

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church



The Rev'd William Cantrell
Pastor

The Rev'd Matthew Hummel
Parochial Vicar

The Rev'd Mr Roger Converse
Deacon

William Gatens, D.Phil.
Organist and Choirmaster

The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day

December 25, 2021

The Nativity of the Lord - On the Day

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10:00 am

SOLEMN MASS

Voluntary: Preludes on "In dulci jubilo"

Dietrich Buxtehude
Johann Sebastian Bach
Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

Hymn 31: "Good Christian men, rejoice"

In dulci jubilo

Introit: *Puer natus est nobis*

Isaiah 9:6, Psalm 98:1

Unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his Name shall be called Angel of Mighty Counsel. (Psalm) O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things. *Gloria Patri*. Unto us ...

Kyrie eleison (Healey Willan)

Hymnal 710

Lord, have mercy upon us. (*thrice*) Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in excelsis (Healey Willan)

Hymnal 713

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Collect

First Reading (*congregation sitting*)

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes peace, who brings good tidings of good, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen, your watchmen lift up their voice, together they sing for joy; for

eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

At the end of each reading the People respond: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *Viderunt omnes*

Psalms 98:4b, 5, 3

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God: O be joyful in God, all ye lands.

V. The Lord hath declared his salvation: in the sight of the heathen hath he openly showed his righteousness.

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-6

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the ages. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. For to what angel did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the first-born into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

Alleluia: *Dies sanctificatus*

Alleluia, alleluia. **V.** A hallowed day hath dawned upon the earth; come, ye nations, and worship the Lord: for on this day a great Light hath descended upon the earth. Alleluia.

Before the Gospel:

V. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **R.** Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh [*here all genuflect*] and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we

have beheld his glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.

After the Gospel reading:

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon (*congregation sitting*)

Nicene Creed (*congregation standing*)

Hymnal 720

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, (*genuflect*) and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; (*stand*) and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People (*congregation kneeling*)

Penitential Rite

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Antiphon: *Tui sunt caeli* (congregation sitting)

Psalm 89:12, 15a

The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine; thou hast laid the foundations of the round world, and all that therein is: righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat.

Offertory Hymn 13: "While shepherds watched"

Winchester Old

After the altar is prepared the priest says,

Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable unto God, the Father almighty.

The People stand and respond:

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at thy hands, for the praise and glory of his Name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

V. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up unto the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

R. It is meet and right so to do.

Preface of the Incarnation

Sanctus and Benedictus (Healey Willan)

Hymnal 797

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts,

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer *The People kneel.*

After the Elevations:

Priest: The mystery of faith.

The People with the Priest:

O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us: save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Our Father (congregation standing)

Hymnal 722

The Priest continues: "Deliver us ... and safe from all distress."

The People respond:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Peace and Fraction

The Priest offers a prayer for the peace of Christ, and then says:

V. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **R.** And with thy spirit.

The Peace is not exchanged among the faithful at this Mass. At the Fraction:

V. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

R. Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei (Healey Willan)

Hymnal 712

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The People respond thrice:

Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in one Kind only. The Sacrament can be received either on the palm or on the tongue. Allow six feet between families at the rail. Those receiving Communion must remove their masks.

Communion Antiphon: *Viderunt omnes*

Psalm 98:4b

All the ends of the world: have seen the salvation of our God.

An Act of Spiritual Communion (*for the private use of the faithful*)

I worship thee, Lord Jesus, and kneeling unto thee, as thou didst come to Mary, I pray thee come to me. O most loving Jesus, O most blessed Saviour, come to me, I beseech thee, and unite me to thyself. Though I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, yet I believe that thou art able, even when received by faith and desire only, to heal, enrich and sanctify me. Come thou spiritually into my heart. I desire to unite myself to thee with all the affections of my soul. Possess me wholly; let the consuming fire of thy love absorb me, and thy presence abide so intimately in me, that it will be no longer I that live, but thou who livest in me. Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart. Amen.

Ablutions Hymn 20: "Of the Father's love begotten"

Divinum mysterium

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*said by the congregation kneeling with the celebrant*)

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

Blessing and Dismissal

V. The Lord be with you. *R.* And with thy spirit.

The Priest gives the blessing. The Deacon dismisses the People, and they respond:

Thanks be to God.

The Last Gospel (*congregation standing*)

Matthew 2:1-12

V. The Lord be with you. *R.* And with thy spirit.

V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. *R.* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After the Gospel reading: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 27: "Hark! the herald angels sing"

Mendelssohn

Voluntary: "In dulci jubilo" (BWV 729)

Johann Sebastian Bach



Cover: Gerard David (c.1455-1523), *The Nativity*, c.1480, oil on panel, Metropolitan Museum of New York.

Saint John the Baptist is a Roman Catholic parish of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter, using the Divine Worship Missal, authorized by the Holy See for use in the Ordinariate. Those interested in instruction about the Ordinariate, and those interested in entering the full communion of the Catholic Church are invited to speak with Fr Cantrell. The Saint John's Rectory (and parish mailing address) is at 502 Ford Street, Bridgeport, PA 19405. The telephone is 215-247-1092. The web site is: www.sjbbbridgeport.org.