

Christmas Day



Christmas Vigil | Christmas Night | Christmas Dawn

First Reading † Isaiah 52:7-10

All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

How lovely on the mountains
are the feet of the messenger announcing peace,
of the messenger of good news, proclaiming salvation
and saying to Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Your watchmen raise their voices,
shouting for joy together,
for with their own eyes
they have seen the Lord returning to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has had mercy on his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm
in the sight of all nations,
and all the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 97:1-6

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

The Lord has made known his salvation,
has shown his deliverance to the nations.
He has remembered his merciful love
and his fidelity to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord, all the earth;
break out into joyous song,
and sing out your praise.

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn,
raise a shout before the King, the Lord.

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Second Reading † Hebrews 1:1-6

In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

In many ways and by many means in the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us in his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things and through whom he made the ages.

He is the reflection of God's glory and the imprint of God's own being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. Now that he has made purification for sins, he has taken his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high. So he is now far above the angels, as the name which he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels has God ever said:

You are my Son, today have fathered you,

or:

I shall be as a father to him and he as a son to me?

Again, when he brings the First-born into the world, he says:

Let all the angels of God worship him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

A holy day has dawned upon us.

Come you nations and adore the Lord.

Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel [longer form] † John 1:1-18

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the beginning was the Word:
the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came into being,
not one thing came into being except through him.
What has come into being in him was life,
life that was the light of all people;
and light shines in darkness,
and darkness could not overpower it.

There was a man sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
to bear witness to the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
he was to bear witness to the light.

The true light
that gives light to everyone
was coming into the world.
He was in the world
and the world came into being through him,
and the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own
and his own people did not accept him
But to those who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to those who believed in his name,
who were born not from blood,
or from the will of the flesh,
or from human will
but from God himself.

The Word became flesh,
and lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory as of an only-begotten Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

John witnesses to him and cried out, saying,
'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me
has passed ahead of me
because he was before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness
we have all received,
grace upon grace,

for the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God;
it is the only-begotten Son,
who is close to the Father's heart,
who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel [shorter form] † John 1:1-5.9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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HOLY FAMILY, Year A | HOLY FAMILY, Year B | HOLY FAMILY, Year C

26 December — St Stephen