

December 25
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
3rd Mass – On the day

Station at St Mary Major

White

1 Cl. (Duplex 1 Cl.)

INTROIT: *Is. 9:6*

Puer natus est nobis, et Filius datus est nobis :
cujus imperium super humerum ejus; et vocabi-
tur nomen ejus magni consilii Angelus. *Ps. 97:1:*
Cantate Domino canticum novum : quia mira-
bilis fecit. *℟. Gloria.*

*A child is born to us, and a Son is given to us; whose
government is upon his shoulder; and his name shall
be called the Angel of great counsel. Ps. 97:1-2:
Sing ye to the Lord a new canticle : for he hath done
wonderful things. ℟. Glory.*

COLLECT

Concede, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus : ut nos
Unigeniti tui nova per carnem nativitas liberet,
quos sub peccati jugo vetusta servitus tenet. Per
eundem Dominum.

*Grant, we beseech thee, almighty God, that the new
birth, in the flesh, of thine only-begotten Son may set
us free, whom the old bondage doth hold under the
yoke of sin. Through the same Lord.*

EPISTLE: *Hebr. 1:1-12*

Lectio Epistolæ beati Pauli Apostoli ad
Hebræos.

Multifariam multisque modis olim Deus lo-
quens patribus in Prophetis, novissime diebus
istis locutus est nobis in Filio, quem constituit
hæredem universorum, per quem fecit et sæcu-
la : qui cum sit splendor gloriæ, et figura sub-
stantiæ ejus, portansque omnia verbo virtutis
suæ, purgationem peccatorum faciens, sedet ad
dexteram majestatis in excelsis : tanto melior
Angelis effectus, quanto differentius præ illis
nomen hæreditavit. Cui enim dixit aliquando
Angelorum : Filius meus es tu, ego hodie genui
te? Et rursum : Ego ero illi in Patrem, et ipse
erit mihi in Filium? Et cum iterum introducit
Primogenitum in orbem terræ, dicit : Et ado-
rent eum omnes Angeli Dei. Et ad Angelos qui-
dem dicit : Qui facit Angelos suos spiritus, et
ministros suos flammam ignis. Ad Filium
autem : Thronus tuus, Deus, in sæculum sæcu-
li : virga æquitatis virga regni tui. Dilexisti justi-
tiam, et odisti iniquitatem : propterea unxit te

*A lesson from the Epistle of St Paul the Apostle to
the Hebrews.*

*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners
spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets,
last of all, in these days, hath spoken to us by his
Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by
whom also he made the world. Who, being the bright-
ness of his glory, and the figure of his substance, and
upholding all things by the word of his power, mak-
ing purgation of sins, sitteth on the right hand of the
majesty on high; being made so much better than the
Angels, as he hath inherited a more excellent name
than they. For to which of the Angels hath he said at
any time: Thou art my Son, today have I begotten
thee? And again: I will be to him a father, and he
shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth
in the First-begotten into the world, he saith: And let
all the Angels of God adore him. And to the Angels
indeed he saith: He that maketh his Angels spirits,
and his ministers a flame of fire. But to the Son: Thy
throne, O God, is for ever and ever, a sceptre of jus-
tice is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved*

Deus, Deus tuus, oleo exsultationis præ participibus tuis. Et : Tu in principio, Domine, terram fundasti : et opera manuum tuarum sunt cæli. Ipsi peribunt, tu autem permanebis : et omnes ut vestimentum veterascent, et velut amictum mutabis eos, et mutabuntur : tu autem idem ipse es, et anni tui non deficient.

justice, and hated iniquity; therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And: Thou in the beginning, O Lord, didst found the earth; and the works of thy hands are the heavens. They shall perish, but thou shalt continue : and they shall all grow old as a garment, and as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed : but thou art the self-same, and thy years shall not fail.

GRADUAL: Ps. 97:3, 2

Viderunt omnes fines terræ salutare Dei nostri : jubilate Deo, omnis terra. ¶ Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum : ante conspectum gentium revelavit justitiam suam.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God : sing joyfully to God, all the earth. ¶ The Lord hath made known his salvation : he hath revealed his justice in the sight of the Gentiles.

ALLELUIA

Dies sanctificatus illuxit nobis : venite, gentes, et adorete Dominum : quia hodie descendit lux magna super terram.

A sanctified day hath shone upon us : come, ye Gentiles, and adore the Lord : for today a great light hath descended upon the earth.

ad libitum: SEQUENCE

Cæleste organum hodie sonuit in terra,
Ad partum Virginis superum cecinit caterva.

*Today the celestial choir sounded on earth,
The heavenly band sang for the Virgin's birth.*

Quid facis, humana turba, cur non gaudes cum
supera?
Vigilat pastorum cura, vox auditur angelica,

*What do you do, do, human crowd, why do you not
rejoice with those above?
The caring shepherds kept watch, the Angelic voice
was heard.*

Cantabant inclyta carmina, plena pace et gloria.
Ad Christum referunt propria, nobis canunt ex
gratia.

