

Christmas Night



Christmas Vigil | Christmas Dawn | Christmas Day

First Reading † Isaiah 9:1-6

A son is given to us.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light;
on the inhabitants of a country in shadow dark as death,
light has blazed forth.

You have enlarged the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at harvest time,
as they exult when they are dividing plunder.

For the yoke that weighed on them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
these you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear clanking over the ground
and all the clothing rolled in blood
will be burnt, will be food for the flames.

For a son has been born for us,
a son has been given to us
and dominion has been laid on his shoulders;
and this is the name he has been given,
'Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace'.

His rule will be great and there will be no end of peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom,
secure and established in fair judgement and righteousness.
From this time onwards and for ever
the jealous love of the Lord Sabaoth will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 95:1-3.11-13

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
O sing to the Lord; bless his name.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Proclaim his salvation day by day.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad;
let the sea and all within it thunder praise.
Let the land and all it bears rejoice.
Then will the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

He will judge the world with righteousness;
he will govern the peoples with his truth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Second Reading † Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed to all people.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

The grace of God our Saviour has been revealed to the whole human race, teaching us that, giving up impiety and all worldly passions, we should be self-restrained and live righteous and religious lives in this present world, waiting for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Christ Jesus.

He offered himself for us in order to ransom us from all our faults and to purify a people to be his very own, eager to do good.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † Luke 2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Good News and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † Luke 2:1-14

Today a Saviour has been born for you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Now it happened that at this time a decree came out from Caesar Augustus that a register should be made of the whole world. This registration – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to be registered, each to his own town.

So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee for Judaea, to David's town called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

Now it happened that, while they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her son, the first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the living-space.

In that countryside there were shepherds living in the fields keeping the night watch over their flock. An angel of the Lord stood over them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said,

'Do not be afraid.

Look, I bring you good news of great joy for the whole people,

that today a Saviour has been born to you in the town of David, who is Christ the Lord.

And this is a sign for you:

you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a throng of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

*'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among people of good will.'*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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HOLY FAMILY, Year A | HOLY FAMILY, Year B | HOLY FAMILY, Year C | 26 December — St Stephen