



**ST. GERTRUDE**  
CHURCH



**VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

December 7, 2023 at 7 P.M.

## THIS SUNDAY: ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

This Sunday, December 10 at 3 P.M., all are invited to join for one of the highlights of Advent at St. Gertrude Church: the service of Advent Lessons and Carols, sung by the novices, our Parish Choir, and the Schola Cantorum. This hour-long contemplative service is based around a series of readings that trace Salvation History until the Birth of Christ, interspersed with powerful musical meditations from the Church's treasury of sacred music for Advent, including the magnificent Dominican Chant "O" Antiphons. All are welcome.



# ORDER OF MASS

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Immaculate Mary

*At the ringing of the sacristy bell, all stand and sing:*

*Journeysongs 511*

## GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*All strike their breast three times*

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

# KYRIE, ELEISON


*The choir sings each phrase first, then all repeat.*




Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

*Music: Owen Alstott*

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



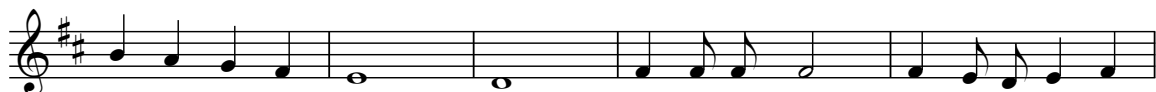
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will.



We praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy you,




we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O




God, al-might-y Fa - ther. Lord Je-sus Christ, On - ly Be-got-ten



Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther,



you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us;



you take a-way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly

Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

*Music: Owen Alstott*

## COLLECT

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercessions, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*



## READING II

*Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12*

Brothers and sisters: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA

*All stand*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women. **℞.**

*Verse: after Luke 1:28*

*Music: Owen Alstott*

## GOSPEL

*Luke 1:26–30*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All sit*

## HOMILY

*The Reverend John Paul Walker, O.P.*



## CREED

*All stand*

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

*All bow*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

*All stand*

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## UNIVERSAL PRAYER

*Each petition concludes with:*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The celebrant concludes the prayers with a collect, to which all respond:*

**Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### OFFERTORY

Mary, Woman of the Promise

*All sing:*

*Journeysongs 477*

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

*All stand*

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

Graciously accept the saving sacrifice which we offer you, O Lord, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and grant that, as we profess her, on account of your prevenient grace, to be untouched by any stain of sin, so, through her intercession, we may be delivered from all our faults. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PREFACE DIALOGUE AND SANCTUS

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

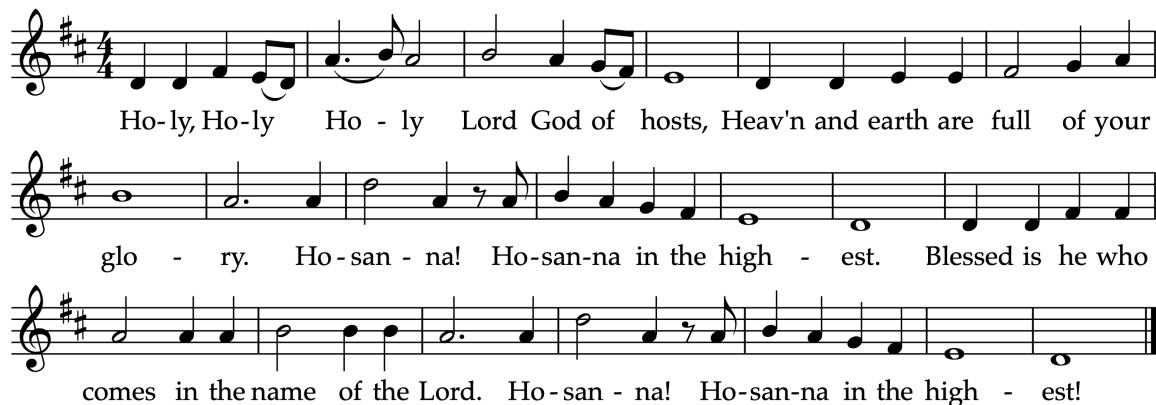
**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you preserved the most Blessed Virgin Mary from all stain of original sin, so that in her, endowed with the rich fullness of your grace, you might prepare a worthy Mother for your Son and signify the beginning of the Church, his beautiful Bride without spot or wrinkle.

