well as some holy days and the liturgies around Christmas and Triduum/Easter. The choir is open to singers who are high school age or older. For more information or to schedule an audition, contact Robert McCallery-Lent, Pastoral Assistant for Music and Liturgy, at rmclent@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1649.

Children’s Choir - The St. Joseph Children’s Choir “Joyful Voices” sings the 9 am mass three or four times a year, and at the 4 pm Mass on Christmas Eve, with two after school rehearsals before each mass. All school age children are welcome, as long as they are able to focus on singing through rehearsal and Mass. Parents of younger kids may need to sit with them and help them through the music. To sign up or for more information, please contact Jen or Matt Tilghman-Havens at childrenschoir@stjosephparish.org.

Prayer Groups

There are myriad opportunities to take part in the prayer and devotional life at St. Joseph apart from Sunday liturgies.

Centering Prayer - We meet the first and third Saturdays of each month from 8:00 to 9:30 am for prayer, information, and sharing in the Jogues Room on the second floor of the Parish Center. For more information, please contact Allison Rabbitt at centeringprayer@stjosephparish.org

Rosary Groups - We are blessed to have two regularly meeting Rosary groups here at St. Joseph. The Holy Rosary Group meets each Monday from 7 to 8 pm in the Parish Center Loyola Chapel. The Holy Hour Rosary Group meets each first Thursday of the month from 7 to 8 pm in the Loyola Chapel. Each gathering is usually followed by a reception and an opportunity to spend time together. Please contact Tom Cannon and Jackie Quinn for more information by emailing rosary@stjosephparish.org

Sacred Silence - We gather in the church, unless there's a conflict, on Monday nights at 7 pm and end at 8 pm. Time is spent in silent prayerful sitting and walking. It is a peaceful retreat from the busyness and distractions of the day. For additional information on Sacred Silence or silent prayer, please email Jim Hoover at sacraments@stjosephparish.org or call (206) 286-0313.

St. Joseph School

St. Joseph School is one of the largest Catholic grade schools on the West Coast. Key to the school’s success is the participation of the School Commission, a consultative body that advises and supports the Head of School and Pastor on matters pertaining to the school. This last year, the School Commission published its strategic plan - A New Messina (referring to the first Jesuit school) - and began its next steps in the progress of this major parish ministry. To learn more about the school and ways to get involved, please reach out to the Head of School, Patrick Fennessy.
Parish Life Ministries

Grouped around some commonality of life experience, our Parish Life ministries provide places and times where we can grow and share our faith lives through active participation in community, social events and retreats.

Men’s Ministry - Each year our Men’s Ministry organizes a number of great events that provide opportunities for prayer and reflection and supportive discussions. These gatherings will charge the batteries of our faith and are always a lot of fun. For additional information email men@stjosephparish.org

Women’s Ministry - For women who seek a deeper relationship with God and with one another through spirituality, fellowship, knowledge, and service in action. We welcome all women seeking the path of God. For more information email women@stjosephparish.org

LGBTQ Ministry - For LBGTQ identified members of St. Joseph Parish who seek community and fellowship. We seek to grow and explore our spirituality through education, formation, prayer and service. For more information email Theresa at lgbt@stjosephparish.org

Young Adult Ministry - Looking for community? A place to discuss faith and life with others? Our Young Adult Community focuses on building spirituality, friendship, and creating social, spiritual, and service opportunities. For more information email Anna Patrice Clark at youngadultcommunity@stjosephparish.org

Seniors On The Go - Join us in the many ways we celebrate our community life together, including the Aging Gracefully support group the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Call Mary Ott at 206-324-7459 or Dolores Dorn 206-322-2259 or email seniors@stjosephparish.org

Prayer Shawl Group - Founded by a group of parishioners wishing to come together in community to knit or crochet prayer shawls for those in need of comfort and healing. Our monthly gatherings are a time to share, pray, reflect, rejoice, and learn from one another. For more information please email Sheila at prayershawlgroup@stjosephparish.org

