

CHRISTMAS DAY (1st / Midnight)

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(Station at St. Mary Major - at the Crib)

The feast of Christmas was from the first a feast of the Apostolic See. The fixation of the date resulted from the separation by the Roman Church of the celebration of Our Saviour's birth from that of His other great manifestation now placed on the Epiphany. The characteristic feature of the feast of Christmas in the Roman rite is the custom of the three Masses, one at the first cock-crowing, the next at dawn, the third in broad daylight. St. Gregory bears witness to the custom, but it is certainly older than his time, for the biographer of Pope Telesphorus, in the *Liber Pontificalis*, claims that it was this latter Pontiff who first introduced the singing of the *Gloria* into the midnight Mass at Christmas.

The Mass at midnight recalls the circumstance that Christ was born in Bethlehem at midnight. The midnight Mass commemorates the eternal birth of the Word of God amid the magnificence of His Father's glory; the Mass at dawn celebrates His appearance in time in the humility of the flesh, and lastly, the third Mass, at St. Peter's, symbolizes His final coming on the day of judgment, to judge both the living and the dead.

In order to reproduce in liturgical form at Rome, as at Jerusalem, the scene of the Savior's birth, Pope Sixtus III (432-40) had erected in St. Mary Major a sumptuous oratory at the crib, and one which was considered by the Romans to be a copy of the original at Bethlehem. At the foot of the crib we say to the Christ Child in the words of St. Alphonsus -

"Ah, how much it has cost Thee to love us!"

New User Guide

AT THE FOOT OF THE ALTAR (Kneel)

P: †In nómine Patris, et Fílii, et Spíritus Sancti. Amen.

P: Introíbo ad altáre Dei.

S: Ad Deum qui lætíficat juventútem meam.

(Psalm 42)

P: Júdica me, Deus, et discérne causam meam de gente non sancta: ab hómine iníquo et dolóso érué me.

S: Quia tu es, Deus, fortitúdo mea: quare me repulisti, et quare tristis incédo, dum affligit me inimícus?

P: Emítte lucem tuam, et veritátem tuam: ipsa me deduxérunt, et adduxérunt in montem sanctum tuum, et in tabernácula tua.

S: Et introíbo ad altáre Dei: ad Deum qui lætíficat juventútem meam.

P: Confitébor tibi in cíthara, Deus, Deus meus: quare tristis es, ánima mea, et quare contúrbas me?

S: Spera in Deo, quóniam adhuc confitébor illi: salutáre vultus mei, et Deus meus.

P: Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spíritui Sancto.

S: Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper: et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

P: Introíbo ad altáre Dei.

S: Ad Deum qui lætíficat juventútem meam.

P: †Adjutórium nostrum in nómine Dómini.

S: Qui fecit cælum et terram.

P: Confíteor Deo omnipoténti, beatæ Mariæ semper Vírgini, beáto Michaéli Archángelo, beáto Joánni Baptistæ, sanctis Apóstolis Petro et Paulo, ómnibus Sanctis, et vobis fratres: quia peccávi nimis cogitatióne, verbo, et ópere: mea culpa, mea culpa, mea máxima culpa. Ideo precor beatam Mariám semper Vírginem, beátum Michaélem Archángelum, beátum Joánnem Baptistam, sanctos Apóstolos Petrum et Paulum, omnes Sanctos, et vos fratres, oráre pro me ad Dóminum Deum nostrum.

S: Misereátur tui omnípotens Deus, et, dimíssis peccátis tuis, perdúcat te ad vitam ætérnam.

P: Amen.

S: Confíteor Deo omnipoténti, beatæ Mariæ semper Vírgini, beáto Michaéli Archángelo, beáto Joánni Baptistæ, sanctis Apóstolis Petro et Paulo, ómnibus Sanctis, et tibi pater: quia peccávi nimis cogitatióne, verbo, et ópere: **(strike breast 3 times)** mea culpa, mea culpa, mea máxima culpa. Ideo precor beatam Mariám semper Vírginem, beátum Michaélem Archángelum, beátum Joánnem Baptistam, sanctos Apóstolos Petrum et Paulum, omnes Sanctos, et te Pater, oráre pro me ad Dóminum Deum nostrum.

