

## WORSHIP @ HOME

The Nativity of the Lord – Yr B • 25 December 2020

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

“For today in the city  
of David a savior has been  
born for you who is  
Christ and Lord.”  
- Lk 2:11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## Preparation

*There are a few things you need to do to get ready before you begin.*

- We recommend glancing through the whole service before you start. **Adapt the service for your family**, especially so it will be age-appropriate.
- You could make the setting special by using a WHITE table cloth, some candles, and anything else to make your prayer space festive. Get the whole family involved in the preparations.
- **Place your family Bible on the table**, if you have one, opened up to the Gospel of the day (Luke 2:1-14)
- **The script has leader and various reader parts.** Anyone old enough to read well can perform these roles.
- **An iPad/tablet computer** or large phone could work well for reading the script. **It would be helpful to have two devices** for multiple people to read. To access the slideshow and hymns, visit: <https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2020-12-25>
- **Don't worry**, you don't have to do this perfectly. Have some fun with it. Let's pray!

JUST BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- **Silence and set aside all phones** or other devices that may interrupt you.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

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### OPENING SONG (OPTIONAL)

*Here is a kids version of the traditional "O Come, All Ye Faithful":*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tM5pwvUGMI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tM5pwvUGMI&feature=emb_logo)

### INTRODUCTION

Leader: We begin the celebration of the great feast of Christmas,  
a time of joy and peace,  
grateful for Jesus' birth, and for the steadfast love of his parents, Mary and Joseph.

### GREETING

Leader: † In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Grace and light to you from God our Father  
and from his Son, Jesus, who became a baby for us.  
We love you, O Lord, and we thank you.  
(The response is: We love you, O Lord, and we thank you.)

All: We bless you, O Lord, and we praise you.

Leader: We gather together now  
to remember the story of Jesus' birth.  
One with all who celebrate his coming into our world,  
let us now listen to God's Word and join in prayer.

### GLORIA

*Together, we acknowledge how grateful we are for the mercy of God.*

Leader: On this joyful day, together we sing in praise of God's glory!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qb-2XUH-CMI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qb-2XUH-CMI&feature=emb_logo)

### OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

*Pause for a short time for everyone to pray in silence. Then pray the following out loud, carefully and with meaning.*

Leader: God of joy and peace  
you became a baby so you would know  
what it is like to be one of us.

Help us to care for and love all the children of the world,  
especially those who are poor and in need,  
because you were one of them.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

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### ALLELUIA

*Play the video. Listen to the refrain the first time, then sing together when it repeats.*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbxKdSk2dKI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbxKdSk2dKI&feature=emb_logo)

### GOSPEL

*Lead your family in this action prayer, making the Sign of the Cross over your forehead, lips, and heart at each step.*

Reader 1: In today's reading, we hear about how Jesus was born and who came to visit him.

We now do this action prayer together:

May the Lord be on my mind, †  
on my lips, †  
and in my heart †  
as we hear the Gospel today.

A reading from the holy Gospel of Luke.

*This text is based on the translation used in the Lectionary for Masses with Children and is easier for young people to understand.*

Reader 1: About that time Emperor Augustus gave orders  
for the names of all the people to be listed in record books.  
These first records were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed.  
So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea.  
Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown,  
and Joseph went there because he was from David's family.

Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem.  
She was soon going to have a baby, and while they were there,  
she gave birth to her first-born son.

She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay,  
because there was no room for them in the inn.

That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep.  
All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord,  
and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them.  
The shepherds were frightened.

But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy.

This very day in King David's hometown a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord.  
You will know who he is, because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying on a bed of hay."

Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said:

"Praise God in heaven!  
Peace on earth to everyone  
who pleases God."

*Luke 2:1-14. From the Contemporary English Version, copyright © American Bible Society, 1991, 1995.*

Reader 1: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## GOSPEL SONG REFLECTION

*Here's a great tune by Carolyn Arends for all ages that may make you think about the Christmas story a bit differently.*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2zuPp0hiaA&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2zuPp0hiaA&feature=emb_logo)

## GOSPEL VIDEO REFLECTIONS

*Here is a cartoon retelling of the Christmas story (in two parts).*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkEypzmHwCI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkEypzmHwCI&feature=emb_logo)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3656G6tWuI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3656G6tWuI&feature=emb_logo)

## REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

*If your parish has provided a homily video online, you could play it here. Either way, take some time to talk together about what the readings mean to each of you. **You can do this however you would like, but here are some suggestions.***

- Who is your favourite person in this story? Mary? Joseph? Baby Jesus? The shepherds? The angels? Why?
- In your imagination, what does the place look like where Jesus was born? What did Mary and Joseph have with them in Bethlehem? What did they NOT have that they may have liked to have had when their baby was born?

- If you were there, what would you have wanted to say to Mary or Joseph or the baby Jesus?

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Now let's pray together to God for what we need.

Reader 2: We pray for all those who don't have a safe, warm, and dry home at this time of year, especially families with babies and young children, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray during this Christmas season that we never forget that Jesus and his parents were poor So that we share what we have to help others, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for all those who are sick, and for all the doctors, nurses, caregivers and essential workers who are caring for them, that they remain healthy, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for all those who are lonely or sad during this Christmas season, that we can be Christ for them in their darkness, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: For what else and for who else shall we pray?

*Allow time for anyone else to speak prayers aloud.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Jesus taught us to call God our Father, and so we have the courage to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

## SIGN OF PEACE

Leader: Let us now offer each another a sign of peace.

*Share some hugs!*

## A LITANY FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Leader: The response is: Lord, bring us closer to you!

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,  
we wish we could gather today with our parish community,  
but we gather here out of love and concern for others.  
You teach us that when two or three are gathered in your name,  
you are there.  
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are present in a special way  
when bread and wine are turned into your Body and Blood.  
Since we cannot receive you in this way today,  
We ask that you enter our hearts  
so that we may receive you spiritually.  
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,  
watch over your family  
and keep us safe in your care,  
for all our hope is in you.

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

## Concluding Rite

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### BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

### CLOSING SONG (OPTIONAL)

*Now sing along to "Joy to the World":*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kqi8aphPtNQ&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kqi8aphPtNQ&feature=emb_logo)

## After the Service

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### SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Take a picture of your family in your worship area and share it on social media (tag it with **#HolySpiritStClairWorshipAtHome**).

### PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH

Your parish still has to pay the electric bill and your staff, even when public Masses are cancelled. If you haven't already, sign up for electronic payments or mail in a check today. Planned Giving Forms and online donation portal are available on the parish website: <https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations/>. Or you can send your donation to:

#### *FIRST COLLECTION: For the Augustinian Clergy*

Account Name: Augustinian Fathers  
Bank: CBA  
BSB: 067 950  
Account Number: 000 030 02

#### *SECOND COLLECITON: For the Parish*

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair  
Bank: CBA  
BSB: 067 950  
Account Number: 000 005 78

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