

Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (Col. 3:15.16)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;**  
**let the message of Christ find a home with you.**  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** (Mt 2:13-15.19-23)

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

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

He will be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Profession of Faith** (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, / the Father almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, / of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, / the Only Begotten Son of God, / born of the Father before all ages. / God from God, Light from Light, / true God from true God, / begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; / through him all things were made. / For us men and for our salvation / he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, / and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, / he suffered death and was buried, / and rose again on the third day / in accordance with the Scriptures. / He ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father. / He will come again in glory / to judge the living and the dead / and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son, / who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, / who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. / I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins / and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead / and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**  
 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.**

**Sanctus**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...**

**After the Consecration**

The mystery of faith.

**Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

## THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...

**Our Father, who art in heaven, ...**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are your now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ... **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

**Communion Antiphon** (Bar 3:38)

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

# The People's Mass

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon** (Lk 2:16)

**The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.**

In the name of the Father, ... **Amen.**  
 The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

**Penitential Act**

Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

*A brief pause for silence follows.*

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

Lord, have mercy. **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

**Lord, have mercy.** **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:

Christ, have mercy. **Or:** Christe, eleison.

**Christ, have mercy.** **Or:** Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:

Lord, have mercy. **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

**Lord, have mercy.** **Or:** Kyrie, eleison.

May almighty God have mercy on us, ... **Amen.**

**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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING** (Eccles 3:2-6.12-14)

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons. Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins, he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune. Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father, he who sets his mother at ease

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

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 127:1-5)

**R. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!**

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
 By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
- Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R.**
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.  
 May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! **R.**

**SECOND READING** (Col 3:12-21)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the

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