P: Misereátur vestri omnípotens Deus, et, dimíssis peccátis vestris, perdúcat vos ad vitam ætérnam.

S: Amen.

P: †Indulgéntiam, absolutiónem, et remissionem peccatórum nostrórum, tribuat nobis omnípotens et miséricors Dóminus.

S: Amen.

P: Deus, tu convérsus vivificábis nos.

S: Et plebs tua lætábitur in te.

P: Osténde nobis, Dómine, misericórdiam tuam.

S: Et salutáre tuum da nobis.

P: Dómine, exáudi oratióne meam.

S: Et clamor meus ad te véniat.

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: Et cum spíritu tuo.

P: Orémus.

P: Aufer a nobis, quæsumus, Dómine, iniquitátes nostras: ut ad Sancta sanctorum puris mereámur méntibus introíre. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Orámus te, Dómine, per mérita Sanctorum tuórum, quorum relíquiæ hic sunt et ómnium Sanctorum: ut indulgæ dignéris ómnia peccáta mea. Amen.

(Only at High Mass when incense is used)

P: *Ab illo benedicáris, in cujus honóre cremáberis.*

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

INTROIT Psalms 2: 7

Dóminus hódie ad me: Fílius meus es tu, ego dixit génuí te. (Ps. 2: 1)

Quare fremuérunt gentes: et pópuli meditáti sunt inánia? Glória Patri et Fílio et Spíritui Sancto, sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Dóminus dixit ad me: Fílius meus es tu, ego hódie génuí te.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Kýrie, eléison.

S: **Kýrie, eléison.**

P: Kýrie, eléison.

S: **Christe, eléison.**

P: Christe, eléison.

S: **Christe, eléison.**

P: Kýrie, eléison.

S: **Kýrie, eléison.**

P: Kýrie, eléison.

(Stand at High Mass)

P: P: Dóminus in excélsis Deo. Et in terra pax homínibus bonæ voluntátis. Laudámus te. Benedícimus te. Adorámus te. Glorificámus te. Grátias ágimus tibi propter magnam glóriam tuam. Dómine Deus, cæléstis, Deus Pater omnípotens. Dómine Fili unigénite, Jesu Christe. Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei, Fílius Patris. Qui tollis peccáta mundi, miserére nobis. Qui tollis peccáta mundi, súscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserére nobis. Quóniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dóminus. Tu solus Altíssimus, Jesu Christe. †Cum Sancto Spíritu, in glória Dei Patris. Amen.

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: **Et cum spíritu tuo.**

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: Orémus.

COLLECT

Deus, qui hanc sacratíssimam noctem veri lúminis fecisti illustratióne claréscere: da, quæsumus, ut, cujus lucis mystéria in terra cognóvimus, ejus quoque gáudiis in cælo perfruámur: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

S: **Amen.**

(Sit)

EPISTLE Titus 2: 11-15

Caríssime: Appáruit grátia Dei Salvatóris nostri ómnibus homínibus, erúdiens nos, ut abnegátes impietátem et sæcularia desidéria, sóbrietas, et juste, et pie vivámus in hoc sæculo, exspectántes beatam spem et advéntum glóriæ magni Dei et Salvatóris nostri Jesu Christi: qui dedit semetipsum nobis: ut nos redímet ab omni iniquitáte, et mundáret sibi pópulum acceptábilem, sectatórem bonórum óperum. Hæc loquere, et exhortáre: in Christo Jesu, Dómino nostro.

S: Deo grátias.

GRADUAL Psalms 109: 3, 1

Tecum princípium in die virtútis tuæ: in splendóribus sanctorum, ex útero ante lucíferum génuí te. Dixit Dóminus Dómino meo: Sede a dextris meis: donec ponam inimícos tuos, scabéllum pedum tuórum.

LESSER ALLELUIA Psalms 2: 7

Allelúja, allelúja. Dóminus dixit ad me: Fílius meus es tu, ego hódie génuí te. Allelúja.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

(Only at High Mass when incense is used)

P: *Ab illo benedicáris, in cujus honóre cremáberis.*

P: Munda cor meum ac lábia mea, omnípotens Deus, qui lábia Isaíæ Prophétæ cálculo mundásti igníto: ita me tua grata miseratióne dignáre mundáre, ut sanctum Evangélium tuum digne váleam nuntiáre. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

P: Jube, Dómine, benedícere.

