

Monday, December 25, 2023

The Nativity of the Lord – Christmas Day

- 1) Isaiah 52:7-10
- 2) Hebrews 1:1-6
- 3) John 1:1-18 or John 1:1-5, 9-14

FOCUS: *A holy day has dawned upon us.*

As we see the breaking of this day, we celebrate the dawning of a new period in salvation history. Jesus, the Word of God, is born and has come to bring fulfillment to what was promised to us throughout salvation history. He has come to show us the glory of God. A new day has come!

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Isaiah prophesies how all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of God. In the second reading, the author of the letter recounts salvation history, emphasizing that God spoke throughout these times. The Gospel says the Word *was in the beginning with God*. The Word has become flesh and has revealed his glory.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in God's mercy, we place our petitions before him.

- 1) For the Church and her work carrying forth the light of Christ, may the Lord continue to guide and protect her, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the world, may it know the peace and salvation of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who suffer from loneliness, depression, or anxiety, may the Lord bring his peace upon them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may the Lord help us to grow in his mercy and love during this Christmas season, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died in the peace of Christ, may he shine his eternal light upon them and bring them to his rest, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of abundant hope, listen to our needs today and answer them in accord with your holy will. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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