

Saint Joseph's, Saint Anne's & Holy Family And Saint Patrick's
25th December 2023, Christmas Day, Year B
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25th December 2023: Today's Christmas Day Mass Readings and Gospel

Catholic Readings for Christmas Day Mass, December 25 2023	
1st Reading	Isaiah 52:7-10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
2nd Reading	Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel	John 1:1-18 Or John 1:1-5, 9-14

1st Reading - Isaiah 52:7-10

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger and the preacher of peace! Announcing good and preaching peace, they are saying to Zion, "Your God will reign!"

8 The voice of your watchmen. They have lifted up their voice, they shall praise together: for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall convert Zion

9 Rejoice and give praise together, O ye deserts of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people: he has redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The Lord has prepared his holy arm in the sight of all the Gentiles: and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

R. (3c) All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds; his right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

2 The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.
 3 He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

3 All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God.
 4 Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

5 Sing praise to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and melodious song.
 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

2nd Reading - Hebrews 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters:

1 In many places and in many ways, in past times, God spoke to the fathers through the Prophets;
 2 lastly, in these days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he appointed as the heir of all things, and through whom he made the world.
 3 And since the Son is the brightness of his glory, and the figure of his substance, and is carrying all things by the Word of his virtue, thereby accomplishing a purging of sins, he sits at the right hand of Majesty on high.
 4 And having been made so much better than the Angels, he has inherited a name so much greater than theirs.
 5 For to which of the Angels has he ever said: "You are my Son; today have I begotten you?" Or again: "I will be a Father to him, and he shall be a Son to me?"
 6 And again, when he brings the only-begotten Son into the world, he says: "And let all the Angels of God adore him."

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
 A holy day has dawned upon us.
 Come, you nations, and adore the Lord.
 For today a great light has come upon the earth.
 R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel - John 1:1-18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 He was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made through Him, and nothing that was made was made without Him.
4 Life was in Him, and Life was the light of men.
5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
6 There was a man sent by God, whose name was John.
7 He arrived as a witness to offer testimony about the Light, so that all would believe through him.
8 He was not the Light, but he was to offer testimony about the Light.
9 The true Light, which illuminates every man, was coming into this world.
10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not recognize him.
11 He went to his own, and his own did not accept him.
12 Yet whoever did accept him, those who believed in his name, he gave them the power to become the sons of God.
13 These are born, not of blood, nor of the will of flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
14 And the Word became flesh, and he lived among us, and we saw his glory, glory like that of an only-begotten son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
15 John offers testimony about him, and he cries out, saying: "This is the one about whom I said: 'He who is to come after me, has been placed ahead of me, because he existed before me.'"
16 And from his fullness, we all have received, even grace for grace.
17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
18 No one ever saw God; the only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he himself has described him.

Or John 1:1-5, 9-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 He was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made through Him, and nothing that was made was made without Him.
4 Life was in Him, and Life was the light of men.
5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
9 The true Light, which illuminates every man, was coming into this world.
10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not recognize him.
11 He went to his own, and his own did not accept him.
12 Yet whoever did accept him, those who believed in his name, he gave them the power to become the sons of God.
13 These are born, not of blood, nor of the will of flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
14 And the Word became flesh, and he lived among us, and we saw his glory, glory like that of an only-begotten son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Saints of the Day 25th December

Saint Alburga of Wilton

St Alburga of Wilton was born in Wessex, England. She was a princess, the half-sister of King Egbert of Wessex. She was the wife of Earl Wulstan of Wiltshire who founded Wilton Abbey near Salisbury, England in 773 AD. She got widowed in 800 AD.

She converted Wilton Abbey into a convent for women and retired there with a dozen fellow Benedictine nuns, and is also considered a founder of the house. She died in 810 AD at Wilton Abbey, England due to natural causes.

Saint Eugenia of Rome

St Eugenia of Rome was a young noblewoman. She was converted by and martyred with her servants, St Hyacinth and St. Protus during the persecution of Valerian. Her Acta read like a melodramatic adventure novel, but is worthless as biography. She died in 258 AD probably by beheading and was buried in Apronianus cemetery on the Via Latina.

Saint Adalsindis of Hamay

St Adalsindis of Hamay was also known as Adalasenda, Adalsendis, or Adalsind. She was the daughter of St. Adalbald of Ostrevant and St. Rictrudis of Marchiennes. She was the sister of St. Eusebia of Hamay, St. Clotsind, and St. Mauront. She was a benedictine nun at Hamay-les-Marchiennes near Arras, France, and a spiritual student of her sister. She died in 715 AD due to natural causes.

Blessed Michaël Nakashima Saburoemon

Blessed Michaël Nakashima Saburoemon was born in 1583 AD in Machiai, Kumamoto, Japan. He was a Jesuit. He was martyred for hiding and assisting priests and missionaries. He was scalded to death in the hot springs at Mount Ugen, Shimabara, Japan on December 25 1628. Pope Pius IX beatified him on May 7 1867.

Blessed Matthew of Albano

Blessed Matthew of Albano was a canon of Rheims, France. He was a benedictine Cluniac monk at Saint-Martin-des-Champs in 1108. He was prior to his house in 1117 AD. He created the cardinal-bishop of Albano in 1125 AD and was a Papal legate in France and Germany in 1128 AD. He staunchly supported the Cluniac ideal. He was a close friend of Blessed Peter the Venerable. He died in 1134 AD due to natural causes.

Blessed Diego de Aro

Blessed Diego de Aro was a Mercedarian friar at the convent of Santa Maria Guardia in Prats, Spain (modern Andorra). He helped ransom a total of 132 Christians enslaved by Moors in Granada, Spain.

Blessed Artale

Blessed Artale was a soldier and a knight. He was a lay member of the Mercedarians. He ransomed at least 150 Christian prisoners from slavery in Africa. He was known for his personal piety. He died in Oran, Algeria due to natural causes.

Saint Basilea of the Via Latina

St Basilea of the Via Latina was also known as Basilée or Basiléo. She was martyred in the persecutions of Valerian and Gallienus. She died in 258 AD on the Vita Latina, Rome, Italy.

Saint Jovin of the Via Latina

St Jovin of the Via Latina was also known as Giovino or Iovino. He was martyred in the persecutions of Valerian and Gallienus. He died in 258 AD on the Vita Latina, Rome, Italy

Saint Romulus of Berry

St Romulus of Berry was a priest who founded a monastery in Berry, France. He died in 700 AD due to natural causes.

Blessed Nera

Blessed Nera was born in 1230 AD. She was a Dominican tertiary who cared for the sick in Siena, Italy. She died in 1287 AD due to natural causes.

Martyrs of Nicomedia


The martyrs of Nicomedia were 20,000 Christians martyred by the order of Diocletian. They were reported to have all been in the single basilica to celebrate Christmas. While there was an unquestionably endless series of martyrs under Diocletian, it's likely the ancient sources exaggerated

the numbers of this incident. The Christmas holy day was not celebrated in the East in 303 AD thus they were probably gathered for another feast. They were burned alive in 303 AD in the basilica of Nicomedia.

Today's Catholic Christmas Day Mass Readings 2023 Homily Theme: *Glory to God in the Highest!* -

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Sick Of the Parish:

	<p>Please pray for all the Sick in our three Parishes "My Payers and Good Wishes to All."</p>
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