

The Basilica of St. Patrick  
Roman Catholic Parish of Fremantle



Mass Booklet for the 4th Sunday of  
Advent  
December 18th/19th

# CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2021

## **December 24th - Christmas Eve**

5.30pm

Carols with Cantor

6pm

Children's Mass

8pm

Carols with the Basilica Consortium

8.30pm

Solemn Mass for Christmas Eve  
with the Basilica Consortium

11.30pm

Carols with Cantors

12am

Midnight Mass

## **December 25th - Christmas Day**

8am, Christmas Morning Mass

9.30am, Italian Christmas Mass

11am, Solemn High Mass with the Basilica Consortium

6pm, Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family

## **December 26th, Feast of the Holy Family**

8am, Morning Mass

9.30am, Italian Mass

11am, Solemn High Mass

5pm, Evening Mass

# WELCOME

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The prophet Micah names the birthplace of Jesus, as Bethlehem. All the other prophets make a reference to the birth of the Messiah, but it is only the Prophet Micah mentions the town where our saviour will be born. He also makes a further reference to how his reign would be; he will be the shepherd and king of not only of Israel but also for all the peoples.

In the gospel, we read that when Mary heard the great news that her cousin Elizabeth too is going to give birth to a baby, she goes with haste and joy to the mountain country where Elizabeth lived. The trip from Nazareth in Galilee where Mary lived to a village in Judea where Elizabeth lived would take four days. But the distance didn't matter to her, but she went with haste to congratulate her cousin and share the joy and be of help to her.

As Christmas is fast approaching, besides the gifts that we have planned for our loved ones, did you ever think that Christmas is not just giving gifts to others but also how I leave a permanent memory of happiness, joy, and sense of worth in the lives of the others as well? This is the story of Bradley James, who was a composer and performer. Bradley James has set Mother Teresa of Calcutta's teachings and prayers to music in the internationally acclaimed recording, *Gift of Love: Music to the Words and Prayers of Mother Teresa*. Bradley remembers her teaching: when she said that "we don't have to go to Calcutta to help the poor; rather, we must help them right in front of us."

Bradley James applied this lesson when he encountered a homeless beggar on the streets of San Francisco. Bradley placed some money in his metal cup, then reached out and shook the man's hand. The recipient gave him a big smile, and the two exchanged names and small talk. Bradley recalls: "Then he pulled me a little closer and said, 'Thanks for the money, but what I really needed was a handshake'"

Indeed, what was remarkable in this incident was not the coin, but the gift of human dignity and the love of Christ that Bradley James brought to the beggar through the handshake and his fraternal presence. In effect, Bradley replicated in his life and experiences the joyful mystery of the Lord's Visitation (cf. Lk 1:39-45), which is described in today's Gospel. [Cf. Susan Conroy, *Our Sunday Visitor* (Oct. 19, 2003), p. 17.]

As we are moving closer to the joy of the celebration, please remember and pray for those whom you feel may be lonely and need some joy in their lives and reach out to them in every way possible. Amen.

**Fr. John Sebastian OMI**  
*Rector and Parish Priest*

PRELUDE *music is played as the congregation gathers*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN |

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL,

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who orders all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in its ways to go.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's,  
Free thy own from Satan's tyranny.  
From depths of hell Thy people save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe for us the heav'nward road,  
And bar the way to death's abode.

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

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

**All: Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit.**

## PENTENTIAL RITE

The musical notation for the Penitential Rite consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notation is divided into two parts: 'Cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Cantor	All
Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.
Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.	Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to eternal life

**All: Amen.**

## OPENING PRAYER

**All: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE FIRST READING

### **Micah 5:1-4**

*He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord*

The Lord says this:

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
the least of the clans of Judah,  
out of you will be born for me  
the one who is to rule over Israel;  
his origin goes back to the distant past,  
to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them  
till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.  
Then the remnant of his brothers will come back  
to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock  
with the power of the Lord,  
with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power  
to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### **Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19**

**R:** Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and  
we shall be saved.

## THE SECOND READING

### **Hebrews 10:5-10**

*God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will*

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,  
prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;  
then I said,

just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,

‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

*Please stand*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord:  
may it be done to me according to thy word.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE GOSPEL

### **Luke 1:39-45**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?*

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*



# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## HOMILY

*Please stand*

## THE CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of Heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from  
the dead;  
He ascended into Heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Lord, hear us

**All: Lord, Hear Our Prayer**

*Please be seated*

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## OFFERTORY HYMN | THE ANGEL GABRIEL

The angel Gabriel from heaven came  
With wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame  
All hail said he thou lowly maiden Mary  
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be  
All generations laud and honour thee  
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold  
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head  
To me be as it pleaseth God she said  
My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name  
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say  
Most highly favoured lady. Gloria!