*They sang famous canticles, full of peace and glory.
[With that], they rendered unto Christ, what was
His own, [but] through grace they also sing to us.*

Nec cunctorum sunt hæc dona, sed mens
quorum erit bona.
Nec sunt absolute data, sed decenter sunt
prolata.

*These gifts are not for all, but for those spirits are
good.
They are not given without condition, but are offered
where they are appropriate.*

Affectus deserant vitia, et sic nobis pax est illa,
quia bonis est promissa.
Junguntur superis terrea, ob hoc quidem laus
est juncta, sed decenter fit divisa.

*May our will abandon the vices, so that the peace,
that is promised to the good, is for us.
The earthly is joined to those above, and therefore
also the praise is joined, but divided as fitting [i.e.
Angels praise God differently from men].*

Gaude, homo, cum perpendis talia,
(Ter) Gaude, caro, facta Verbi socia.

*Rejoice, O man, when thou thinkest over such things.
(Thrice) Rejoice, O flesh, made a fellow of the
Word.*

Nuntiant ejus ortum sidera lucis per indicia.
Ineunt duces gregum lumina Bethlehem usque
prævia.

*The stars show his rising through the signs of light,
The leaders of the flocks enter Bethlehem, following
the lights that went before them.*

Invenitur Rex cælorum inter animalia,
Arto jacet in præsepe Rex, qui cingit omnia.

*The King of heavens is found between the animals,
In the narrow crib lieth the King, who encompasseth
everything.*

Stella maris, quem tu paris, colit hunc Ecclesia.

*O star of the sea, the Church venerateth today whom
thou hast born.*

Ipsi nostra per te pia placeant servitia.

*Through thee, O pious [Lady], may our service
please him.*

Resonent cuncta redempta.

May everything, which has been redeemed, resound.

GOSPEL: *Jn. 1:1-14*

Initium Sancti Evangelii secundum Joannem.

*The beginning of the Holy Gospel according to
St John.*

In principio erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum. Hoc erat in principio apud Deum. Omnia per ipsum facta sunt : et sine ipso factum est nihil quod factum est : in ipso vita erat, et vita erat lux hominum : et lux in tenebris lucet, et tenebræ eam non comprehenderunt. Fuit homo missus a Deo, cui nomen erat Joannes. Hic venit in testimonium, ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine, ut omnes crederent per illum. Non erat ille lux, sed ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine. Erat lux vera, quæ illuminat omnem hominem venientem in hunc mundum. In mundo erat, et mundus per ipsum factus est, et mundus eum non cognovit. In propria venit, et sui eum non receperunt. Quotquot autem receperunt eum, dedit eis potestatem filios Dei fieri : his, qui credunt in nomine ejus : qui non ex sanguinibus, neque ex voluntate carnis, neque ex voluntate viri, sed ex Deo nati sunt. *(All genuflect here)* ET VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST, et habitavit in nobis : et vidimus gloriam ejus, gloriam quasi Unigeniti a Patre, plenum gratiæ et veritatis.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was made nothing that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men; and the Light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to give testimony of the Light, that all men might believe through him. He was not the Light, but was to give testimony of the Light. That was the true Light, which enlighteneth every man that cometh into this world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, He gave them power to be made the sons of God, to them that believe in His name, who are born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, and dwelt among us. And we saw His glory, the glory as it were of the Only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

OFFERTORY: *Ps. 88:12, 15, 8, 10, 15, 18, 11, 14*

Tui sunt cæli, et tua est terra : orbem terrarum et plenitudinem ejus tu fundasti : *justitia et judicium præparatio sedis tuæ. *℟.* Magnus et metuendus super omnes, qui in circuitu ejus sunt : tu dominaris potestati maris, motum

*Thine are the heavens, and thine is the earth : the world and the fullness thereof thou hast founded : *justice and judgment are the preparation of thy throne. *℟.* Great and to be feared above all them that are about him : thou rulest the power of the sea, and*

autem fluctuum ejus tu mitigas. *Justitia. *℟.* Misericordia et veritas præibunt ante faciem tuam : et in beneplacito tuo exaltabitur cornu nostrum. *Justitia. *℟.* Tu humiliasti sicut vulneratum superum : et in virtute brachii tui dispersisti inimicos tuos : firmetur manus tua, et exaltetur dextera tua, Domine. *Justitia.

*appeasest the power of the waves thereof. *Justice. ℟. Mercy and truth shall go before thy face : and in thy good pleasure shall our horn be exalted. *Justice. ℟. Thou hast humbled the proud one, as one that is slain : with the strength of thy arm thou hast scattered thy enemies : let thy hand be strengthened, and thy right hand exalted. *Justice.*

SECRET

Oblata, Domine, munera nova Unigeniti tui nativitate sanctifica : nosque a peccatorum nostrorum maculis emunda. Per eundem Dominum.

