

Entrance Antiphon: Cf Isaiah 9:1,5; Lk 1:33

Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

Communion Antiphon: Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever. ©Liturgy Help 2024

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Say this to Aaron and his sons: "This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace." This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66:2-3. 5. 6. 8. R. v.2

(R.) May God bless us in his mercy.

1. God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

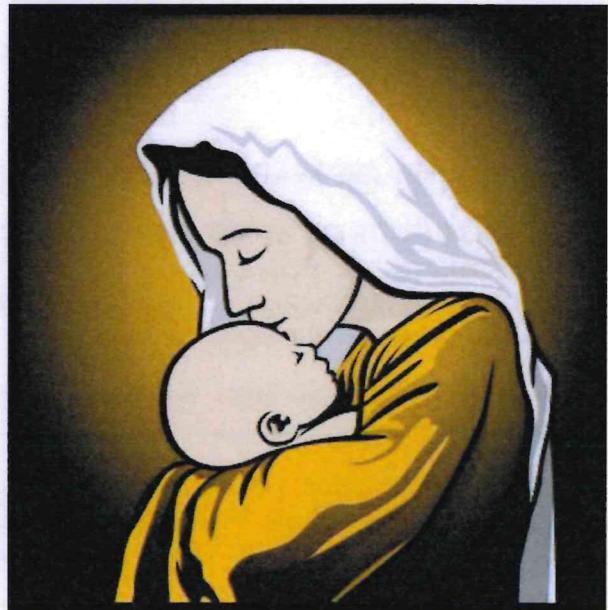
Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba, Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.

Gospel Acclamation: Hebrews 1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told. When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.



FOR PRAYER WITH THE WORD OF GOD

LET US PRAY THAT PRAYING WITH THE WORD OF GOD BE NOURISHMENT FOR OUR LIVES AND A SOURCE OF HOPE IN OUR COMMUNITIES, HELPING US BUILD A MORE FRATERNAL AND MISSIONARY CHURCH.

POPE LEO'S 2026 MONTHLY INTENTIONS

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

THE FIRST HOUR OF 2026, WHILST MANY MAY BE ASLEEP HERALDS A NEW SET OF TIME FOR EVERYONE OF US. FOR SOME, TIME CREEPS IN QUIETLY AND UNNOTICEABLY. SOME MAY WATCH THE FIREWORKS TO CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR. FOR SOME IT MAY JUST BE ANOTHER NEW YEAR, ANOTHER YEAR OLDER.

TIMES WAITS FOR NO MAN. CHRONOLOGICAL TIME WAITS FOR NO MAN. TIMES IS GIVEN EQUALLY; 24 HOURS A DAY. NO MORE NO LESS.

TODAY THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE NEW YEAR. THIS CAN BE TRACED TO THE COUNCIL OF EPHESUS IN 431. THIS IS ONE OF THE 4 DOGMATIC TEACHING OF THE CHURCH ON THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

THE CHURCH PRAYS THAT THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, WHOM THE COUNCIL DECLARED AS “THE BEARER OF GOD” AND WHO TOOK FLESH IN HER WOMB AT THE APPOINTED TIME IN HUMAN HISTORY, TO BE WITH US FROM THE NEW YEAR TILL THE END OF TIME. (GAL 4:4-7)

THE LORD (KYRIOS) AS POPE ST PAUL VI DECLARED; “MAY THE LORD UNCOVER HIS FACE TO YOU AND BRING YOU PEACE.” (NUMBERS 6:22-27)

AS A FULFILMENT OF THE ANCIENT PROPHETS, THE PRINCE OF PEACE WAS BROUGHT INTO THE WORLD. BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE, SHE KNEW THE PEACE THAT IS AT ONCE HER SON'S GIFT TO THE WORLD. PROPHET ISAIAH 2:1-5) SAYS; “HE WILL WIELD AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS AND ADJUDICATE BETWEEN MANY PEOPLE; THESE WILL HAMMER THEIR SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES, THEIR SPEAR INTO SICKLES, NATIONS WILL NOT LIFT SWORD AGAINST NATIONS, THERE WILL BE NO TRAINING OF WAR. O HOUSE OF JACOB, COME, LET US WALK IN THE LIGHT OF THE LORD. THIS WHAT HER SON WILL OFFER; THE FRUITS OF LIFE LIVED IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD.

AS A GIFT FROM GOD, HE MADE HIMSELF ACCESSIBLE THROUGH HIS WORDS AND SACRAMENTS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS EARS TO HEAR AND THE HEART TO TAKE THIS ON IN THIS TROUBLE WORLD. IF WE DO THIS, WE WILL BE READY WHENEVER GOD CALL US TO ETERNAL LIFE.

I AND FR DOMINIC AND THE PARISH STAFF WISHES EVERYONE A BLESSED AND HOLY NEW YEAR.

FR MICHAEL LIM