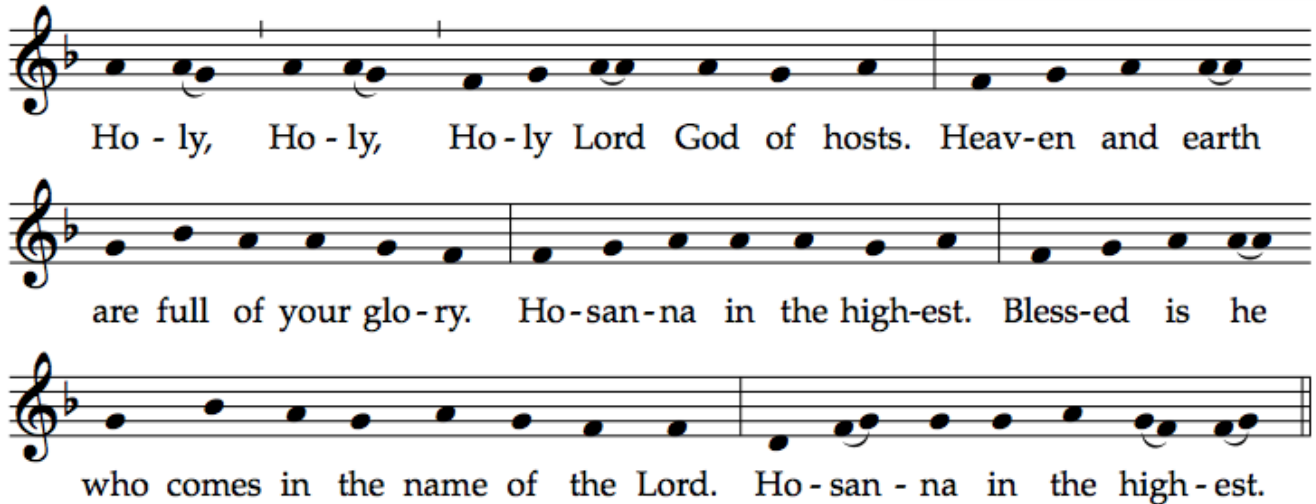
*Please stand*

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just**

## SANCTUS

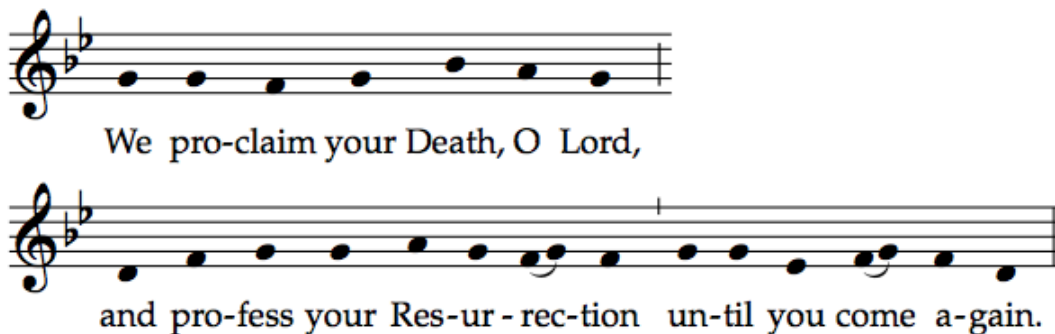


Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth  
are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he  
who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high-est.

Text and chant © 2010, ICEL

*Please kneel*

## EUCCHARISTIC ACLAMATION



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord,  
and pro-fess your Res-ur - rec-tion un-til you come a-gain.

Text and chant © 2010, ICEL

## GREAT AMEN



A-men.

Chant © 2010, ICEL

*Please stand*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

*Please exchange peace in a safe manor*

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,



have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,



have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,



grant us peace.

*Please Kneel*

## COMMUNION

*During communion the communion chant or reflective music maybe sung or played*

### **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

Loving Jesus,  
I believe that you  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.  
I love you above all things,  
and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already there  
and unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you.  
Amen.

THANKSGIVING 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.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
and, gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King  
and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
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 Immanuel!

# RECESSIONAL HYMN | BETHLEHEM, OF NOBLEST CITIES

Bethlehem, of noblest cities  
None can once with thee compare;  
Thou alone the Lord from heaven  
Didst for us Incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning  
Was the star that told his birth;  
To the lands their God announcing,  
Hid beneath a form of earth.

By its lambent beauty guided,  
See, the Eastern Kings appear;  
See them bend, their gifts to offer,—  
Gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh.

Solemn things of mystick meaning!  
Incense doth the God disclose;  
Gold a Royal child proclaimeth;  
Myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

Holy Jesu! in thy brightness  
To the Gentile world display'd!  
With the Father, and the Spirit,  
Endless praise to Thee be paid.

## ORGAN POSTLUDE

*You are invited to stay and enjoy the organ postlude. If  
you choose to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you*

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5pm, Evening Mass



# NOTICES

## **Christmas Masses with Choir**

This year the newly formed Basilica Consortium, under the director of Alessandro Pittorino, will be singing for the 8pm carols, and 8.30pm mass on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day the Consortium will be singing for the 11am Solemn High Mass. We hope to see you there to hear some glorious music.

On Sunday 19th December we will hold a special Christmas Morning Tea after the 8am Mass. On this day we will draw the prizes for the raffle tickets. All the proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets will go towards the New Sound System in our Basilica, as it needs an upgrade. There are some amazing raffle prizes, so kindly buy as many tickets as possible and support the upgrade of our Basilica sound system. The tickets will be on sale at every Mass and in the Parish office, leading up to the event.

On this day we also will celebrate the Diamond Ordination anniversary of Fr. Colbert, who has faithfully served the Church and his people. There are many celebrations planned on this day, so kindly place this date in your diary and come along to celebrate this great day with the Basilica community and Fr. Colbert. Please RSVP for catering purposes.

## **On Wednesday 22nd December: Second Rite of Reconciliation**

In order to celebrate the joy of Christmas, spiritual preparation is also essential. On Wednesday 22nd December at 7pm, there will be the Second Rite of Reconciliation in our Basilica. Please make use of this spiritual opportunity to prepare ourselves well and to celebrate the joy of Christmas.

## **Friday 31st December: New Year's Eve Mass at 6pm**

On Friday 31st December 2021, we will say goodbye to 2021 and will welcome the New Year 2022. It is always a wonderful spiritual experience to say thanks to God for all that we were able to achieve as individuals and Family and to welcome the New Year 2022. The New Year's Eve Mass will be celebrated at 6pm in the Basilica.