Tuesday Night Yoga - Join us Tuesday nights from 7 to 8 pm in the Mother Teresa room of the Parish Center. All are welcome to participate in a yoga class accessible to yogis of all levels - beginners encouraged! $5 donation recommended. Please bring your own yoga mat. Questions? Contact Kaitlyn at Kaitlyn.m.oleary@gmail.com

We Are St. Joseph Events Ministry - Parish-wide events celebrating our community and open to both family and friends include: Epiphany Dinner, January 7, 2018; Ceili Dinner, celebrating the feast of St. Patrick, March 10, 2018; and We Are St. Joseph Service Days & Celebration Dinner, April 27 & 28, 2018, and St. Joseph Parish Picnic, September 2018 (to volunteer contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org).

CYO Sports program - Opportunities for the youth of St. Joseph Parish and St. Joseph School to participate in various sports activities in a safe, well organized, and properly supervised program; and to develop skills, self discipline, and attitudes of sportsmanship based on the Christian principles of fair play and teamwork. CYO sports at St. Joseph are offered under the umbrella of the Archdiocese of Seattle and teams compete against other Catholic schools in the greater Seattle area. For more information about CYO, please check out the St. Joseph School website: www.stjosephsea.org or contact Robert Hayes at 206-329-3260, Ext 216.

Funeral Hospitality Ministry - Planning the details for the funeral of a loved one can be difficult. Our team exists to help lighten that burden. As part of our loving concern for the life of the community here, our ministry team provides assistance in the planning and hosting of a reception after funeral services. We are always in need of helpful and friendly assistance. For information please don’t hesitate to contact Mary Ott at funeralhospitality@stjosephparish.org or 206-324-7459.

For more information about any of our Parish Life Ministries, please contact Kerrilyn Vander Heyden or Joseph Laber chairs of our Parish Life Commission, at parishlife@stjosephparish.org
Faith Formation

As a parish, St. Joseph nurtures intellectual curiosity, emotional maturity, and spiritual formation in all its members, while also seeking to foster a respectful dialogue with the culture-at-large and other religious traditions.

Children’s Faith Formation

Baptism - Baptism is the first of three sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church. St. Joseph celebrates this sacrament through classes and weekend liturgical celebrations throughout the year. For information on infant baptisms or for older children, contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org, and for adults, contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org (See RCIC below).

Children’s Faith Formation - Raising a family takes love, effort, time, and community, and we work to provide dynamic faith education experiences here at St. Joseph. Children’s faith education begins in the home and we are here to support families’ faith heritage through our classes and family-centered activities.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults Adapted for Children (RCIC) - Children who have not yet been baptized by the age of seven years old receive full initiation (Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation) into the church during the Easter season. Children participate in preparation classes as a group to learn about the Catholic faith. Parents and godparents are an active part of the child’s faith formation during this time. Begins in the New Year.

Altar Servers - For young people 5th-8th grade interested in becoming an altar server, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org to reserve a spot in the next training.

Pathfinders Youth Group - Pathfinders has brought together hundreds of youth on Wednesday evenings to form friendships and promote awareness of those in need through the lens of spirituality. Pathfinders is open to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders in our community and meets weekly on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 pm in the Parish Center. For more information email pathfinders@stjosephparish.org

High School Confirmation - The sacrament of Confirmation is offered annually beginning with classes in early fall followed by the Confirmation Mass in winter. High school students must be 16 years of age, baptized and received Eucharist, and actively seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The VOICE Youth Group - The VOICE is open to all high school age students interested in exploring their lives and spirituality more deeply – and just having some fun! This group meets once a week; on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm at the Parish Center. For more information email samk@stjosephparish.org

Adult Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) - We are blessed with a fantastic Rite of Christian Initiation program at St. Joseph. Through RCIA, adults enter into our Catholic community. Trusting that each participant’s journey of faith and spirituality is a lifetime endeavor, R.C.I.A. initiates those who desire to enter fully into the Church, through Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Bible Study – Catholics have a deep relationship with scripture academically, devotionally, and liturgically. We offer a number of scripture studies that balance content and personal reflection throughout the year. Check out our ongoing online bible study on our website.

