



ST. GERTRUDE
CHURCH



NATIVITY OF THE LORD
VIGIL MASS

December 24, 2023
3 and 5:30 P.M. in the Church



ORDER OF MASS

Nativity of the Lord: Vigil

PRELUDE

In dulci jubilo, BuxWV 197

Dieterich Buxtehude

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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

Saint Michael Hymnal 648: Verses 1 and 3

INTROIT

Hodie scietis, quia veniet Dominus,
et salvabit nos;
et mane videbitis gloriam eius.

As the celebrant censes the altar, the choir sings:

*Today you will know that the Lord will come,
and he will save us,
and in the morning you will see his glory.*

Words: after Exodus 16:6–7

Music: Dominican Chant

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



Cantor: Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. *All:* Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mercy.



Cantor: Chris - te, e - le - i - son. *All:* Chris - te, e - le - i - son.
Christ, have mercy.

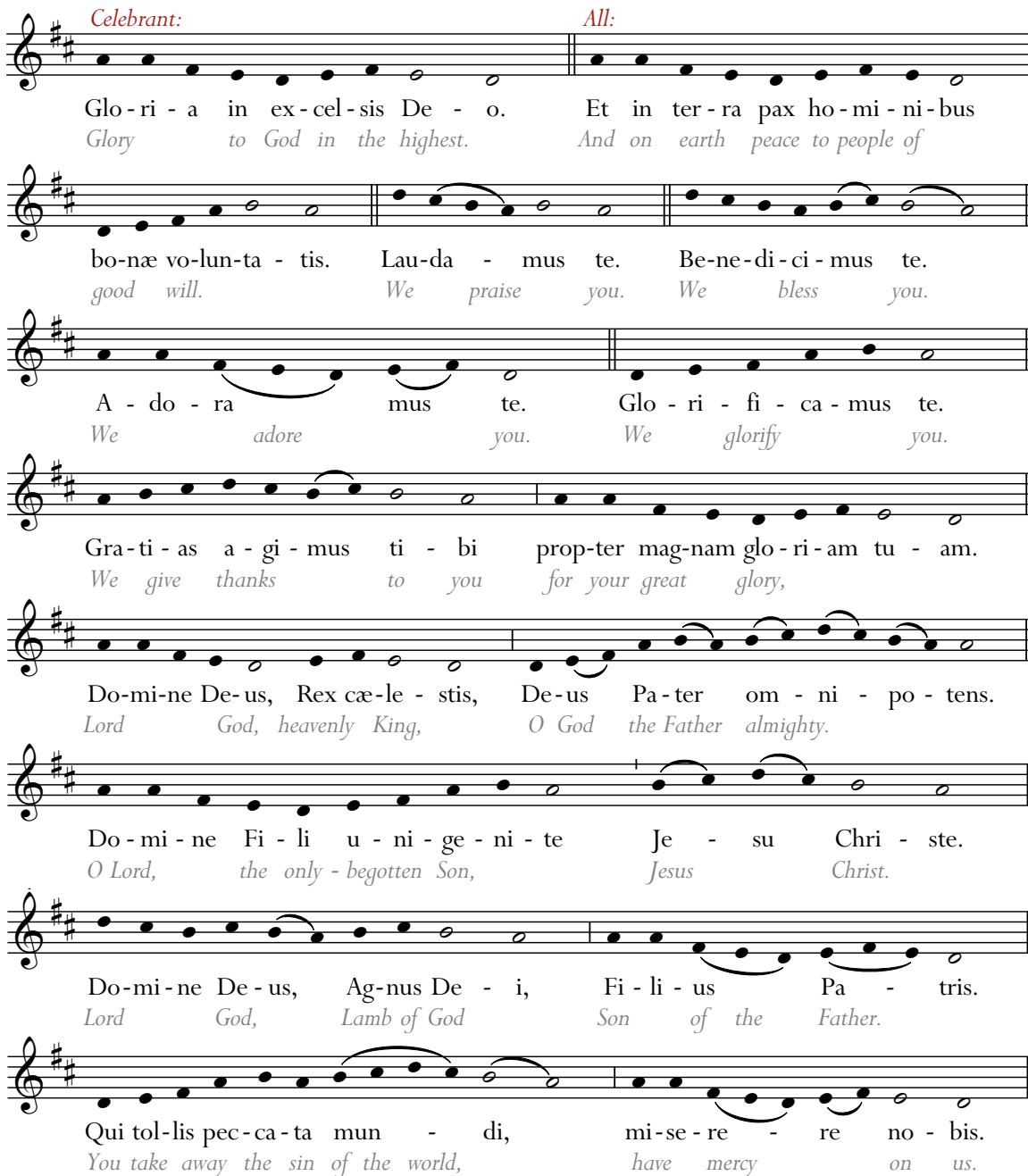


Cantor: Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. *All:* Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

Music: Gregorian Chant, Missa XVI

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Celebrant: *All:*



Glo-ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus
Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to people of

bo-nae vo-lun-ta - tis. Lau-da - mus te. Be-ne-di-ci-mus te.
good will. We praise you. We bless you.

