

# THE DIOCESE OF QUEBEC



## THE REGIONAL MINISTRY OF THE DEANERY OF ST FRANCIS

A SUNG EUCHARIST FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CHRISTMAS EVE  
DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

## **PRELUDE**

### **LIGHTENING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE AND BLESSING OF THE CRIB**

#### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

STAND

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY (CP 123)

IRBY

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) alt.

Music: Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876).

**Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her Baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.**

**He came down to earth from Heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars His children crowned  
All in white shall gather round.**

#### **INTRODUCTORY RITE**

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

**All Amen.**

Welcome all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, day in night,  
Heaven in earth and God in man.

Great little one whose all-embracing birth  
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

Grace, mercy and peace  
From God our Father  
And the Lord Jesus Christ  
Be with you  
**All And also with you.**

*A minister uses this Invitation to Confession.*

Christ the light of the world has come  
To dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

*Silence is kept*

God our Father,  
You sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
Forgive our failure to receive him.

**All Kyrie Eleison.** (Merbecke: CP 678/ HB C177)  
**Christe Eleison.**  
**Kyrie Eleison.**

Jesus our Saviour,  
You were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

**All Kyrie Eleison.**  
**Christe Eleison.**  
**Kyrie Eleison.**

Spirit of love,  
Your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
Forgive the hardness of our hearts.

**All Kyrie Eleison.**  
**Christe Eleison.**  
**Kyrie Eleison.**

Celebrant:  
May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
Draw you to himself,  
That you may behold the glory of his Son,  
The Word made flesh,  
And be cleansed from all your sins,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**GLORIA: CP 679**

John Merbecke (1510-1585); arr. And organ acc. Healey Willan (1880-1968)

STAND

Celebrant      Glory be to God on high,

People          **and in earth peace, good will towards men.**  
**We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify**  
**you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,**  
**O Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. You that takes away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You that sits at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.**

**For you only are holy; you only are the Lord; you only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

**THE COLLECT**

STAND

*The celebrant introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

*Silence is kept.*

Eternal God,  
Who made this most holy night  
To shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
Bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,  
To see the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

SIT

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52: 7-10

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM: 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

**With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.**

The Lord has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.**

Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

**In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.**

## **ANTHEM**

THE EPISTLE: Hebrew 1: 1-12

A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

This is the Word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR (CP 140)

CAROL

Text: Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876), alt.

Music: Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

**It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold;  
“Peace on the earth, to all good will,  
From Heaven’s most gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O’er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains,  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever over its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.**

**Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And we amid our wars hear not  
The words of peace they bring;  
O listen now, and still your strife  
To hear the angels sing.**

*This acclamation will herald the Gospel reading*

Gospeller: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia (Music CP: 708)

**All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

STAND

Gospeller: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
And we have seen his glory.

**All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Gospeller: The Lord be with You. (Music – BAS p.920 or CP: 718)

**All And also with you.**

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**All Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

After the Gospel, the reader says:

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord;  
**All Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**THE SERMON**

SIT

**THE NICENE CREED**

STAND

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say, We believe in one God,

**All: the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **ANTHEM**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

REMAIN STANDING OR KNEEL

In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
Father, in this holy night your Son our Saviour  
was born in human flesh.  
Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.  
Holy God  
**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.  
Protect with your love those who have no home  
and all who live in poverty.  
Holy God  
**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labour,  
brought your Son to birth.  
Hold in your hand [...and] all who are in pain or distress.  
Holy God  
**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.  
Bring comfort to [...and] all who suffer in the sadness of our world.  
Holy God  
**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night the angels sang, 'Peace to God's people on earth.'  
Strengthen those who work for peace and justice  
in [...and in] all the world.  
Holy God  
**All hear our prayer.**



In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.  
Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Holy God

**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family,  
and saw the baby lying in the manger.

Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Holy God

**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night heaven is come down to earth,  
and earth is raised to heaven.

Hold in your hand [...and] all those who have passed through death  
in the hope of your coming kingdom.

Holy God

**All hear our prayer.**

In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate Christ's birth.  
Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Holy God

**All hear our prayer.**

Father,  
in this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped at  
the manger throne.

Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary,  
Joseph and the saints

through him who is your Word made flesh,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**All Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

STAND

This holy night the angels sang,  
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
And on earth peace to all in whom he delights."

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All and also with you.**

*These words may be added*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

### OFFERTORY HYMN

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL (CP 118)

ADESTE FIDELES

Text: St. 1, 2, 3, & 5, John Francis Wade (1711-1786); st 4, Etienne-Jean-Francois Borderies, 1822;

Music: Melody attrib. John Francis Wade (1711-1786), alt.; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, Light from Light  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten, not created;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.**

**See how the shepherds, summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear,  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.**

### THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
In your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
By your spirit may we share in your riches.  
**All Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

SURSUM CORDA (MUSIC – BAS P.920)

STAND

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give our thanks and praise**

## THE PREFACE

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
and on this night was born of the Virgin Mary  
by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS: CP 683

John Merbecke (1510-1585); arr. And organ acc. Healey Willan (1880-1968)

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Glory be to you, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant:

STAND OR KNEEL

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation;  
in calling Israel to be your people; in your word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word  
made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer  
of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you  
have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said:

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you : This is my blood of the new covenant, Which is shed for you and for many For the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All We remember his death, we proclaim his Resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church and the Author of our salvation;

By whom and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Celebrant:

As our savior taught us, let us pray, Our Father in heaven,

**All**

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant: We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,  
Light in the midst of us,  
Bring us to light and life.**

**AGNUS DEI: CP 685**

John Merbecke (1510-1585); arr. And organ acc. Healey Willan (1880-1968)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
Grant us your peace.**

*The celebrant says this invitation to communion*

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**All Lord, give us this bread always.**

**COMMUNION**

*All baptised communicants of their own church are welcome to receive the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. For those of you who do not wish to receive the sacrament you are welcome to approach the altar for a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing please cross your arms over your breast.*

**ANTHEM(S)**

**Communion Hymns:**

SIT

*If there is sufficient time after the anthem(s) the following communion hymns may be added.*

AWAY IN A MANGER (CP 126)

CRADLE SONG

Text: American (19<sup>th</sup> cent.).

Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921), adapt.

**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 you, Lord Jesus, look down from on high  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

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

What Child is This (CP 137)

GREENSLEEVES

Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898).

Music: Melody English trad.; arr. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871, alt.

**What Child is this who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

**Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary**

**So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

**Post -Communion Hymn**

SILENT NIGHT (CP: 119)

STILLE NACHT

Text: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885).

Music: Melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863), alt.; harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910).

**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 Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!**

**Silent Night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from Thy loving face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

STAND

God our Father,  
in this night you have made known to us again  
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him  
until the day dawns  
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
**All To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

**SOLEMN BLESSING OF CHRISTMAS**

STAND OR KNEEL

May the Father,  
who has loved the eternal Son  
from before the foundation of the world,  
shed that love upon you his children.  
**All Amen.**

May Christ,  
who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with joy and peace.  
**All Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.  
**All Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**All Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

STAND

JOY TO THE WORLD (CP 154)

ANTIOCH

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: Melody William Holford, *Voce de Melodia*, 1835; adapt. George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)  
harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive the King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let us glad songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as our sin is found,  
Far as our sin is found,  
Far as, far as, our sin is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.**

**THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.  
**All    Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

**POSTLUDE**











DEANERY OF SAINT FRANCIS  
Anglican Diocese of Quebec

REGIONAL MINISTRY OF SAINT FRANCIS

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