

DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY (2nd)

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The Second Mass—at Dawn. (Station at St. Anastasia) Originally, the station Mass at St. Anastasia was wholly in honor of the martyr of that name, but later on, as the feast of Christmas gradually gained in importance, that of St. Anastasia dwindled down to a commemorative Collect. Under the Diocletian persecution this holy martyr was burnt alive on this day. The mystical meaning attached by medieval liturgists to the hour of dawn had no foundation in the Roman custom.

This Mass draws its chief inspiration from the thought of the sun, whose rising already begins to dispel the shades of night and leads us to the contemplation of Him who was begotten, Light of Light, from the bosom of the divine Father before the rising of the day-star. Generosity, magnificence, and light, these are always the marks of God's handiwork. Sin is generally committed in darkness and in secret, for the wicked hate the light, but the Redemption is wrought upon Calvary in sight of the whole world, so that all people, through the light of faith, may recognize and adore the crucified Savior.

INTROIT **Isaiah 9: 2; 9: 6**

Lux fulgēbit hodie super nos: quia natus est nobis Dóminus: et vocābitur Admirābilis, Deus, Princeps pacis, Pater futūri sæculi: cuius regni non erit finis. (Ps 92:1) Dóminus regnāvit, decórem indútus est: indútus est Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præcínxit se. Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Lux fulgēbit hodie super nos: quia natus est nobis Dóminus: et vocābitur Admirābilis, Deus, Princeps pacis, Pater futūri sæculi: cuius regni non erit finis.

COLLECT

Da nobis, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui nova incarnāti Verbi tui luce perfúndimur; hoc in nostro resplēdeat ópere, quod per fidem fulget in mente. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

EPISTLE **Titus 3: 4-7**

Caríssime: Appáruit benignitas et humanitas Salvatóris nostri Dei: non ex opéribus justitiæ, quæ fécimus nos, sed secúndum suam misericórdiam salvos nos fecit per lavácrum regeneratiónis et renovatiónis Spíritus Sancti, quem effúdit in nos abúnde per Jesum Christum, Salvatórem nostrum: ut, justificáti grátia ipsius, herédes simus secúndum spem vitæ ætérnæ: in Christo Jesu Dómino nostro.

GRADUAL **Psalms 117: 26-27, 23**

Benedíctus qui venit in nómine Dómini: Deus Dóminus, et illúxit nobis. A Dómino factum est istud: et est mirābile in óculis nostris.

LESSER ALLELUIA **Psalms 92: 1**

Allelúja, allelúja. Dóminus regnāvit, decórem índuit: índuit Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præcínxit se virtúte. Allelúja.

GOSPEL **Luke 2: 15-20**

In illo témpore: Pastóres loquebantur ad ínvicem: Transeámus usque Bétlehem, et videámus hoc verbum, quod factum est, quod Dóminus osténdit nobis. Et venérunt festinantes: et invenérunt Mariam, et Joseph, et Infántem pósito in præsepío. Vidéntes autem cognóverunt de verbo, quod dictum erat illis de púero hoc. Et omnes, qui audiérunt, miráti sunt: et de his, quæ dicta erant a pastóribus ad ipsos. María autem conservabat ómnia verba hæc, cónferens in corde suo. Et revérsi sunt pastóres, glorificátes et laudántes Deum in ómnibus, quæ audierant, et viderant, sicut dictum est ad illos.

OFFERTORY **Psalms 92: 1-2**

Deus firmávit orbem terræ, qui non commovébitur: paráta sedes tua, Deus, ex tunc, a sæculo tu es.