A - do - ra mus te. Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te.
We adore you. We glorify you.

Gra-ti - as a - gi - mus ti - bi prop-ter mag-nam glo-ri-am tu - am.
We give thanks to you for your great glory,

Do-mi-ne De-us, Rex cae-le - stis, De-us Pa-ter om - ni - po - tens.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God the Father almighty.

Do - mi - ne Fi - li u - ni - ge - ni - te Je - su Chri - ste.
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Do-mi-ne De - us, Ag-nus De - i, Fi - li - us Pa - tris.
Lord God, Lamb of God Son of the Father.

Qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun - di, mi-se-re - re no - bis.
You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di,
You take away the sin of the world,

su - sci - pe de - pre - ca - ti - o - nem no - stram.
receive our prayer.

Qui se - des ad dex - te - ram Pa - tris, mi - se - re - re no - bis.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: have mercy on us.

Quo - ni - am tu so - lus San - ctus. Tu so - lus Do - mi - nus.
For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord.

Tu so - lus Al - tis - si - mus, Je - su Chri - ste.
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.

Cum San - cto Spi - ri - tu, in glo - ri - a De - i Pa - tris.
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

A - - - men.

Music: Gregorian Chant, Missa VIII "De Angelis"

COLLECT

O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

All sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING I

Isaiah 62:1–5

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch.

Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 89:4–5, 16–17, 27 and 29



For ev - er I will sing the good-ness of the Lord.

I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant:
forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations. **℟.**

Blessed the people who know the joyful shout; in the light of your countenance,
O LORD, they walk. At your name they rejoice all the day, and through your justice
they are exalted. **℟.**

He shall say of me, "You are my father, my God, the rock, my savior."
Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him,
and my covenant with him stands firm. **℟.**

Music: Dominican Chant — Hodie scietis (Responsorium), adapted Christopher Holman

READING II

Acts 13:16–17, 22–25

When Paul reached Antioch in Pisidia and entered the synagogue, he stood up, motioned with his hand, and said, “Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt. With uplifted arm he led them out of it. Then he removed Saul and raised up David as king; of him he testified, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish.’ From this man’s descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.’ ”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

All stand



Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:
the Savior of the world will reign over us. **R.**

*Verse: Roman Missal
Music: Gregorian Chant*

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18–25

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”* When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All sit

HOMILY

The Reverend John Paul Walker, O.P. (3 P.M.)

The Reverend Luke VanBerkum, O.P. (5:30 P.M.)

CREDO

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 kneel

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.

After the final petition, all say:

**Almighty Father,
you have created us for some definite purpose.**

**Grant us the grace to know the path
you have planned for us in this life
and to respond with a generous “Yes.”**

**Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes, and hearts
fruitful ground for your gift of vocations.**

**May our young people respond to your call
with courage and zeal.**

**Stir among our men a desire and the strength
to be good and holy priests.**

**Bless us with consecrated religious
and those called to a chaste single life,
permanent deacons, and faithful husbands and wives,
who are a sign of Christ’s love for His Church.**

**We commend our prayer for vocations to you, Father,
through the intercession of Mary our Mother,
in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Words: The Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr, D.D.,
Archbishop of Cincinnati*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY

All sit as the choir sings:

A spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit; its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter and in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid; for through our God's great love and might the blessed babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.

Words: fourteenth century

Music: Herbert Howells

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.**

As we look forward, O Lord, to the coming festivities, may we serve you all the more eagerly for knowing that in them you make manifest the beginnings of our redemption. 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.

The celebrant says the preface. After, all sing:

Cantor: San - ctus,
Holy,

All: San - ctus,
Holy,

San-ctus Do - mi - nus De - us Sa - ba - oth.
Holy Lord God of Hosts.

Ple - ni sunt cæ - li et ter - ra glo - ri - a tu - a. Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis.
Full are heaven and earth of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Be - ne - di - ctus qui ve - nit in no - mi - ne Do - mi - ni.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis.

