



The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Day

COLLECT

ALMIGHTY GOD, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING : Isaiah 52:7-10

HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Refrain

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

Psalm 98

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| 1 | Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! * His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. | 5 | Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, * with the lyre and the sound of melody |
| 2 | The LORD has made known his salvation; * he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. | 6 | With trumpets and the sound of the horn * make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD! |
| 3 | He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. * All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. | 7 | Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; * the world and those who dwell in it! |
| 4 | Make a joyful noise to the LORD, * all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. | 8 | Let the rivers clap their hands; * let the hills sing for joy together |
| | | 9 | before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.* He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. |

SECOND READING : Hebrews 1:1-12

LONG AGO, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having

become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

GOSPEL : John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

