



Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 24, 2023

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Processional

“Drop Down Dew / Rorate Caeli”

Antiphon



Drop down dew, heav-ens from a - bove, let skies rain down the Just One.
Ro - rá - te cae - li de su-per, et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.

Verses

1. Do not be angry with us, Lord; do not remember our iniquities.
Behold, your holy city has become a wasteland.
Zion has become a desert, Jerusalem has become desolate,
your holy house and your glory where our ancestors praised you.
2. We have all sinned and have become like those unclean.
We have fallen, like a leaf that is decayed.
Our sins have swept us away like the wind.
You have hidden your face from us; you have consumed us because of our sins.
3. Lord, see the affliction of your people; send the One who is to come.
Send forth the Lamb who rules all earthly kingdoms,
who rules from the desert to the height of Mount Zion.
Let him take off the yoke that keeps us captive.
4. Be consoled and comforted, my people! Your salvation will quickly come.
Why are you filled with sorrow, with grief that overwhelms you?
Do not be afraid, I will save you.
I am the Lord God, your Savior, the Holy One of Israel.

Text: *Rorate caeli*; Latin hymn; tr. composite sources
Music: Antiphon, Mode I chant

Sign of the Cross & Greeting

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

(strike the breast)

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie eleison

Russian Orthodox

Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son. Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son.
Chri - ste, e - léi - son. Chri - ste, e - léi - son.
Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son. Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son.

Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son.
Chri - ste, e - léi - son.
Ký - ri - e, e - léi - son.

Music: Russian Orthodox; arr. by John L. Bell, © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Collect

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

The kingdom of David shall endure for ever
before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89



Text: *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

The mystery kept secret for long ages has now been manifested.

Gospel Acclamation

Mass for John Carroll



Music: *Mass for John Carroll*, Michael Jonas, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.

Homily

Rev. Peter Etzel, S.J.

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(Bow during the following two lines.)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Universal Prayer

R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

St. Thomas More relies on the generosity of its beloved parishioners and many welcome guests. In addition to the collection basket, contributions may be made online by visiting www.morecommunity.org/give.



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

“O Come, Divine Messiah”

1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah! The world in si - lence
2. O come, De - sired of na - tions, Whom priest and proph - et
3. O come in peace and meek - ness, For low - ly will your

waits the day When hope shall sing its tri - umph, And
long fore - told. Come break the cap - tive fet - ters, Re -
cra - dle be: Though clothed in hu - man weak - ness We

sad - ness flee a - way.
deem the long - lost fold. Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to
shall your God - head see.

earth. Dis - pel the night and show your face, And bid us

hail the dawn of grace. O come, Di - vine Mes -

si - ah! The world in si - lence waits the day When

hope shall sing its tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: *Venez, divin Messie*; Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663–1745; tr. by Mary of St. Philip, SND, 1825–1904, alt.
Tune: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE, 7 8 7 6 with refrain; French carol, 16th C.

Holy, Holy, Holy

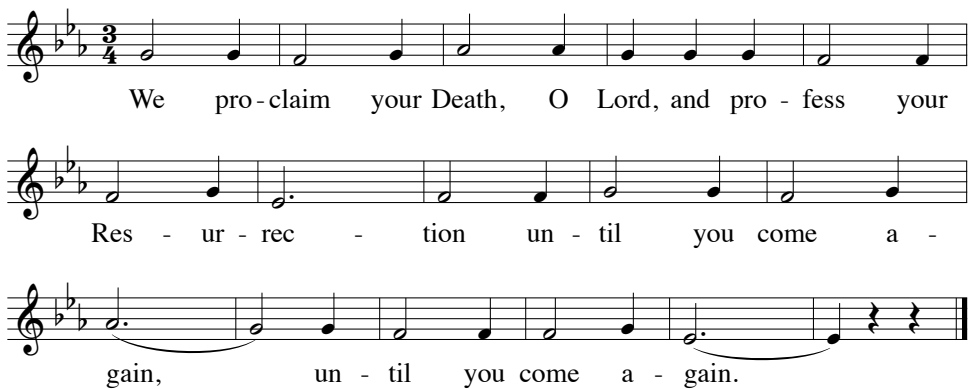
Deutsche Messe

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of
hosts. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
Lord God of hosts. Heav - en and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828, adapt. by Richard Proulx, © 1985, 1989, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

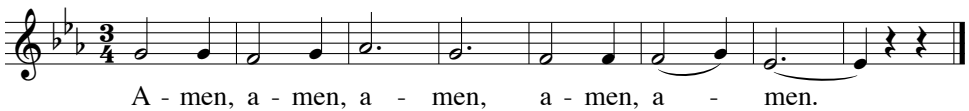
Memorial Acclamation



Three staves of music in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion un-til you come a-gain, un-til you come a-gain.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. by Ronald F. Krisman, © 2012, GIA Publications, Inc.

