

HOME LITURGY

Prepare a table with a white cloth on it and some flowers, a candle, a crucifix and a Bible.

Please note: *if there are children in your household, we have provided special resources for parents and children, which may be used in conjunction with this liturgy. Simply scroll down on the webpage where you accessed this liturgy to 'Resource VI: For the Kids'.*

If you would like to sing a hymn you might like to use this one:

ENTRANCE HYMN

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 of Light,
here in the Virgin's womb, he deigns to lie;
Son of the Father, Begotten, not created: *Refrain*

Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning
Jesus, to you be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *Refrain*

A member of the household begins with the greeting and invitation to prayer:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

We pause in silence to consider our need for God's grace in our discipleship. Then another person leads:

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Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and son of Mary. Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

Lord Jesus, you are the Word made flesh and the splendour of the Father. Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy

Lord Jesus, you are a light shining in our darkness. Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

All: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

We praise God together:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Opening Prayer may be prayed by all, or led by one person:

Opening Prayer

**O God, who were pleased to give us
the shining example of the Holy Family,
graciously grant that we may imitate them
in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity,
and so, in the joy of your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *Sir 3:2-6. 12-14*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
The Lord honours the father in his children,
and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.
Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,
he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.
Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own,
he shall be heard on the day when he prays.
Long life comes to him who honours his father,
he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.
My son, support your father in his old age,
do not grieve him during his life.
Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,
do not despise him in your health and strength;
for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten
but will serve as reparation for your sins.
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Psalm Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8

1. 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! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O children of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

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Second Reading Col 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22. 39-40 (Short form)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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.

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.

A time of silent reflection follows. If those present wish it would then be good to share thoughts and feelings coming from the Scripture readings. The homily for Sunday is also available via the link on our webpage to the Youtube channel containing the celebration of Sunday Mass in our parish and is also available as a printed text on the website.

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And there are also resources for helping children reflect on this Sunday's Gospel on the special page of our website.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader:

As we continue to celebrate the birth of the Lord
we ask for the peace of God's grace to come upon our world.

Reader:

For Pope Francis, Bishop Anthony, and all who lead God's people:
that they may inspire us to be a true family of faith, caring for and nurturing one another....*Pause*.....Lord hear us.

Reader:

On this feast of the Holy Family we pray that, like Mary and Joseph,
we may nurture the Christ-child born within our hearts,
that he may grow to maturity in our lives and in our discipleship....*Pause*.....Lord hear us

Reader

We pray for those for whom this Christmas has been marked by sorrow, by sickness, or by
the death of loved ones:
that they may know that the One born at Christmas is the Risen One,
the source of new life and love....*Pause*...Lord hear us.

Reader:

We pray for our fellow local Christian Churches.
This week we pray especially for Rev. Shaun McGregor
and the congregation at St Alban's Anglican Church at Lindfield...*Pause*.....Lord hear us
hear us

Leader:

God of all goodness,
may this Christmas Season fill our hearts with peace,
and may we be bearers of that peace to the world around us.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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At this time when we would enter into the celebration of the Eucharist let's pause in silent prayer and seek spiritual communion with the Lord and one another.

OR

you may wish to use the link the website page to a Youtube channel with Sunday Mass celebrated in our own parish and jump ahead to the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

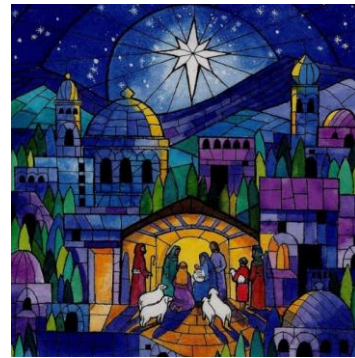
If you are watching all or part of the online Parish Mass in conjunction with this liturgy you might like to join the hymn for the Dedication of the Gifts. Otherwise please scroll down to the next part of the home liturgy.

HYMN FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE GIFTS

1. Silent night, Holy night,
All is calm, all is bright.
Round the virgin mother and child
Holy infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in Heavenly Peace.
Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

2. Silent night, Holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight:
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia.
Christ the Saviour is born.
Christ the Saviour is born.

3. Silent night, Holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.



If you are unable to come to Mass in person to share in Holy Communion, you might like to pray this ancient prayer of Spiritual Communion....

At your feet Lord Jesus, I offer you a contrite heart, which is humbled in your holy presence.

I adore you in the Sacrament of your love, the holy Eucharist.

I desire to receive you into the dwelling that my heart offers you.

While waiting for the happiness of sacramental communion, I wish to possess you in spirit.

Come to me, Lord Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to you!

May your love embrace my whole being in life and in death.

I believe in you, I hope in you, I love you. Amen.

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Then, together pray the Lord's Prayer.

Finally, one member of the household prays, as all bless themselves:

May the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come upon us all,
and remain with us forever.

All: Amen.

As we celebrate the birth of the Lord let us go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. 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.
2. Joy to the world! The saviour reigns;
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. 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.



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