Dóminus sit in corde meo, et in lábiis meis: ut digne et competénter annúntiem Evangélium suum. Amen.

AT THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

(Stand)

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: **Et cum spíritu tuo.**

P: Seqúentia sancti Evangélii secúndum Lucam.

S: **Glória tibi, Dómine.**

AT THE FOOT OF THE ALTAR (Kneel)

P: †In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: I will go unto the altar of God.

S: To God, Who gives joy to my youth.

(Psalm 42)

P: Judge me, O God, and distinguish my cause from the unholy nation, deliver me from the unjust and deceitful man.

S: For Thou, O God, art my strength, why hast Thou cast me off? And why do I go about in sadness, while the enemy afflicts me?

P: Send forth Thy light and Thy truth: they have conducted me and brought me unto Thy holy mount, and into Thy tabernacles.

S: And I will go unto the altar of God: to God, Who gives joy to my youth.

P: I shall praise Thee upon the harp, O God, my God. Why are you sad, O my soul, and why do you disquiet me?

S: Hope in God, for I will still praise Him, the salvation of my countenance, and my God.

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

S: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

P: I will go unto the altar of God.

S: To God, Who gives joy to my youth.

P: †Our help is in the name of the Lord.

S: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I confess to almighty God, to blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, to all the Saints, and to you, brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed: through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I pray blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, all the Saints, and you, brethren, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

S: May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to life everlasting.

P: Amen.

S: I confess to almighty God, to blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, to all the Saints, and to you father: that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed: **(strike breast 3 times)** through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I pray blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, all the Saints, and you, Father, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P: May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to life everlasting.

P: †May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, absolution, and remission of our sins.

S: Amen.

P: Thou wilt turn again, O God, and quicken us.

S: And Thy people will rejoice in Thee.

P: Show us, O Lord, Thy mercy.

S: And grant us Thy salvation.

P: O Lord, hear my prayer.

S: And let my cry come unto Thee.

P: The Lord be with you.

S: And with your spirit.

P: Let us pray.

P: Take away from us our iniquities, we beseech Thee, O Lord; that with pure minds we may be made worthy to enter into the Holy of Holies. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: We pray Thee, O Lord, by the merits of Thy Saints whose relics are here, and of all the Saints: that Thou would deign to pardon me all my sins. Amen.

(Only at High Mass when incense is used)

P: *Be blessed by Him in Whose honor you will be burnt.*

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

The Lord hath said to me: Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee. (Ps. 2: 1)

Why have the Gentiles raged, and the people devised vain things? 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. The Lord hath said to me: Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Lord, have mercy.

S: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

S: Christ, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy.

S: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

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S: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

GOSPEL Luke 2: 1-14

In illo tempore: Éxiit edictum a Cæsare Augústo: ut describerétur univérsus orbis. Haec descriptio prima facta est a præside Sýriæ Cyríno: et ibant omnes ut profiteréntur singuli in suam civitatē. Ascéndit autem et Joseph a Galilæa de civitate Názareth, in Judæam in civitatē David, quæ vocátur Bétlehem: eo quod esset de domo et familia David, ut profiterétur cum Mariá desponsata sibi uxore prægnante. Factum est autem, cum essent ibi, impléti sunt dies ut páreret. Et péperit filium suum primogénitum, et pannis eum involvit, et reclinávit eum in præsepio: quia non erat eis locus in diversório. Et pastóres erant in regiōne eádem vigilántes, et custodiéntes vigílias noctis super gregem suum. Et ecce Ángelus Dómini stetit iuxta illos, et cláritas Dei circumfúlsit illos, et timuérunnt timóre magno. Et dixit illis Ángelus: Nolíte timére: ecce enim, evangelízo vobis gáudium magnum, quod erit omni pópulo: quia natus est vobis hódie Salvátor, qui est Christus Dóminus, in civitate David. Et hoc vobis signum: Inveniétis infántem pannis involútum, et pòsitum in præsepio. Et súbito facta est cum Ángelo multitúdo militiæ cæléstis, laudántium Deum, et dicéntium: Glória in altíssimis Deo, et in terra pax homínibus bonæ voluntátis.