SECRET

Múnera nostra, quæsumus, Dómine, Nativitátis hodiernæ mystériis apta provéniant, et pacem nobis semper infúndant: ut, sicut homo génitus idem refúlsit et Deus, sic nobis hæc terréna substántia cónferat, quod divinum est. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

PREFACE OF THE NATIVITY

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus. Quia per incarnāti Verbi mystérium, nova mentis nostræ óculis lux tuæ claritátis infúlsit: ut dum visibíliter Deum cognóscimus, per hunc in invisibílium amórem rapiámur. Et ídeo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dóminatióibus, cumque omni milítia cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes:

COMMUNICANTES FOR CHRISTMAS

Communicántes, et diem sacratíssimum celebrántes, quo beátæ Mariæ intemeráta virgínicas huic mundo édidit Salvatórem: sed et memóriam venerántes, in primis ejúsdem gloriósæ semper Vírginis Mariæ, Genetrícis ejúsdem Dei et Dómini nostri Jesu Christi: sed et beáti Joseph, ejúsdem Vírginis Sponsi, et beatórum Apostolórum ac Mártyrum tuórum, Petri et Pauli, Andréæ, Jacóbi, Joánnis, Thomæ, Jacóbi, Philíppi, Bartholomæi, Matthæi, Simónis et Thaddæi: Lini, Cleti, Cleméntis, Xysti, Cornélii, Cypriáni, Lauréntii, Chrysógoni, Joánnis et Pauli, Cosmæ et Damiáni: et ómnium sanctórum tuórum; quorum méritis, precibúsqve concédas, ut in ómnibus protectiúnis tuæ muniámur auxilió. Per eúndem Christum Dóminum Nostrum. Amen

COMMUNION **Zechariah 9: 9**

Exsúlta, filia Zion, lauda, filia Jerúsalem: ecce rex tuus sanctus, et Salvátor mundi.

POSTCOMMUNION

Hujus nos, Dómine, sacraménti semper novitas natális instáuret: cuius Nativitas singuláris humanam réppulit vetustátem. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

A light shall shine upon us this day: for the Lord is born to us: and He shall be called Wonderful, God, the Prince of Peace, the Father of the world to come: of whose reign there shall be no end. (Ps 92:1) The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. A light shall shine upon us this day: for the Lord is born to us: and He shall be called Wonderful, God, the Prince of Peace, the Father of the world to come: of whose reign there shall be no end.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that we, upon whom is poured the new light of Thy Word made flesh, may show forth in our actions that which by faith shineth in our minds. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Dearly beloved, the goodness and kindness of God our Savior appeared: not by the works of justice which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the laver of regeneration and renovation of the Holy Ghost, whom He hath poured forth upon us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior: that, being justified by His grace, we may be heirs according to hope of life everlasting: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Blessed be He that cometh in the name of the Lord: the Lord is God, and He hath shone upon us. This is the Lord's doing: and it is wonderful in our eyes.

Alleluia, alleluia. The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself with power. Alleluia.

At that time the shepherds said one to another: Let us go over to Bethlehem, and let us see this word that is come to pass, which the Lord hath showed to us. And they came with haste: and they found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in the manger. And seeing they understood of the word that had been spoken to them concerning this child. And all that heard wondered: and at those things that were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

God hath established the world, which shall not be moved: Thy throne, O God, is prepared from of old; Thou art from everlasting.

May our offerings, we beseech Thee, O Lord, be in keeping with the mysteries of this festival of the Nativity, and ever pour down upon us peace: that even as He who was born Man shone forth also as God, so may this earthly substance bestow upon us that which is divine. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God: for through the Mystery of the word made flesh, the new light of Thy glory hath shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that while we acknowledge God in visible form, we may through Him be drawn to the love of things invisible. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dóminations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

Communicating, and keeping this most holy day, in which the spotless virginity of blessed Mary brought forth a Savior to this world and also reverencing the memory of the same glorious Mary, ever Vírgin Mother of the same our God and Lord Jesus Christ: as also blessed Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin, and of Thy blessed Apostles and Martyrs Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Thaddeus: Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Lawrence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian, and of all Thy Saints, through whose merits and prayers, through that we may in all things be defended by the help of Thy protection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion, shout for joy, O Daughter of Jerusalem: behold thy King comes, holy, the Savior of the world.

May this sacrament, Lord, give us always the freshness of new life, for Thy marvelous birth has defeated man's helplessness. Through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.