



ST. PRISCILLA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 25, 2020



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



“For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you
who is Christ and Lord.” - Lk 2:11

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Reading 1Is 62:11-12

See, the LORD proclaims to the ends of the earth: say to daughter Zion, your savior comes! Here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. They shall be called the holy people, the redeemed of the LORD, and you shall be called "Frequented," a city that is not forsaken.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12

R. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice; let the many isles be glad. The heavens proclaim his justice, and all peoples see his glory.

R. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

Light dawns for the just; and gladness, for the upright of heart. Be glad in the LORD, you just, and give thanks to his holy name.

R. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

Reading 2Ti 3:4-7

Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, Whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

AlleluiaLk 2:14

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GospelLk 2:15-20

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

Reflection

How well do you understand the awe-inspiring mystery of Christmas and comprehend the significance of God becoming human, born of a virgin? Though many are quite familiar with the beautiful and humble story of the birth of the Savior of the World, that familiarity can have the surprising effect of keeping our intellect from deeply probing the depths of the meaning of what we celebrate. Mother Mary was the one person who would have understood the mystery of the birth of her Son, the Son of God, the Savior of the World, far more deeply than anyone else. It was to her that the Archangel Gabriel appeared, announcing her pregnancy and His birth. It was her who carried her Son, the Son of God, the Savior of the World, far more deeply than anyone else. And it was her who gave birth to this Child, carried Him in her arms and nursed Him at her breast.

Our Blessed Mother, more than any other, understood the incredible event that had taken place in her life. The Gospel above says that "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." One thing this tells us is that even Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of God, needed time to ponder, reflect and savor this most holy mystery.

Reflect, today, with our Blessed Mother. Ponder the Incarnation. Place yourself into the scene that first Christmas. Hear the sounds of the town. Smell the smells of the stable. Watch as the shepherds come forth in adoration. And enter the mystery more fully. Excerpts from My Catholic Life