At that time there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that the whole world should be enrolled. This enrolling was first made by Cyrinus, the governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child. And it came to pass, that when they were there, her days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped Him up in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds watching and keeping the night watches over their flock. And behold an Angel of the Lord stood by them, and the brightness of God shone round about them, and they feared with a great fear. And the Angel said to them: Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people: for this day is born to you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David. And this shall be a sign unto you: you shall find the Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger. And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will.

S: Laus tibi, Christe.**P:** Per evangelica dicta deleantur nostra delicta.**S:** Praise to Thee, O Christ.**P:** May our offenses be erased by the words of the Gospel.**AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR**

P: Credo in unum Deum. Patrem omnipoténtem, factórem cæli et terræ, visibílium ómnium et invisibílium. Et in unum Dóminum Jesum Christum, Fílium Dei unigénitum. Et ex Patre natum ante ómnia sæcula. Deum de Deo, lumen de lúmine, Deum verum de Deo vero. Génitum, non factum, consubstantiálem Patri: per quem ómnia facta sunt. Qui propter nos hómines, et propter nostram salutē descéndit de cælis. **(Genuflect)** ET INCARNÁTUS EST DE SPÍRITU SANCTO EX MARIA VÍRGINE: ET HOMO FACTUS EST. Crucifíxus étiam pro nobis: sub Póntio Pilátó passus, et sepúltus est. Et resurréxit tértia die, secundum Scriptúras. Et ascéndit in cælum: sedet ad dexteram Patris. Et íterum ventúrus est cum glória judicáre vivos, et mortúos: cujus regni non erit finis. Et in Spíritum Sanctum, Dóminum et vivificántem: qui ex Patre, Filióque procedít. Qui cum Patre, et Filio simul adorátur et conglorificátur: qui locútus est per Prophétas. Et unam, sanctam, cathólicam et apostólicam Ecclésiám. Confíteor unum baptísma in remissiónem peccatórum. Et expécto resurrecciónem mortuórum. † Et vitam ventúri sæculi. Amen.

P: Dóminus vobíscum.**S:** Et cum spíritu tuo.**P:** Orémus.**(Sit)****AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR**

P: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God. Born of the Father before all ages. God of God, light of light, true God of true God. Begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, by Whom all things were made. Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven.

(Genuflect) AND WAS INCARNATE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, OF THE VIRGIN MARY: AND WAS MADE MAN. He was also crucified for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried. And on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. And He ascended into heaven; He sits at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. Of Whose kingdom there shall be no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, Who spoke through the Prophets. And in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the remission of sins. And I expect the resurrection of the dead † and the life of the world to come. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.**S:** And with your spirit.**P:** Let us pray.**(Sit)****OFFERTORY Psalms 95: 11, 13**

Læténtur cæli et exsúltet terra ante faciē Dómini: quóniam venit.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad before the face of the Lord: because He cometh.

P: Súscipe, sancte Pater, omnípotens ætérne Deus, hanc immaculatám hóstiám, quam ego indignus fámulus tuus offero tibi, Deo meo vivo et vero, pro innumerábilibus peccátis, et offensióibus, et negligétiis meis, et pro ómnibus circumstántibus, sed et pro ómnibus fidélibus cristiánis vivis atque defúntis: ut mihi, et illis proficiat ad salutē in vitam ætérnam. Amen.

P: Receive, O Holy Father, almighty and eternal God, this spotless host, which I, Thine unworthy servant, offer unto Thee, my living and true God, for my innumerable sins, offenses, and negligences, and for all here present; and also for all faithful Christians both living and dead, that it may profit me and them for salvation unto life everlasting. Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: Deus, qui humanæ substántiæ dignitatē mirábiliter condidísti, et mirábilibus reformásti: da nobis per hujus aquæ et vini mystérium, ejus divinitátis esse consórtes, qui humanitátis nostræ fieri dignátus est párticeps, Jesus Christus Fílius tuus Dóminus noster: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus: per ómnia sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: O God, Who wonderfully formed the dignity of human nature, and more wonderfully restored it, grant us through the mystery of this water and wine, to be made participants of His divinity, Who condescended to become a partaker of our humanity, Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who with Thee, lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Offérimus tibi, Dómine, cálicem salutáris tuam deprecántes cleméntiam: ut in conspéctu divínæ majestátis tuæ, pro nostra, et totíus mundi salutē cum odóre suavitátis ascéndat. Amen. In spíritu humilitátis, et in ánimo contrito suscipiámur a te, Dómine, et sic fiat sacrificíum nostrum in conspéctu tuo hódie, ut pláceat tibi, Dómine Deus. Veni, sanctificátor omnípotens ætérne Deus: et benedic hoc sacrificíum, tuo sancto nómini præparátum.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: We offer Thee, O Lord, the chalice of salvation, pleading Thy clemency, that it may ascend in the sight of Thy divine majesty, with a sweet fragrance, for our salvation and for that of the whole world. Amen. In a humble spirit and a contrite heart may we be received by Thee, O Lord, and let our sacrifice be so made in Thy sight this day that it may please Thee, O Lord God. Come, O sanctifier, almighty and eternal God, and bless this sacrifice prepared for Thy holy name.

