



O come, let us adore Him!

Every year millions of Christians in the middle of the night come to celebrate the midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. In these people who go to “Mass of the Shepherds” in their local churches, the line from the prophet Isaiah becomes a reality every year.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shone.” (Is 9.2-4)

The liturgy of Christmas presents to us the birth of our Saviour as the light which pierces and dispels the deepest darkness. The presence of the Lord in the midst of his people cancels the sorrow of defeat and the misery of darkness caused by our sins.

God's light came to earth as an infant over two thousand years ago. The Incarnation is a mystery of God's Eternal Word becoming a man. ***"Et Verbum Caro factum est et habitavit in nobis*** — and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." The Eternal Word, Jesus Christ himself, was, as the Creed says; ***"incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became a man."***

In his homily at Christmas Mass, Pope Francis said, "The grace which was revealed in our world is Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, true man and true God. He has entered our history; he has shared our journey." Emmanuel, God with us, was born in a manger fully human and fully God. Jesus is not some distant, historical figure. He experienced the joys and sorrows of daily living just as we do today and is as alive today as he was in Bethlehem two thousand years ago.

What is our response to this mystery that we celebrate these days? When we realize that God in his love for us made himself small in order to better encounter us, we cannot help but open our hearts to him, and implore him: Lord, help me to be like you, give me the grace of tenderness in the most challenging circumstances of life, give me the grace of patience in the face of every challenge, give me humility and peace that was at your birth in Bethlehem.

Together let us again contemplate this great mystery of love; let our hearts be filled with the light which shines in the stable of Bethlehem! Kneeling at the crib let us ask the Blessed Mother: “O Mary, show us, Jesus!”

To you and your families a
Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year 2019!

Fr Jan

**MASSES BETWEEN
CHRISTMAS AND
NEW YEAR**

Wednesday, 26th of December

**Boxing Day (St Stephen)
St Joseph the Worker
9am**

**Monday, 31st of December
St Joseph the Worker
9am**

**NEW YEARS DAY
Tuesday, 1st of January 2019**

**St Joseph the Worker
9am**

**St. Joseph the Worker Church
44 Imperial Parade, Labrador**

**Sunday Masses
7:00am & 8:30am**

**Weekday Masses
Monday & Wednesday
7:00am**

**Gold Coast University Hospital
Friday 10:30am**

**Guardian Angels' Church
99 Scarborough St., Southport**

Saturday Masses - 6:00pm

**Sunday Masses
7:00am & 10:00am**

**Weekday Mass
Friday 12:30pm**

**Reconciliation
Saturday 4:30pm to 5:15pm**

**Mary Immaculate Church
31 Edmund Rice Drive, Ashmore**

**Sunday Masses
8:30am & 6:00pm**

**Weekday Masses
Tuesday 9:00am
Thursday 5:30pm**



Before Mass speak with God



During Mass, let God speak with you



After Mass, speak with others

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highestest: **R**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: **R**
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GIFTS PROCESSION

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven,
to live with thee there.
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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (ICEL)

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you come
again

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains;
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

**Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo**

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? **R**

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **R**

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. **R**
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Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all you nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

**Refrain: Hark! The herald
angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold Him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. **R**

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. **R**
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What Child is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet
with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds worship
and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him praise,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Come have no fear, God's Son is here,
his love all love exceeding:

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail, the Saviour comes
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
all tongues and peoples own him,
the King of kings salvation brings,
let every heart enthrone him.
Raise, raise, your song on high
while Mary sings a lullaby,
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the Babe, the son of Mary
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REFLECTION HYMN

Silent Night

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;
glories stream from heaven afar;
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia!"
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
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RECESSIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every 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 world! the Saviour reigns:
let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love.
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