Sanctify, O Lord, the gifts we offer by the new birth of thine only-begotten Son, and cleanse us from the stains of our sins. Through the same Lord.

PREFACE

Of Christmas

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique, gratias agere : Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus. Quia per incarnati Verbi mysterium, nova mentis nostræ oculis lux tuæ claritatis infulsit : ut dum visibiliter Deum cognoscimus, per hunc in invisibilium amorem rapiamur. Et ideo cum Angelis et Archangelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia cælestis exercitus, hymnum gloriæ tuæ canimus, sine fine dicentes :

It is truly meet and just, right and salutary, that we should always, and in all places, give thanks to thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God. For by the mystery of the Word made Flesh, the light of thy glory hath shone anew upon the eyes of our mind : so that while we acknowledge him as God seen by men, we may be drawn by him to the love of things unseen. And therefore with the Angels and Archangels, with the Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing a hymn to thy glory, evermore saying:

Today, the COMMUNICANTES of the CANON begins as follows

Communicantes, et diem sacratissimum celebrantes, qua beatæ Mariæ intemerata virginitas huic mundo edidit Salvatorem : sed et memoriam venerantes, in primis ejusdem gloriosæ semper Virginis Mariæ, Genitricis ejusdem Dei et Domini nostri Jesu Christi ...

Communicating, and keeping that most holy day, on which the spotless virginity of the blessed Mary brought forth a Saviour to this world; and also venerating the memory, first of the same glorious Mary, ever a Virgin, Mother of the same our God and Lord Jesus Christ ...

COMMUNION: Ps. 97:3

Viderunt omnes fines terræ salutare Dei nostri.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

POST-COMMUNION

Præsta, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus : ut natus hodie Salvator mundi, sicut divinæ nobis generationis est auctor, ita et immortalitatis sit ipse largitor. Qui tecum vivit.

Grant, we beseech thee, O almighty God, that, as the Saviour of the world, who was born this day, procured for us divine sonship, he may also bestow on us immortality. Who liveth.

Today, the usual text for the LAST GOSPEL has already been read as GOSPEL of the Mass. Unless the LAST GOSPEL is omitted, the following text is used for it:

LAST GOSPEL: Mt. 2:1-12

Sequentia Sancti Evangelii secundum Matthæum.

Cum natus esset Jesus in Bethlehem Juda in diebus Herodis regis, ecce Magi ab Oriente venerunt Jerosolymam, dicentes : Ubi est qui natus est Rex Judæorum? Vidimus enim stellam ejus in oriente, et venimus adorare eum. Audiens autem Herodes rex, turbatus est, et omnis Jerosolyma cum illo. Et congregans omnes principes sacerdotum et scribas populi, sciscitabatur ab eis ubi Christus nasceretur. At illi dixerunt ei : In Bethlehem Judæ : sic enim scriptum est per Prophetam : Et tu Bethlehem terra Juda, nequaquam minima es in principibus Juda : ex te enim exiet dux, qui regat populum meum Israel. Tunc Herodes, clam vocatis Magis, diligenter didicit ab eis tempus stellæ, quæ aperuit eis : et mittens illos in Bethlehem, dixit : Ite, et interrogate diligenter de puero : et cum inveneritis, renuntiate mihi, ut et ego veniens adorem eum. Qui cum audissent regem, abierunt. Et ecce stella, quam viderant in Oriente, antecedebat eos, usque dum veniens staret supra ubi erat puer. Videntes autem stellam, gavisi sunt gaudio magno valde. Et intrantes domum, invenerunt puerum cum Maria matre ejus, (*hic genuflectitur*) et procidentes adoraverunt eum. Et apertis thesauris suis, obtulerunt ei munera, aurum, thus, et myrrham. Et responso accepto in somnis ne redirent ad Herodem, per aliam viam reversi sunt in regionem suam.

Continuation of the holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Juda, in the days of King Herod, behold there came wise men from the East to Jerusalem, saying: Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and are come to adore him. And King Herod hearing this was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And assembling together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where Christ should be born. But they said to him: In Bethlehem of Juda : for so it is written by the Prophet: And thou, Bethlehem, the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come forth the ruler that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, privately calling the wise men, learned diligently of them the time of the star which appeared to them, and, sending them into Bethlehem, said: Go and diligently inquire after the child, and when you have found him, bring me word again, that I also may come and adore him. Who having heard the king, went their way; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came and stood over where the child was. And seeing the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And entering into the house, they found the child with Mary his mother (here all kneel) and falling down they adored him. And opening their treasures, they offered him gifts : gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having received an answer in sleep that they should not return to Herod, they went back another way into their own country.