Music: Gregorian Chant, Missa XVIII "Deus Genitor alme"

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All kneel

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

The mystery of faith.

Cantor:

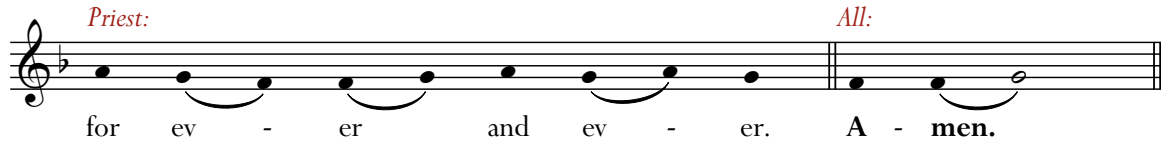
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,

All:

we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

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 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.

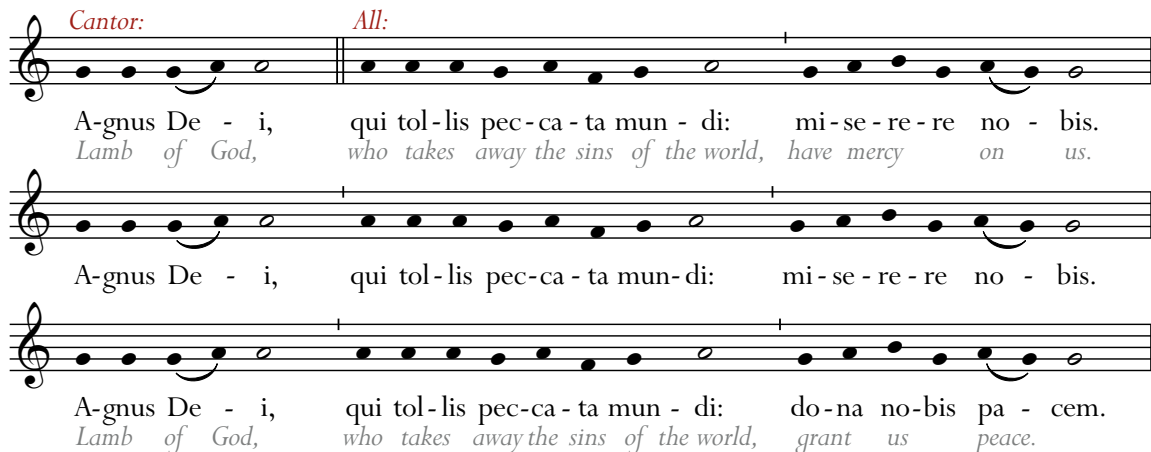
And with your spirit.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All offer one another a sign of peace

AGNUS DEI

Cantor: *All:*



A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun - di: mi-se-re-re no - bis.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun-di: mi-se-re-re no - bis.

A-gnus De - i, qui tol-lis pec-ca - ta mun - di: do-na no-bis pa - cem.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Music: Gregorian Chant, Missa XVIII "Deus Genitor alme"

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

The choir sings:

Revelabitur gloria Domini:
et videbit omnis caro salutare Dei nostri.

*The glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.*

☩. Dominus regnavit: exsultet terra;
laetentur insulae multae.

☩. *The LORD is king; let earth rejoice;
let the many islands be glad.*

☩. Lux orta est justo,
et rectis corde laetitia.

☩. *Light shines forth for the just one,
and joy for the upright of heart.*

☩. Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto, sicut erat
in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

☩. *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.*

Antiphon: after Isaiah 40:5; verses: Psalm 97:1, 11

Music: Dominican Chant

MOTET

The choir sings:

Спасение соделал еси посреде
земли, Боже. Аллилуия.

*Salvation is created in the midst
of the earth, O God. Alleluia.*

Words: after Psalm 74:12

Music: Kievan chant, Pavel Chesnokov

HYMN *(if needed)*

All sing:

Silent Night

Saint Michael Hymnal 744

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All stand

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may draw new vigor from celebrating the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, by whose heavenly mystery we receive both food and drink. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

SOLEMN BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Bow down for the blessing.

All bow

May the God of infinite goodness, who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night, drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

Amen.

May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving Birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives and make you heralds of his Gospel.

Amen.

And may God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favor and make you sharers with the Church in heaven.

Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

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.

RECESSION

Joy to the World

All stand and sing:

Saint Michael Hymnal 594

POSTLUDE

Sonata 1, Op. 65: IV. Finale

The organist plays:

Felix Mendelssohn