

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER Roman Canon—see Mass book page 12  
Acclamation after the Consecration—see Mass book page 18  
The Lord's Prayer—see Mass book page 21  
Agnus Dei from the Mass by Lasso

### K COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ecce virgo concipiet, et pariet filium: et vocabitur nomen eius Emmanuel.

*Behold! The Virgin shall conceive and shall bear a Son; and His name shall be called "Emmanuel" - 'God is with us!'*

### Communion Motet "Ecce Virgo concipiet" by Heinrich Isaac (1450-1517)

*Behold! The Virgin shall conceive and shall bear a Son; and His name shall be called "Emmanuel" - 'God is with us!'*



### L POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Sumpto pignore redemptionis aeternae, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut quanto magis dies salutiferae festivitatis accedit, tanto devotius proficiamus ad Filii tui digne nativitatis mysterium celebrandum. Per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.

*We who have received the pledge of eternal redemption pray Thee, O Lord God almighty, that as the festive day which brings our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may be ready to celebrate worthily the mystery of Thy Son's birth with daily increasing devotion.*

## VESPERS AND BENEDICTION

**WILL BE SUNG HERE TONIGHT AST 7.30P.M.**

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO TAKE THIS SHEET HOME  
**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THE MASS BOOK**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On the last Sunday of Advent the Church meditates on the great wonder of the presence of the Son of God in His Mother's womb.

During the course of this last week we have heard the Gospel accounts of the annunciation first of John the Baptist, then of Our Lord. We have heard how God in His loving mercy blessed Elizabeth, a barren woman, with a child. But then more wonderfully yet God blessed the whole world by giving His own co-equal Son to a Virgin maid to be her Son.



Now this Virgin Mother is coming to console and strengthen Elizabeth who had been barren for so long, and to share in her joy. Elizabeth's child is John the Baptist, who leaps in his mother's womb at the moment his own mother greets Mary. We can picture Mary in after years recalling this event from her youth, and recounting it to St. Luke as he prepared to write his gospel account of our redemption. What a wonderful confirmation of all that the Angel Gabriel had said to her was there on that day!

### A INTROIT

Rorate caeli desuper, et nubes pluant iustum: aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem. Psalm. Caeli enarrant gloriam Dei: et opera manuum eius annuntiat firmamentum.

*Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the Just One: let the earth be opened and bring forth the Saviour. Psalm. The heavens show forth the glory of God: and the firmament declares the work of His hands.*

Introductory rite—see Mass book page 3.

Kyrie from "Messe Douce Memoire" by Orlando di Lasso (1535-1594)

### B COLLECT

Gratiam tuam, quaesumus, Domine, mentibus nostris infunde, ut qui, Angelo nuntiante, Christi Filii tui incarnationem cognovimus, per passionem eius et crucem ad resurrectionis gloriam perducamur. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum.....Per omnia saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our minds, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ Thy Son has been made known by the Angel's message, may be brought through his passion and cross to the glory of His resurrection.*

### C The first reading is taken from the book of Micah.

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Verbum Domini. **R. Deo gratias.**

## D GRADUAL

Prope est Dominus omnibus invocantibus eum: omnibus qui invocant eum in veritate. V. Laudem Domini loquetur os meum: et benedicat omnis caro nomen sanctum eius. *The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him: to all that call upon Him in truth. V. My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless His holy name.*

## E Second Reading is taken from the letter to the Hebrews.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ. Verbum Domini. **R. Deo gratias.**

## F GOSPEL ALLELUIA

Veni, Domine, et noli tardare: relaxa facinora plebis tuae. *Come, O Lord, and tarry not: forgive the sins of Thy people.*

## G GOSPEL— A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

At that time: Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.

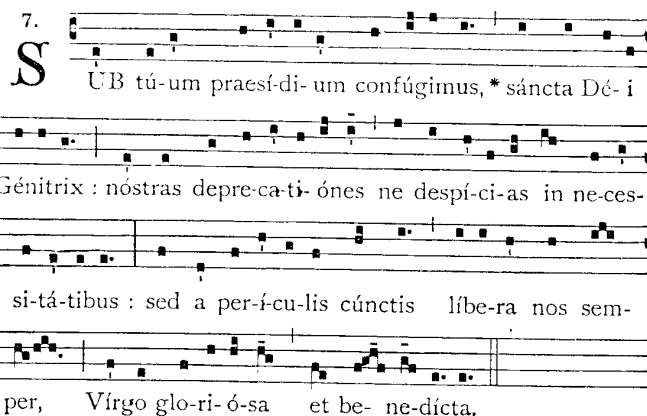
Verbum Domini. **R. Laus, tibi Christe.**

**CREDO I**—see Mass book page 25 or 26

At the end of the Bidding Prayers we sing this ancient prayer to Our Lady.

*We fly to thy protection, O holy Mother of God.*

*Despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us from all dangers, O ever glorious and blessed Virgin.*

7.  **S** UB tú-um praesí-di-um confúginus, \* sáncta Dé-i Génitrix : nóstras depre-ca-ti-ónes ne despi-ci-as in ne-ces-si-tá-tibus : sed a per-í-cu-lis cúnc-tis líbe-ra nos sem-per, Vírgo glo-ri-ó-sa et be-ne-dícta.

## Offertory Motet “Audiavi vocem in caelo” by Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

*“I heard a voice coming from Heaven. Come all you most wise virgins, gather oil in your lamps before the bridegroom arrives. At midnight a great noise is heard—behold the bridegroom is here”.*

## H PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Altari tuo, Domine, superposita munera Spiritus ille sanctificet, qui beatae Mariae viscera sua virtute replevit. Per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.

*O Lord, may the same Holy Spirit who overshadowed the Blessed Mary's womb with His power, make holy these gifts which we have placed upon Thine Altar.*

## J PREFACE

Vere dignum et iustum est, aequum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere: Domine, sancte Pater, omnipotens aeternae Deus: per Christum Dominum nostrum.

Quem praedixerunt cunctorum praeconia prophetarum, Virgo Mater ineffabili dilectione sustinuit, Joannes cecinit affuturum et adesse monstravit.

Qui suae nativitatis mysterium tribuit nos praevenire gaudentes, ut et in oratione pervigiles et in suis inveniat laudibus exultantes.

Et ideo cum Angelis et Archangelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia caelestis exercitus, hymnum gloriae tuae canimus, sine fine dicentes:

*It is truly meet and right and incumbent upon us for our salvation that we should always and everywhere give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God;*

*Whom the proclamations of all the prophets foretold, whom the Virgin Mother carried with ineffable love, and whom John announced and made known; Who has granted us joyfully to anticipate the mystery of His nativity, so that He might find us watchful in prayer and rejoicing in His praises.*

*Wherefore with angels and archangels, with thrones and dominations and with all the company of heaven, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:*

Sanctus from plainsong Mass XVII



San- ctus, \* San- ctus, San- ctus Dóminus De- us Sá- ba- oth. Ple- ni sunt cœ- li et ter- ra gló-ri- a tu- a. Ho- sánna in excél- sis. Bene- díctus qui ve-nit in nó-mi-ne Dómini. Ho- sánna in excél- sis.