She, the most pure Virgin, was to bring forth a Son, the innocent Lamb who would wipe away our offenses; you placed her above all others to be for your people an advocate of grace and a model of holiness.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:



Ho-ly, Ho-ly Ho - ly Lord God of hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho-san - na! Ho-san-na in the high - est. Blessed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na! Ho-san-na in the high - est!

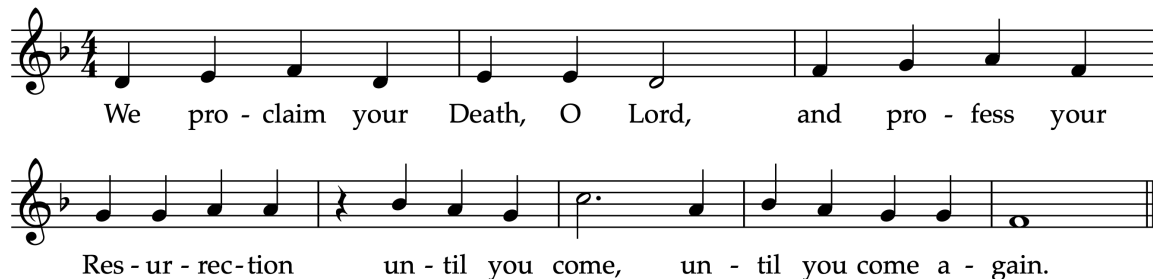
*Music: Owen Alstott*

# THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*All kneel*

*The celebrant says the Eucharistic Prayer. After the words of Consecration, the celebrant sings:*

The mystery of faith.



The musical notation consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes, with a final whole note on the second staff.

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come, un - til you come a - gain.

*Music: Owen Alstott*

*At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer the celebrant takes the chalice and the paten with the host, and raising both, sings:*

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours,



The musical notation is a single staff in 4/4 time. It features a melody for the word 'Amen' repeated three times. The first two 'Amen's are each followed by a comma, and the third is followed by a period. The melody uses quarter notes and a final half note.

A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

*Music: Owen Alstott*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*All stand*

At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: *Peace I leave you, my peace I give you*, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All offer one another a sign of peace*

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

*Music: Owen Alstott*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All kneel*

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION

*All sing:*

Sing of Mary

*Journeysongs 472*

## MEDITATION

*The choir sings:*

Remember, Virgin Mary, that never was it known,  
that anyone who fled to you was ever left alone.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you today;  
I'm sinful, weak, and sorrowful, but strong enough to pray.

O Mother of our Savior, I know you'll hear my prayer;  
I know that you will answer me; I know I'll feel your care.

*Words: fifteenth century, adapted by Laurretta Mather, O.S.F.*

*Music: Laurretta Mather, O.S.F.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All stand*

May the Sacrament we have received, O Lord our God, heal in us the wounds of that fault from which in a singular way you preserved the Blessed Mary in her Immaculate Conception. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

### BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

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

**Amen.**

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

*All kneel*

**Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle,  
be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.**

**May God rebuke him we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host,  
by the power of God, cast into hell Satan  
and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.**

**Amen.**

# HYMN

*All stand and sing:*



1. O God, your Church is sing - ing in praise to you, Most High.  
 2. We sing with ho - ly Ma - ry in spir - it, heart, and voice.



Our thank - ful bless - ings ring - ing; you, Lord, we mag - ni - fy.  
 Your Word in - car - nate bear - ing, in you our souls re - joice!



The whole cre - a - tion gath - ers with Ma - ry full of grace,  
 You chose her for your moth - er and named her "fa - vored one"



With proph - ets, saints, and mar - tyrs who see you face to face.  
 For Christ, our Lord and broth - er, your own be - lov - ed Son.



She crowns their song un - dy - ing a - round the Lamb en - throned,  
 Grace us to live her sto - ry: to serve you as we ought;



The Bride and Spir - it cry - ing, "Lord Je - sus, quick - ly come!"  
 To sing, in end - less glo - ry, our own Mag - ni - fi - cat!

*Words: Alan J. Hommerding*

*Music: Gustav Holst*

