

**St Mary's Catholic Church,
Cadogan Street, London SW3**



MATINS
and
MASS of the Night

Friday 24 December 2010

*While the clergy and ministers enter the Church and take up their place in the sanctuary,
the choir sings the **Kyrie** from **Schubert's Mass in G**.*

All make the Sign of the Cross as the celebrant says:

Celebrant: ✱ O God, come to our aid.

All: **O Lord, make haste to help us. 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. Alleluia.**

OFFICE HYMN:

**Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending he,
Of all things that are and have been
And that future years shall see:
Evermore and evermore.**

**Blessed was the day for ever
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Saviour of our race,
And the child, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face:
Evermore and evermore.**

**Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Persons three, yet Godhead one.
Glory be from all creation
While eternal ages run:
Evermore and evermore.**

The congregation sits for the psalm:

Celebrant: The Lord comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent.

Celebrant: The heavens proclaim the glory of God
And the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.
Day unto day takes up the story
And night unto night makes know the message.

All: **No speech, no word, no voice is heard
Yet their span extends through all the earth,
Their words to the utmost bounds of the world.**

Celebrant: There he has placed a tent for the sun;
It comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent,
Rejoices like a champion to run its course.

All: **At the end of the sky is the rising of the sun;
To the furthest end of the sky is its course.
There is nothing concealed from its burning heat.**

Celebrant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

All: As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All: The Lord comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent.

Celebrant: The Word became flesh. Alleluia

All: And he lived among us, Alleluia

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

(Isaiah 11:1-10)

*The choir then sings the Responsory: **Tollite portas**
[O Princes, lift your gates; be lifted high,
O eternal gates, and the King of Glory shall come in]*

A Reading from a sermon by Pope St Leo the Great

(Sermon 1. Nativ, 1-3)

*At the conclusion of the second reading, the choir will sing an arrangement of
“Joy to the World.”*

Celebrant: Let us pray:

God, our Father, our human nature is the wonderful work of your hands, made still more wonderful by your work of redemption. Your Son took to himself our manhood, grant us a share in the godhead of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

The Christmas Proclamation,

sung at the beginning of Midnight Mass, is then sung in Latin:

The Twenty-Fifth day of December.

* In the five thousand one hundred and ninety-ninth year of the creation of the world from the time when God in the beginning created the heavens and the earth;
* the two thousand nine hundred and fifty-seventh year after the flood;
* the two thousand and fifteenth year from the birth of Abraham;
* the one thousand five hundred and tenth year from Moses and the going forth of the people of Israel from Egypt;
* the one thousand and thirty-second year from David's being anointed king;
* in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel;
* in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

* the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome;

* the forty second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;
* the whole world being at peace,
* in the sixth age of the world,

* Jesus Christ the eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception,
* was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary, being made flesh.

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

The clergy and ministers leave the sanctuary to vest for Mass

THE MASS OF THE NIGHT

*The clergy and ministers proceed in procession to the altar whilst the choir sings the
Gregorian Introit: **Dominus dixit ad me**
[The Lord said to me: You are my Son, today I have begotten you.
Why do the nations conspire and the people plot in vain?]*

followed by

**Hark the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

*Canon Stuart Wilson welcomes visitors and members of the community of the parish to
Midnight Mass.*

*The choir then sings the **Gloria in Excelsis:***

At the conclusion of the Gloria the celebrant sings the Collect:

Celebrant: Let us pray:
Father, you make this holy night radiant with the splendour of Jesus Christ
our light. We welcome him as Lord, the true light of the world. Bring us to
eternal joy in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Please sit)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (9: 1-7)

The choirs sing **Tecum principium**

[Sovereign strength is yours on the day of your great might. Amidst the splendours of the heavenly sanctuary, from the womb, before the morning star I have begotten you. The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool]

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus (2:11-14)

*The choir sings the Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia: Dominus dixit ad me***
[The Lord said to me: You are my Son, today I have begotten you]

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord:

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily: The Reverend Canon Stuart Wilson, Parish Priest and Rector.

Creed

(The Creed will be sung according to the tone of Credo III – During the words
“Et Incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine: Et homo factus est”
the assembly kneels in reverence to acknowledge the mystery of the Word made Flesh.)

