

St. Stanislaus Cathedral

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church
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MASS OF THE SHEPHERDS The Nativity of our Lord



PASTERKA ~ Christmas Eve 2025

PRE-LITURGY MUSIC

Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, No. 8

“Fatto per la Notti di Natale” [written for Christmas Night]

Arcangelo Corelli

Nadia Clemens, Kaitlyn Gingerlowski, violin

Josh Stankowski, viola

Rebecca Elfman, continuo

Pat-a-Pan

Bernard de la Monnoye

The Cathedral Chorale with guest singers Julia Poole, Ian Poole, and Mikel Hill

Never a Child as He

James Niblock

The Sopranos and Altos of the Cathedral Chorale

A la Nanita Nana

José Ramos Gomis, arr. Elfman

Rebecca Elfman, organ

PROCESSION TO THE CRECHE

HYMN 67 *Wśród Nocnej Ciszy - In Midnight Silence*

Wśród nocnej ciszy głos się rozchodzi:
W stańcie pasterze Bóg się wam rodzi;
(Czymprędzej się wybierajcie,
Do Betlejem pospieszajcie, przywitać Pana.)

In midnight silence, came a voice so clear:
“Rise up, O Shepherds, Christ your Lord is here.
Leave your flocks, forsake your watching.
(In a manger wrapped in swaddling,
You shall find the Lord.)”

The Cathedral Chorale

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 62 *Pójdźmy wszyscy do stajenki - Let Us Hasten*

Pójdźmy wszyscy do stajenki, do Jezusa i Panieńki;
(powitajmy Maleńkiego i Maryję Matkę Jego.)

Let us hasten to the manger, Welcoming the Holy Savior.
(Waken now from slumber, brother, Bow before the Child and mother.)

As the prophets long have stated, Patriarchs have long awaited.
(Now we come with joy to meet You, Heav'n and earth this night shall greet You.)

AT THE MANGER HYMN 42 *Cicha noc - Silent Night*

Cicha noc, święta noc! Wszystko śpi, atoli
Czuwa Józef z Maryą, Kiedy Boska Dziecina
W błogim pokoju śpi, w błogim pokoju śpi.

Silent night, Holy night, All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin Mother and child, Holy Infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glory streams from heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

BLESSING OF THE MANGER

C: Our help is in the name of the Lord. **R: Who made heaven and earth.**

C: Lord hear our prayer. **R: And let our cry come to you.**

C: The Lord be with you. **R: And also with you.**

C: Let Us Pray...Almighty God, Who on that wondrous night sent forth Your salvation, manifested in the person of Your Son, Jesus Christ, look upon Your faithful people gathered in Your church, commemorating the Nativity of our Lord in the stable in Bethlehem. Grant, we ask You, that the Savior of the World might be born again in the hearts and souls of all people. To You we sing and give praise, honor, and glory; and we ask You to instill in us godliness and holy love; strengthen our faith and grant us Your true peace – that peace which we can only find in You. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord. **R. Amen.**

C: Lord, have mercy. **R. Christ, have mercy. Lord Have mercy.**

C: **Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory Be...**

C: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

R: Christ is born today, glory to God in the highest.

C: The Lord be with you. **R: And also with you.**

C: O Lord, Jesus Christ, true light that enlightens everyone; O holy Christ child, Who today will come into the hearts of all who sincerely love You; grant that we may be able to understand the message of Your enlightening Word, and that by following Your example and teachings in our daily lives, we may attain the Eternal Light of Heaven. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

~ **MASS, Page 63, Tan pew Mass booklet** ~

OPENING HYMN 57 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him! O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n,
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

CONFITEOR - *Contemporary Mass Page 66, Tan booklet*

BEFORE THE INTROIT *Sing This Night with Joy*

Faye López

TUNE: God Rest Ye Merry (English carol)

One quiet night in Bethlehem our God incarnate lay,
 The baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, there on a bed of hay.
 From heaven rang angelic song to celebrate His birth.
 O sing! Lift your voices and sing! Christ is born!
 O sing this night, for Christ is born!
 The shepherds saw a dazzling light;
 The shepherds heard the glorious praise the angels' voices raised:
 All glory be to God this night. Good news of peace on earth!
 Christ is born! O sing this night, for Christ is born!
 There in a manger was the One, Messiah, Savior, He.
 They worshipped in amazement as they bowed on bended knee.
 O blessed night! O holy night the prophets long foretold!
 Arise, for your light has come; Christ is born! O sing this night with joy, for Christ is born!

The Cathedral Chorale with the String Ensemble

INTROIT

Psalm 96:1-3

C: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord; bless His name; announce His salvation, day after day. **R: Tell God's glory among the nations; among all peoples, God's marvelous deeds.** C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE

O'Connor

GLORIA

Englert

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You make this holy night radiant with the splendor of Jesus Christ, our light. We welcome Him as Lord, the true Light of the world. Bring us to eternal joy in the kingdom of heaven. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with the You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

FIRST LESSON

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 divining 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Palm 96:1-3, 11-13, Luke 2:11

R. (Lk 2:11) Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song;
 sing to the LORD, all you lands.
 Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Announce his salvation, day after day.
 Tell his glory among the nations;
 among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;
for he comes to rule the earth.