Prayer and Spirituality - Instruction on types of prayer & an opportunity to actively experience prayer at the parish. Please check the bulletin for more information throughout the year.

Related Works - The journey of faith and spirituality continues after entry into the Church and so we embrace a variety of groups, programs, and organizations that assist us in bringing light and grace into our lives. These include the Ignatian Spirituality Center and its spiritual direction services and programs, IPJC and the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life (SEEL).

Core Beliefs & Practices – We provide in depth instruction on the basic teaching of our faith; beginning with the Creed, Christology, the sacraments, Catholic social teaching, Mary & the Saints, and Church Councils.

For more information about Faith Formation programs at St. Joseph, please contact Dottie Farewell at dfarewell@stjosephparish.org or Theresa Lukasik at theresal@stjosephparish.org
Faith Justice

For more than a hundred years, St. Joseph Parish has served the greater community of Seattle in countless ways. Beginning with our own parish and growing out of the Gospel call to love God and to love neighbor, we have sought right relationship in companionship with each other.

Annual Events - Each year, the Faith Justice ministries of St. Joseph Parish team up with our Outreach Partners to offer four signature service events: the Alternative Bazaar happens each November; the Giving Tree is an annual opportunity for members of the parish to experience the goodness of giving during the Christmas Season; the Epiphany Dinner celebrates the end of Christmas by bringing together parishioners, Outreach Partners, and neighbors from all over Seattle; the Spring Service Days provide parishioners opportunities to make a difference in our community and gather together for our Spring Celebration Dinner.

Choose Life - The Choose Life Ministry at St. Joseph’s helps inform our community that life is more than a choice, it is sacred gift. For more information, please email Peter Wurbauer at chooselife@stjosephparish.org.

Dialogue For Justice - The Dialogue for Justice is an Archdiocesan-wide initiative to strengthen Catholic advocacy on behalf of poor and vulnerable people in our communities. The goal of the Dialogue for Justice is to partner with parishes and Catholic organizations to effectively advocate to reduce poverty in our communities through educating grassroots advocates, convening advocacy gatherings, providing legislative briefings, coordinating and supporting in-district meetings with legislators, encouraging participation in Catholic Advocacy Day, and providing advocacy resources to parishes and groups. For more information email stevew@stjosephparish.org.

Sister Parish - As we approach our 30th year in relationship with San Bartolomé Parish in El Salvador, our sister parish committee continues to build bonds between our communities. Areas of focus include addressing the root issues of poverty and emigration to the United States. To get involved, please email Daniel Stoner at sisterparish@stjosephparish.org.

St. Martin de Porres Meals - Each Saturday of the month, St. Joseph parishioners and volunteers make and serve sandwiches, boiled eggs, fruit and milk for 212 homeless men. We have five teams of 20-25 people for each Saturday of the month. Please contact us at stevew@stjosephparish.org and we will be happy to welcome you to this ministry.

Winter Overnight Shelter - The St. Joseph Winter Shelter provides overnight shelter and “meal bags” for fourteen homeless men, age 50 and older, five nights a week from October through April. The program tries to offer a night's rest in an environment of dignity, respect and safety. Shelter volunteers are men and women of all ages, special people who aren't afraid to face a population and a lifestyle that might be different then their own. To volunteer contact Taffy McCormick at wintershelter@stjosephparish.org.

St. Vincent de Paul - The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Joseph Parish serves the poor by making in-home visits, listening to those in need and providing support as resources allow. The generous donations of St. Joseph parishioners, collected after Masses on the first Sunday of each month, provide the means by which we can help people in need with food, clothing, rent, bus fare and utility bills. We have no overhead expenses, so 100% of donations help the people we visit. If you would like to attend a meeting or are interested in learning more about the society, please email Dennis West at svdp@stjosephparish.org.

Outreach Partners - St. Joseph nurtures our great relationships with outside organizations that work to support people in need. Many St. Joseph parishioners have found that working with these organizations have given them new understandings of their faith and the world. Organizations include: Chief Seattle Club, WestSide Baby, Habitat for Humanity, Jubilee Women’s Center, L’Arche, Noel House, Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets (PSKS), Bloodworks NW, Recovery Cafe, St. Francis House, Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center, Shirts Across America, St. Mary’s Food Bank, and St. Martin de Porres.

For more information about any of our Faith Justice Ministries, please contact April Haydon or Terry Earls, chairs of our Faith Justice Commission, at faithjustice@stjosephparish.org.
Parish Announcements

Children’s Baptism
Rite of Christian Initiation for Children -- Children who have not yet been baptized by the age of seven years old receive full initiation (Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation) into the church during the Easter season. Children participate in preparation classes as a group to learn about the Catholic faith. Parents and godparents are selected and are also an active part of the child’s faith formation during this time. Children’s Baptism -- If you have a child age five to seven years old and he or she would like to be baptized into the Catholic Faith, then this is the program for you! Preparation begins in January with the Sacrament of Baptism taking place this upcoming April. Questions? Contact Dottie Farewell at 206-965-1652 or dfarwell@stjosephparish.org

St. Joseph Epiphany Dinner
On Sunday, January 7, 2018, from 1-4 pm in the Social Hall, we’ll open our doors to anyone in the community for a shared meal and fellowship. As is our tradition, we invite members of our community to provide cooked turkeys, hams, vegetables, potatoes, beverages, desserts and appetizers. Volunteers are needed for food prep, cooking, decorating, table hosting and clean-up. Sign-ups are super-easy visit our website. Questions? Please contact Deacon Steve at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

Seniors On The Go
Friday, January 5th, 2018 - Healing Mass at 11:30 am followed by Seniors Luncheon in the Parish Center.
Tuesday, January 9th - Join us for our Seniors Planning meeting at 11:30 am in the Arrupe Room. Brown bag lunch.
Wednesday, January 17th - Join us for Aging Gracefully our Senior support group, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.

St. Vincent de Paul Collection
January 6 & 7

Ignatian Spirituality Center
Examen at the Cusp of the Year:
A Winter Day of Reflection
PAUSING AT THE THRESHOLD
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2017
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
ST. JOSEPH PARISH CENTER, SEATTLE
MARY HARTRICH, PRESENTER
Register at www.ignatiancenter.org by Dec. 27th

Annual Stewardship Update
Thank you to all who have made gifts and pledges to our annual stewardship appeal. To date, we have received 500 pledges totaling $842,422 toward our goal of $1,500,000. We are endlessly grateful for your commitment to St. Joseph Parish!

For over a century, women and men such as you have prayed over their resources and have placed their trust in the goodness of God. Because of what their hearts told them, St. Joseph Parish has flourished as a place where young people are educated with hope, where seniors gather with joy, where women and men of varied callings and ways of life seek God in prayer and community. Through family, work, and service, all share the Eucharist they have received. As a part of this history, we ask you to open your heart fearlessly, and to commit, not out of guilt, but out of the love of God that has been poured into your heart.

Thank you for becoming a part of St. Joseph. Thank you for your annual affirmation of membership and active participation in our community. Thank you for prayerfully considering your stewardship commitment this year. Thank you for the grace you have, and the grace you share with us all.

Prayer Tree
St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions:
Grateful that Cheryl is on the official heart transplant list . . . For our dear Alice who recently had a stroke . . . Belated best wishes for a happy and healthy 81st Birthday year to Pope Francis . . . Thank you, God, for the loving gift of your son, Jesus, Our Savior.

Rest in Peace
Lyn Sauter, beloved mother of Joe, who recently passed away.
Marriage Enrichment Weekend

February 2-4, 2018
La Conner, WA

“Love Me Tender”

Please join with married couples of all ages and walks of life as we gather for a weekend of spiritual reflection and fellowship.

This year’s theme, Love Me Tender, invites us to explore how the ordinary, every day things we do for one another can be filled with loving tenderness.

$365 per Couple*
Partial Scholarships Available

For more information or to register, please contact Deacon Steve at (206) 965-1646 or steve@stjosephparish.org.

* Price includes two nights lodging, Continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and the Saturday evening group dinner.