Prayer of the Faithful

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

*The choir will sing **O magnum mysterium** by T.L. da Vittoria.*

[O great mystery and marvellous sacrament, that the animals witnessed the birth of the Lord, laid in a manger. O Blessed Virgin, whose womb was deemed worthy to carry our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia]

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

All: 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 Church.

Prayer over the Gifts.

Celebrant: Dominus Vobiscum

All: Et cum spiritu tuo

Celebrant: Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

All: Habemus ad Dominum
Celebrant: Gratias Agamus Domino Deo Nostro
All: Dignum et Iustum est

*We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks & praise.*

Preface for Christmas

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere, Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, Æterne Deus, Æterne Deus;

Quia per incarnati Verbi mysterium nova mentis nostra oculis lux tua claritatis infulsit: ut dum visibiliter Deum cognoscimus, per hunc in invisibilium amorem rapiamur.

Et ideo cum Angelis et Archangelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia caelestis exercitus, hymnum gloriae tuae canimus, sine fine dicentes:

Preface for Christmas

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give You thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the wonder of the incarnation Your eternal Word has brought to the eyes of faith a new and radiant vision of Your glory. In Him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven, we proclaim Your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Sanctus & Benedictus (Schubert's Mass in G)

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1 (Roman Canon)

Memorial Acclamation:

Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine, et tuam resurrectionem confitemus, donec venias.

The Great Amen

The Lord's Prayer:

Celebrant: Praeceptis salutaribus moniti, et divina institutione formati, audemus dicere:

All; Pater noster, qui es in caelis: sanctificetur nomen tuum; adveniat regnum tuum; fiat voluntas tua, sicut in caelo, et in terra. Panem nostrum cotidianum da nobis hodie; et dimitte nobis debita nostra, sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris; et ne nos inducas in tentationem; sed libera nos a malo.

All: Quia tuum est regnum et potestas et Gloria in saecula.

The Prayer for Peace and the Exchange of Peace

Agnus Dei (Schubert's Mass in G)

THE COMMUNION

During the Communion, the choir will sing the Gregorian antiphon

In splendoribus sanctorum

[Amidst the splendour of the heavenly sanctuary, from the womb, before the morning star, I have begotten you]

*The choir then sing: **Hodie Christus Natus Est** by **Luca Marenzio** (1553-1599)
[Today, Christ is Born: Today the Saviour appeared: Today on Earth the Angels sing,
Archangels rejoice: Today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.]*

Prayer after Communion.

PROCESSION TO THE MANGER

All sing

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head,
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes,
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Blessed are you, Lord God, king of all creation: we praise you for your love. We thank you because you have loved us so much that you sent your only Son to bring us eternal life. Bless + this crib that we have prepared, and let it be a reminder to us of the Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary. Father, we praise you through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

There is a moment of silence , then all sing

**Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin mother and child;
Holy infant so tender and mild:
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.**

**Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace:
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth**

During the hymn, the Celebrant returns to the Sanctuary to read the Notices
Solemn Blessing.

Followed by the Recessional Hymn

**Adeste Fideles laeti triumphantes,
Veníte, veníte in Bethlehem.
Natum vidéte, Regem Angelorum:
Veníte adoremus,
Veníte adoremus
Veníte adoremus Dóminum**

**Deum de Deo, lumen de lúmine,
gestant puellae viscera
Deum verum, genitum non factum:
Veníte adoremus,
Veníte adoremus
Veníte adoremus Dóminum**

**Cantet nunc io chorus Angelórum
cantet nunc aula caelestium:
Gloria in excelsis Deo:
Veníte adoremus,
Veníte adoremus
Veníte adoremus Dóminum**

**Ergo qui natus, die hodierna
Jesu, tibi sit glória
Patris aeterni Verbum caro factum:
Veníte adoremus,
Veníte adoremus
Veníte adoremus Dóminum**

Canon Stuart Wilson and Fr Georgios Ntagkas
thank you for your kindnesses and pray God's richest
blessings on your homes and families
at this Christmas Season.

A happy and holy Christmas to you all.