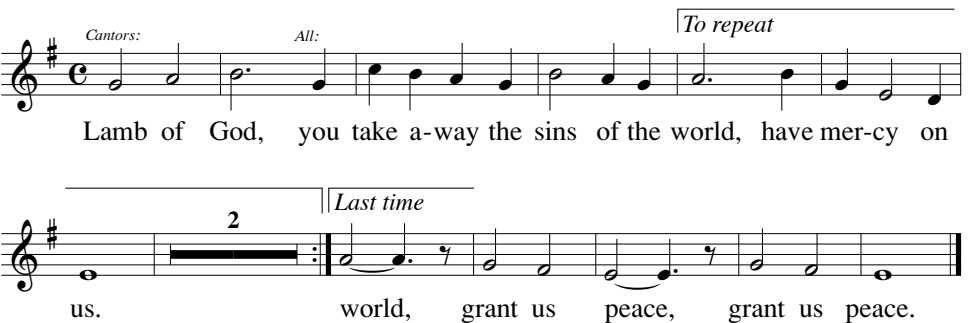
Great Amen



One staff of music in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: A-men, a-men, a-men, a-men, a-men.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. by Richard Proulx, © 1985, 1989, GIA Publications, Inc.

Lamb of God



Two staves of music in common time, key of D major. The first staff is for Cantors and All, with a 'To repeat' bracket over the last two measures. The second staff has a '2' over a repeat sign and a 'Last time' bracket over the last two measures. The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Mass of Remembrance*, Marty Haugen, © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.
Isaiah 7:14

Communion Song

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”



1. Lo, how a Rose e’er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath
2. I - sa - iah ’twas for - told it, The Rose I have in
3. O Flow’r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the



sprung! Of Jes-se’s lin-eage com-ing As seers of old have
mind, With Mar-y we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Moth - er
air, Dis - pel in glo-rious splen-dor The dark-ness ev - ’ry -



sung. It came, a blos - som bright, A -
kind. To show God’s love a - right, She
where; True man, yet ver - y God, From



mid the cold of win - ter, When half spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
sin and death now save us, And share our ev - ’ry load.

Text: Isaiah 11:1; *Es ist ein’Ros’ entsprungen*; Speyer *Gesangbuch*, 1599; tr. sts. 1, 2 by Theodore Baker, 1851–1934; st. 3, *The Hymnal*, 1940
Tune: ES IST EIN’ ROS’ ENSTSPRÜNGEN, 7 6 7 6 6 7 6; *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Prayer after Communion

Blessing & Dismissal

Recessional

“People, Look East”

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, © David Higham Assoc. Ltd.
Tune: BESANÇON, 87 98 87; French carol; harm. by Martin Shaw, 1875-1958,
© 1928, Oxford University Press



News & Announcements

DECEMBER 24, 2023

A Blessed Christmas with Saint Thomas More!

The Fourth Sunday of Advent occurs on Christmas Eve this year! To mark our regular celebration of the Lord's Day on Sunday and the celebration of the festivities of Christmas we are obligated to attend Mass for both celebrations.

Our celebrations for the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) will follow this schedule:

Sunday, December 24 at 4:30 pm and 10 pm (9:30 pm prelude)

Monday, December 25 at 10:30 am

Illustrating our Advent and Christmas Theme

We are incredibly grateful for the talents of our parishioners! We thank Angela Dimler, who "doodled" illustrations for this Advent and Christmas season. Visit www.morecommunity.org/advent-theme-2023 to learn more about her approach to this project! You may find more of her inspiring illustrations @dimsdoodles on Instagram.

The Gifts of Aging Book Discussion

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 3 – FEBRUARY 7, 2 PM, ST. IGNATIUS HALL

Join Fr. Warren as he leads a group to discuss *The Gifts of Aging*—a booklet sharing many of Pope Francis's teachings on aging and what this stage of life can offer as we continue to be vibrant members of the body of Christ. Register at www.morecommunity.org/gift-of-aging.

The Twelve Keys to Spiritual Vitality Book Discussion

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 3 – FEBRUARY 7, 10 AM, ST. IGNATIUS HALL

Fr. Warren is offering an additional option this winter—*The Twelve Keys to Spiritual Vitality* by Richard Johnson. Johnson's approach to aging should make for stimulating conversation! Read the book and register at www.morecommunity.org/12-keys!



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