He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **R. Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA

Psalms 2:7



Choir, then all:
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** C: I will proclaim the decree of the Lord, Who said to me, "You my son, today I am your Father." **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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. 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."

This is the gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT *Come, Thou Creator* (1 & 4)

Come, Thou Creator Spirit blest, and in our hearts take up Thy rest;
Come with Thy grace and heavenly aid, Come with Thy grace and heavenly aid,
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

All glory while the ages run be to the Father and the Son,
Who gave us life the same to Thee, Who gave us life the same to Thee,
O Holy Ghost, eternally. Amen.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

R: Lord hear our prayer.

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE

Psalm 95:11, 13

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice before the Lord, Who comes, Who comes to govern the earth, to govern the world with justice and the peoples with faithfulness.

OFFERTORY SOLO *Gesu Bambino*

Pietro Yon

Julia Poole, Soprano

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God, accept our gifts on this joyful feast of our salvation. By our communion with God-made-man, may we become more like Him, Who joins our lives to Yours. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **R. Amen.**

PREFACE

SANCTUS

Mushalko/Harrig

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Elfman

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lulajże Jezuniu - String Ensemble

How Quietly

Joel Raney

How quietly, how quietly the wondrous gift was given for me.
How sweet and gentle, how meek and mild; this precious gift, this Holy Child.
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
Angels sing to God, our King, of peace to all on earth.
Morning stars break through the darkness, proclaiming the holy birth.
The cattle are lowing; the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

The Cathedral Chorale

POST COMMUNION HYMN 45 *Dzisiaj w Betlejem*/Hear the Glad Tidings
(1-Polish 1, 2, 3- English- verses as needed)

Dzisiaj w Betlejem, dzisiaj w Betlejem, wesoła nowina,
Że Panna czysta, że Panna czysta, porodziła Syna.
(Chrystus się rodzi, nas oswobodzi, anieli grają, króle witają,
Pasterze śpiewają, Bogu chwała dają, cuda, cuda ogłaszają.)

Hear the glad tidings, hear the glad tidings, o'er the hills of Bethl'em.
Sweet Virgin Mary, sweet Virgin Mary bore the Holy Infant.

Refrain (Born is the Savior, Christ, our Redeemer.

Angels are playing, kings, tribute paying;
Shepherds now are singing, cattle low are kneeling,
what a wonder each proclaiming.)

Mary the maiden, Mary the maiden tends the little Baby.
Joseph so loving, Joseph so loving, watches o'er them gently. *R*

Born in a manger, born in a manger, yet He is the Savior.
Soon He will save us, soon He will save us. Hail to our Redeemer! *R*

COMMUNION VERSE

Psalm 110:3b

In holy splendor, before the daystar, like the dew I begot you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father, in receiving this Holy Eucharist we rejoice in the birth of our Savior. May we share His life completely by living as He taught. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

TE DEUM – 293 *We Praise Thee, O God* (All please stand)

We praise Thee, O God. We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship Thee, as the Father everlasting. To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heav'ns and all powers therein. To Thee cherubim and seraphim with their voices unceasingly sing: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, Host of Heaven. Filled are the heavens and the earth of the majesty of Thy glory.

The glorious choir of the apostles, the righteous fellowship of the prophets, the holy army of martyrs, praises sing to Thee. Thou throughout all the world art acknowledged by Thy Holy Church as the Father of infinite majesty.

And to the Adorable One and the True One, the only begotten Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Comforter.

Thou art King of Glory, Son of the everlasting Father. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man, Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of Mary. When Thou hadst overcome the sting of death, Thou didst open to all believers the Kingdom of Heaven. Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that Thou shalt come to be our Judge. We, thus, implore Thee to help Thy servants, whom Thou redeemed and saved with Thy precious blood. Let them be numbered with Thy saints in eternal glory. O Lord, save Thy people. O Lord, save Thy people and bless us, Thy heritage. Govern them, Lord, and lift them up forever. Day by day we magnify Thee, and we worship Thy Name throughout all ages. Vouchsafe from this day, Lord, that from all sin Thou shalt save us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us. O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us as we place our trust in Thee. O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

The Cathedral Chorale

C. Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
R. Let us praise and magnify Him above all forever.

C. Lord, hear our prayer.
R. And let our cry come to You.

C. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

C. Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father and Lord, You do not reject nor disregard any of us. Look favorably on us, Your children: strengthen and confirm us, that we, following the teaching of Your Church and serving You faithfully, would receive life everlasting. In our earthly pilgrimage, give us Your light and counsel. Grant us courage, and fill our hearts with apostolic zeal and the faith which marked Your confessors and martyrs, that we may always be ready to stand before You, our just Judge and most merciful Father.

DISMISSAL and SOLEMN EPISCOPAL BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 80 “*Joy To The World*” (1, 2)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns. Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

POSTLUDE *Aniol pasterzom mowil*

setting, Patryk Podwojski

“Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia”