

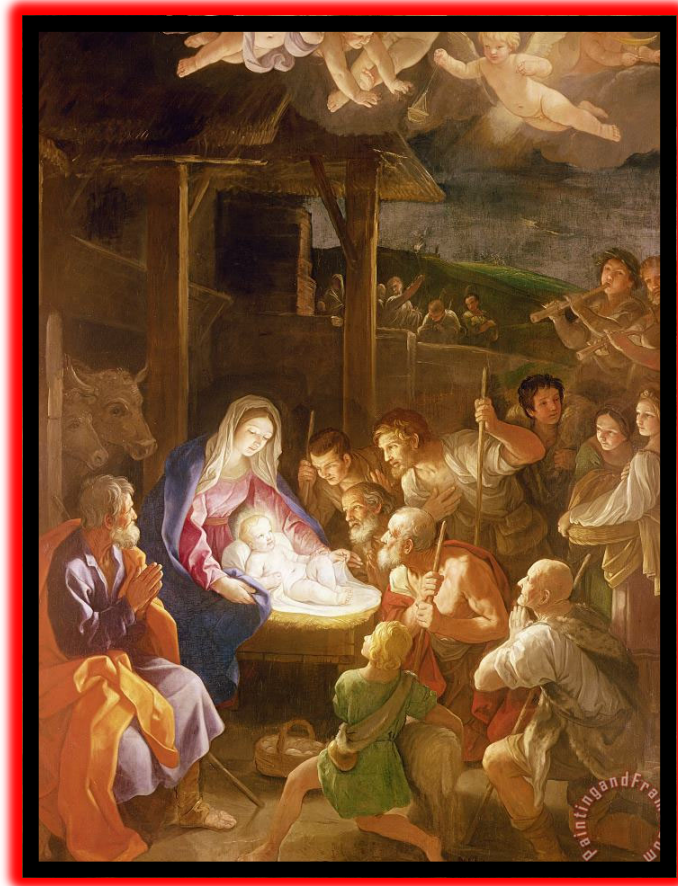


*Saint Peter Cathedral*

*Erie, Pennsylvania  
December 25, 2021*



# *The Nativity of the Lord*



*Christmas*



*Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico J. C. I.*  
*Bishop of Erie, Pennsylvania*



Opening Hymn: (sung by all)

O Come All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

Verses



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2. † Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, †  
3. † Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, †  
4. Ad - é - ste fi - dé - les, lae - ti tri - um - phán - tes, Ve -



1. come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2. Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!  
3. Je - sus, to thee — be all glo - ry giv'n;  
4. ní - te, ve - ní - te in Béth - le - hem.



1. Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2. Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
3. Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;  
4. Na - tum vi - dé - te Re - gem an - ge - ló - rum.

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O  
Ve - ní - te, a - do - ré - mus, ve - ní - te, a - do - ré - mus, ve -



come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!  
ní - te, a - do - ré - mus Dó - mí - num.

Text: Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, ca. 1711–1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, alt. Music: John F. Wade.



Gloria: (sung by all)

Mass of St. Peter the Apostle

Maestoso ♩ = 80 *mf* Richard Robert Rossi (b. 1962)

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on  
*poco a poco cresc.*  
earth peace to peo - ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -  
*f*  
dore — you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks, for your great glor - ry, —  
*mf poco rall.*  
Lord God Hea - ven - ly King, O God al - migh - ty Fa - ther,  
*mp poco meno mosso*  
Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on  
us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive — our prayer,  
*rall.*  
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on



*tempo primo*

us. — For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

*f*

you a-lone are the most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

*rall.* *Broadly* *molto rit.* *ff*

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men, A - men!

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## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

*After the reading, the reader says, "The word of the Lord," and all respond:*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm: (cantor/all)

Psalm 96

**Venite Adoremus**  
(O Come, Let Us Adore Him)

Richard Robert Rossi (b. 1962)



Ve - ni-te a - do - re-mus; ve - ni - te a-do - remus Do-mi - num.

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### Second Reading

*After the reading, the reader says, "The word of the Lord," and all respond:*

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation: (cantor/all)

### Gospel Reading

*Before the Gospel, the Priest/Deacon says, "The Lord be with you," and all respond:*

**And with your spirit.**

*Before Priest/Deacon says, "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N"., and all respond: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*After the Gospel reading, the Priest/Deacon says, "The Gospel of the Lord," and all respond: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

### Homily





## Profession of Faith: (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, (*genuflect*)  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

(*stand*) 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.

\* \* \*

## General Intercessions



Preparation of the Gifts: (sung by all) Angels We Have Heard on High  
Gloria

Verses



1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet-ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?  
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4. See him in a man-ger laid Whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

1. *Án - ge - les can - tan - do es - tán Tan dul - cí - si - ma can - ción;*  
 2. *Los pas - to - res sin ce - sar Sus can - ta - res dan a Dios;*  
 3. *Hoy a - nun - cian con fer - vor Que ha na - ci - do el Sal - va - dor;*  
 4. *Oh, ve - nid pron - to a Be - lén Pa - ra con - tem - plar con fe*

1. And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
 2. Say what may the tid - ings be Which in spire your heav'n - ly song.  
 3. Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.  
 4. Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While we raise our hearts in love.

1. *Las mon - ta - ñas su e - co dan Co - mo fiel con - tes - ta - ción.*  
 2. *Cuán glo - rio - so es el can - tar De su me - lo - dio - sa voz.*  
 3. *Los mor - ta - les go - za - rán Paz y bue - na vo - lun - tad.*  
 4. *A Je - sús, Au - tor del bien, Al re - cién na - ci - do Rey.*

Refrain



Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
 Glo - ri - a a Dios en el cie - lo.

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
 Glo - ri - a a Dios en el cie - lo.

Text: 77 77 with refrain; trad. French carol, ca. 18th cent.; tr. fr. *Crown of Jesus Music*, II, London, 1862;  
 English tr. by James Chadwick, 1813-1882, and others; alt.; Spanish tr., anon. Music: Trad. French carol.



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

\* \* \*

## Preparation of the Gifts

*The Priest prays "... that the sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father, " and all respond:*

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

## Prayer over the Gifts

*The Priest says the prayer over the gifts, following this, the people respond:*

**Amen**

## The Eucharistic Prayer/Preface

*The Eucharistic Prayer begins with a dialogue between the Priest and the assembly.*

*Priest: The Lord be with you. All: **And with your spirit.***

*Priest: Lift up your hearts. All: **We Lift them up to the Lord.***

*Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: **It is right and just.***



## Holy, Holy, Holy: (sung by all)

Maestoso ♩ = 88 Richard R Rossi

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

*mf* *f* *mf* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, with a tempo of Maestoso (♩ = 88). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a rest for two measures, then enters with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff continues the melody, reaching a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes and a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking. The fourth staff concludes with a rallentando (*rall.*) marking. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



## The Mystery of Faith: (sung by all)

Maestoso ♩ = 88 Rossi

When we eat this bread and drink this Cup, we pro-  
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain!

*mf* *f* *rall.*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the hymn 'The Mystery of Faith'. It is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, with a tempo of Maestoso (♩ = 88). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a rest for two measures, then enters with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff continues the melody, reaching a fortissimo (*f*) dynamic and ending with a rallentando (*rall.*) marking. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



**Great Amen:** (sung by all)

Rossi

Maestoso

The musical score for 'Great Amen' is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and contains a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a quarter rest and a quarter note 'A' in the third measure. The second staff has a treble clef and contains the lyrics 'men, a - men, a - men A - men!' with notes corresponding to the syllables. The tempo is marked 'Maestoso' and the dynamics include 'f' and 'rall.'.

men, a - men, a - men A - men!

**The Lord's Prayer:** (recite together)

**Sign of Peace:** After the Priest says, "The peace of the Lord be with you always," and all respond:

**And with your spirit.**

**Lamb of God:** (sung by all)

Rossi

Andante espressivo ♩ = 80

The musical score for 'Lamb of God' is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves. The first staff has a treble clef and contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, rit. grant us peace.' with notes corresponding to the syllables. The tempo is marked 'Andante espressivo' with a quarter note equal to 80 beats per minute. The dynamics include 'mp', 'mf', and 'p'.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, rit. grant us peace.

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After the Priest says, "Behold the Lamb of God,... called to the supper of the Lamb." the people respond:

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
But only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**



Communion Hymn: (sung by all)

Silent Night, Holy Night  
Stille Nacht



1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant



1. Vir - gin Moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,
2. stream from heav-en a - far; Heav'n - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu - ia!
3. beams from thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



1. Sleep in heav - en - ly peace,
  2. Christ the Sav - ior is born,
  3. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth,
- Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ the Sav - ior is born."  
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.



## CONCLUDING RITE

Final Blessing  
Dismissal

Closing Hymn: *(sung by all)*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Mendelssohn

Verses



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er -  
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of



1. new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,  
2. last - ing Lord; Late in time, be - hold him come,  
3. Righ - teous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,



1. God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye  
2. Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the  
3. Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his



1. na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies; With an -  
2. God - head see! Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty! Pleased as  
3. glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die, Born to



1. gel - ic hosts pro - claim: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
2. man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
3. raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

Text: 77 77 D with refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; adapt. by William H. Cummings, 1831-1915.



## *Clergy*

*Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, J. C. L.,  
Bishop of Erie*

*Very Rev. Michael P. Ferrick, V.F., Rector*

*Very Rev. Nicholas J. Rouch, S.T.D., E.V.,  
in Residence*

*Rev. David Renne, in Residence*

*Very Rev. Jason Mitchell, V.F., Gannon University*

*Deacon Jeffrey Swanson, Deacon Assistant*

*Deacon Ray Sobina, M.S., Deacon Assistant*

*Rev. Michael Kesicki, Master of Ceremonies*





*Our deepest gratitude to all who played a special role in  
this Christmas Celebration including our bishop,  
priests, deacons and staff of St. Peter Cathedral.*

*We also extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the musicians  
for sharing their many talents and gifts with us on this  
festive Christmas day.*

*Finally, we thank you, the parish family of  
St. Peter Cathedral for your ongoing support,  
dedication and most of all your prayers.*

*May all of you have a  
Blessed and Holy Christmas Season*

\* \* \*

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