

# The Holy Family

**Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 December 2020**

## Celebrants

6pm, 8:15am (St Anne's) & 5pm: Fr Angelo Wijewickrama OMI  
8am & 11am: Fr John Sebastian OMI

## Cantor

Sun 11am: Gilbert Rodgers

## Organist and Director of Music

Dominic Perissinotto

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## ENTRANCE HYMN

### **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains:  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the new-born King.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See within a manger laid  
Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
sing with us our Savior's birth.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

## THE FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

### ***Your heir shall be your own flesh and blood***

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...'. Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM (11am sung)**

### ***The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.***

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.  
O sing to him, sing his praise;  
tell all his wonderful works!

### ***The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.***

Be proud of his holy name,  
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.  
Consider the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

### ***The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.***

## **THE SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

### ***The faith of Abraham and of Sarah***

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: *It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on.* He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (11am sung)**

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets;  
now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

## **GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### ***My eyes have seen your salvation***

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: *Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord* – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

#### ***O little town of Bethlehem***

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the Angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous Gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!

### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

11am Sun: Max Reger – The Virgin Slumber Song

## **POST COMMUNION HYMN**

### ***Once in Royal David's City***

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 Saviour 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;  
Where like stars His children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

### ***Joy to the World***

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her 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 Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE**

Louis-Claude Daquin – Noël X

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### ***Angels we have Heard on High***

French Traditional Carol, 18th century Tr J Chadwick (1813-1882) Arranged Percy Jones (1914-1992)

### ***Responsorial Psalm***

*Music: Anthony Briggs*

### ***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

*Trad. English melody arr. R. Vaughan Williams, vs. 4 arr. Thomas Armstrong, Lyrics: Phillips Brooks*

### ***Once in Royal David's City***

*Music: H.J. Gauntlett, vv.1-5 harm. A.H. Mann, vs. 6 arr. David Willcocks, Words: C.F. Alexander*

### ***Joy to the World***

*Music by Lowell Mason based on Handel, arr. John Rutter, Words by Isaac Watts*