(Only at High Mass when incense is used)

P: Per intercessiónem beáti Michælis Archángeli, stantis a dextris altáris incénsi, et ómnium electórum suórum, incénsium istud dignétur Dóminus benedicere, et in odórem suavitátis accipere. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

(Only at High Mass when incense is used)

P: By the intercession of blessed Michael the Archangel, who stands at the right hand of the altar of incense, and of all His elect, may the Lord deign to bless this incense, and to receive it as a sweet fragrance, through Christ our Lord.

P: Incénsium istud a te benedíctum, ascéndat ad te, Dómine, et descéndat super nos misericórdia tua.

P: May this incense, blessed by Thee, ascend to Thee, O Lord, and may Thy mercy descend upon us.

P: Dirígatur, Dómine, orátio mea, sicut incénsium, in conspéctu tuo: elevátio mánuum meárum sacrificíum vespertínum. Pone, Dómine, custódiám ori meo, et óstium circumstántiæ lábiis meis: ut non declínet cor meum in verba malitiæ, ad excusándam excusatióem in peccátis.

P: Let my prayer be directed, O Lord, as incense in Thy sight, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth: and a door round about my lips: that my heart may not incline to evil words: to make excuses in sins.

P: Accéndat in nobis Dóminus ignem sui amóris, et flamma ætérnæ caritátis. Amen.

P: May the Lord enkindle in us the fire of His love and the flame of everlasting charity. Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: Lavábo inter innocétes manus meas: et circumdábo altáre tuum, Dómine: Ut áudiám vocem laudis, et enárre me víbera vocabília tua. Dómine, diléxi decórem domus tuæ, et locum habitatiónis glóriæ tuæ. Ne perdas cum ímpíis, Deus, ánimam meam, et cum viris sánguinem vitam meam: In quorum mánibus iniquitátes sunt: dextera eórum repléta est munéribus. Ego autem in innocéntia mea ingræssus sum: redime me, et miserére mei. Pes meus stetit in dirécto: in ecclésiis benedícam te, Dómine. Glória Patri, et Filio, et Spíritui Sancto. Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper: et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: I will wash my hands among the innocent, and I will compass Thine altar, O Lord, that I may hear the voice of praise: and tell of all Thy wondrous deeds. I have loved, O Lord, the beauty of Thy house and the place where Thy glory dwelleth. Destroy not my soul, O God, with the wicked, nor my life with men of blood. In whose hands are iniquities, their right hand is full with gifts. But I have walked in my innocence: redeem me, and have mercy on me. My foot has stood on the right path; in the churches I will bless Thee, O Lord. 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.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Súscipe, sancta Trínitas, hanc oblatiōnem, quam tibi offérimus ob memóriam Passiōnis, resurrecciónis, et ascensiónis Jesu Christi Dómini nostri: et in honórem beátæ Mariæ semper Vírginis, et beáti Joánnis Baptistæ, et sanctorum Apostolórum Petri et Pauli, et istórum, et ómnium Sanctorum: ut illis proficiat ad honórem, nobis autem ad salutē: et illi pro nobis intercedere dignétur in cælis, quorum memóriam ágimus in terris. Per eúndem Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Receive, O holy Trinity, this oblation which we offer to Thee in remembrance of the Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and in honor of blessed Mary, ever Virgin, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and of these and of all the Saints; that it may avail unto their honor and our salvation, and may they deign to intercede in heaven for us who honor their memory here on earth. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Oráte fratres: ut meum ac vestrum sacrificium acceptábile fiat apud Deum Patrem omnípotentem.

