



The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
 a light has shone.
 You have brought them abundant joy
 and great rejoicing,
 as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
 as people make merry when dividing spoils.
 For the yoke that burdened them,
 the pole on their shoulder,
 and the rod of their taskmaster
 you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.

Christmas is for all of us. This holy day is especially for those who as Isaiah describes are walking in darkness or gloom or with great burdens.

I have a friend named Brandon who has been laid off from his job. He is so concerned that his children will not have a good Christmas because he and his wife cannot buy them expensive presents. I simply told him that they are a family and they are deeply in love with each other. Isn't this the greatest gift?

Or, we can all get a bit nostalgic at these moments surrounding Christmas. We likely remember things much better than they really were. Or, we remember all the negatives... The disappointments...

The Lord is calling us this day as we celebrate the birth of his son Jesus, not so much to Bethlehem and Mary and Joseph and the shepherds, but deep into our hearts. There in our heart and the midst of many sometimes-broken hearts he is present in mercy. Gathered together on this holiest day, we make present the beauty of Christ!

All is new today. All is forgiven and taken into the mercy of God. With Christ, we leave the past and face a future full of hope because ultimately Christmas means that God is with us. All we need to do is let God lead us through the darkness, the gloom, the disappointments to a new and even better life, Church and neighborhood, nation, and world.

The yoke that has burdened us is being lifted from our shoulders.

So, this is a merry Christmas filled with mercy, tenderness, compassion, and peace of Christ born to Mary and Joseph and all of us... Amen.

Rev. Kevin C. Sherriga



The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2020

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church
Macedonia, Ohio

*Gathering

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. 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;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. Adéste fidèles laeti triumphantes, veníte, veníte in Bétlehem;
Natum vidéte Regem angelórum.
Veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus Dóminum.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*Glory To God

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Liturgy of The Word

*1st Reading:

Isaiah 9: 1-6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every

cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

*Psalm:

Psalm 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13

Michel Guimont



1. O sing a new song to the LORD; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
O sing to the LORD; bless his name.
2. Proclaim his salvation day by day.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples.
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad;
let the sea and all within it thunder praise.
Let the land and all it bears rejoice.
Then will the all the trees of the wood shout for joy.
4. At the presence of the LORD, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with justice;
he will govern the peoples with his truth.

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*2nd Reading:

Titus 2: 11-14

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

The word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

*Alleluia Verse: (Luke 2: 10-11)

I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.

*Gospel:

Luke 2: 1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in

swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

The Gospel of the Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

*Homily:

Reflection on The Word

*Profession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,**

(At the words that follow, up to and including "the Virgin Mary," all bow.)

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from
there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

*Prayers of the Faithful

Response: **Lord of Light, hear our prayer.**

The Liturgy of The Eucharist

*Offertory

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

**1. 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.**

**2. Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born.**

**3. 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.**

*Holy

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Mystery of Faith

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

*Amen

Amen. Amen. Amen.

*Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

*Communion

The First Noel

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*Going Forth

Angels We Have Heard on High

**1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains.
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**2. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

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*Loving
Father,*

help us remember

the **birth of Jesus**

that we may share in

the *song of the angels,*

the gladness of the shepherds,

and the *worship of the wise men.*

Close the door of hate and

open the door of love all over the

world. Let kindness come with every gift and

good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from

evil by the *blessing which Christ brings,* and teach us

to *be merry with clear hearts.* May the Christmas morning

make us happy to be *Thy children,* and the Christmas

evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,

forgiving and forgiven,

for Jesus' sake.

Amen.