P: Pray brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father almighty.

S: Suscipiat Dóminus sacrificíum de mánibus tuis ad laudem, et glóriam nóminis sui, ad utilitatē quoque nostram, totíusque Ecclésiæ suæ sanctæ.

S: May the Lord receive the sacrifice from your hands, to the praise and glory of His name, to our benefit, and that of all His holy Church.

P: Amen.**P:** Amen.**SECRET (silently)**

Accépta tibi sit, Dómine, quæsumus, hodiernæ festivitátis oblatiō: ut, tua grátia largiēte, per hæc sacrosáncta comméncia, in illius inveniámbur forma, in quo tecum est nostrum substántia: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spíritus Sancti, Deus,

May the oblation of this day's festival be pleasing to Thee, we beseech Thee, O Lord: that of Thy bountiful grace, we may, through this sacred intercommence, be found conformed to Him, in Whom our substance is united to Thee. Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God,

(aloud, to conclude the Secret Prayer)
P: ...forever and ever.

P: ...forever and ever.

(Stand at High Mass)

S: Amen.

(Stand at High Mass)

P: Dóminus vobíscum.**S:** Et cum spíritu tuo.**P:** Sursum corda.**S:** Habémus ad Dóminum.**P:** Grátias agámus Dómino Deo nostro.**S:** Dignum et justum est.

S: Amen.
P: The Lord be with you.
S: And with your spirit.
P: Lift up your hearts.
S: We have lifted them up to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
S: It is fitting and just.

PREFACE OF THE NATIVITY

Verè dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus. Quia per incarnáti Verbi mystérium, nova mentis nostræ visibílium Deum claritátis infúlsit: ut dum óculis litter Deum cognóscimus, per hunc in invisibílium amórem rapiámur. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominatióibus, cumque omni militía cæléstis exércitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus, sine fine dicétes:

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 Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army, we sing the hymn of Thy glory, evermore saying:

(Kneel)**P:** Sanctus ☩, Sanctus ☩, Sanctus ☩, Dóminus Deus Sábaoth. Pleni sunt cæli et terra glória tua. Hosánna in excélsis. † Benedictus qui venit in nómine Dómini. Hosánna in excélsis.**(Kneel)****P:** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts! Heaven and earth are filled with Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest! † Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**THE ROMAN CANON***(silently)*

P: Te ígitur, clementíssime Pater, per Jesum Christum Fílium tuum, Dóminum nostrum, súpplices rogámus, ac pétimus uti accépta hábeas, et benedícas, hæc dona, hæc múnera, hæc sancta sacrificia illibáta, in primis, quæ tibi offerimus pro Ecclésiá tua sancta cathólica: quam pacificáre, custodíre, adunáre, et régere dignéris toto orbe terrárum: una cum fámulo tuo Papa nostro **N.**, et Antístite nostro **N.**, et ómnibus orthodoxis, atque cathólicæ et apostólicæ fidei cultóribus.

THE ROMAN CANON

P: Therefore, most merciful Father, we humbly pray and entreat Thee, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Our Lord, that Thou would accept and bless these gifts, these offerings, these holy and spotless sacrifices, which, in the first place, we offer Thee for Thy holy Catholic Church: deign to pacify, to guard, to unite, and to govern her throughout the world, together with Thy servant **N.**, our Pope, and **N.**, our Bishop; and all orthodox believers of the Catholic and apostolic faith.
P: Be mindful, O Lord, of Thy servants and handmaids **N.** and **N.**, and of all here present, whose faith and devotion are known unto Thee, for whom we offer, or who offer to Thee, this sacrifice of praise for themselves, and for all their own, for the redemption of their souls, for their hope of salvation and safety; and who pay their vows to Thee, the everlasting, living, and true God.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Quod ore súmpsimus, Dómine, pura mente capiámus: et de múnere temporáli fiat nobis remédium sempitérnium.

P: Corpus tuum, Dómine, quod sumpsi, et Sanguis, quem potávi, adhæreat viscéribus meis: et præsta; ut in me non remáneat scélerum mácula, quem pura et sancta refecerunt sacraménta: Qui vivis et regnas in sæcula sæculórum, Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

COMMUNION Psalms 109: 3

In splendóribus sanctórum, ex útero ante lucíferum génui te.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Grant, O Lord, that what we have taken with our mouth, we may receive with a pure mind; and from a temporal gift may it become to us an eternal remedy.

P: May Thy Body, O Lord, which I have consumed, and Thy Blood which I have drunk, cling to my vitals; and grant that no wicked stain may remain in me, whom these pure and holy mysteries have refreshed. Who lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

In the brightness of the Saints, from the womb before the day star I begot Thee.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

(Stand at High Mass)

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: **Et cum spírítu tuo.**

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

(Stand at High Mass)

P: The Lord be with you.

S: And with your spirit.

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: Orémus.

POSTCOMMUNION

Da nobis, quæsumus, Dómine Deus noster: ut, qui Nativitátem Dómini nostri Jesu Christi mystériis nos frequentáre gaudémus; dignis conversatióibus ad ejus mereámur pervenire consórtium: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

S: **Amen.**

AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

P: Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that we, who rejoice in celebrating these mysteries of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, may by a fitting association be made worthy to attain to fellowship with Him. Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

S: Amen.

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: **Et cum spírítu tuo.**

P: Ite, Missa est.

S: **Deo grátias.**

AT THE CENTER OF THE ALTAR

P: The Lord be with you.

S: And with your spirit.

P: Go, the Mass is ended.

S: Thanks be to God.

(Kneel at High Mass)

P: Pláceat tibi, sancta Trínitas, obséquium servitútis meæ: et præsta; ut sacrificium, quod óculis tuæ

majestátis indignus obtuli, tibi sit acceptábile, mihique et ómnibus pro quibus illud obtuli, sit, te miseránte, propitiábile. Per Christum Dóminum nostrum. Amen.

P: May the performance of my homage be pleasing to Thee, O holy Trinity: and grant that the sacrifice which I, though unworthy, have offered up in the sight of Thy majesty, may be acceptable unto Thee, and may, through Thy mercy, be a propitiation for myself and all those for whom I have offered it. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Benedícat vos omnípotens Deus, †Pater, et Filius, et Spíritus Sanctus.

S: **Amen.**

P: May almighty God bless you, †the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

S: Amen.

AT THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ALTAR (Stand)

P: Dóminus vobíscum.

S: **Et cum spírítu tuo.**

P: Inítium sancti Evangélii secúndum Joánnem.

S: **Glória tibi, Dómine.**

P: In princípío erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum. Hoc erat in princípío apud Deum. Ómnia per ipsum facta sunt: et sine ipso factum est nihil, quod factum est: in ipso víta erat, et víta erat lux hóminum: et lux in ténebris lucet, et ténebræ eam non comprehendérunt. Fuit hómo missus a Deo, cui nomen erat Joánnes. Hic venit in testimónium, ut testimónium perhiberet de lúmíne, ut omnes créderent per illum. Non erat ille lux, sed ut testimónium perhiberet de lúmíne. Erat lux vera, quæ illúminat omnem hóminem veniéntem in hunc mundum. In mundo erat, et mundus eum non cognóvit. In própria venit, et sui eum non recepérunt. Quotquot autem recepérunt eum, dedit eis potestátem filios Dei fieri, his qui credunt in nómine ejus: qui non ex sanguínibus, neque ex voluntáte carnis, neque ex voluntáte viri, sed ex Deo nati sunt.

(Genuflect) ET VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST

et habitávit in nobis: et vídimus glóriam ejus, glóriam quasi Unigéniti a Patre, plenum grátiae et veritátis.

S: Deo grátias.

AT THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ALTAR (Stand)

P: The Lord be with you.

S: And with your spirit.

P: The beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.

S: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him: and without Him was made nothing that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to give testimony of the light, that all men might believe through him. He was not that light, but was to give testimony of the light. That was the true light, which enlighteneth every man that cometh into this world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, He gave them power to be made the sons of God, to them that believe in His name. Who are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

(Genuflect) AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH,

and dwelt among us, (and we saw His glory, the glory as it were of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

S: Thanks be to God.

[Leonine Prayers](#)

(optional after Low Mass)