

MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD 31 DECEMBER—1 JANUARY

Processional Hymn CWB 255

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains:

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise.
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
while our hearts in love we raise. *Refrain*

Liturgy of the Word

Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

Psalm Response

May God bless us in his mercy

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Mary is truly the Mother of God because she is the Mother of Jesus (Jn 2:1, 19:25). The One who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became truly her Son is actually the eternal Son of God the Father. He is God himself.

Compendium 95

Holy Communion CWB 260

Glad music fills the Christmas sky,
a hymn of praise, a song of love;
the angels worship high above
and Mary sings her lullaby.

Of tender love for God she sings,
the chosen mother of the Son;
she knows that wonders have begun,
and trusts for all the future brings.

The angel chorus of the skies
who come to tell us of God's grace
have yet to know his human face,
to watch him die, to see him rise.

Let praise be true and love sincere,
rejoice to greet the saviour's birth;
let peace and honour fill the earth
and mercy reign for God is here!

Then lift your hearts and voices high,
sing once again the Christmas song:
for love and praise to Christ belong
in shouts of joy, and lullaby.

One Licence: A-640406

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 7—8 JANUARY

Processional Hymn CWB 276

Earth has many a noble city,
Bethlehem, alone excels;
From it came the Lord from heaven,
came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing,
seen in human form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle
make their offerings rich and rare;
see them give in deep devotion,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
frankincense does God disclose,
gold the King of kings, proclaiming,
myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshipped
at your glad Epiphany,
now to you with God the Father
and the Spirit glory be.

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Psalm Response

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East
and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a new-born child.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 563

Holy Communion CWB 275

What child is this, who, laid to rest
on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds worship and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him praise,
the Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Come, have no fear, God's son is here,
his love all loves exceeding:

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail, the Saviour comes,
the Babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;
all tongues and people own him,
the King of kings salvation brings,
let ev'ry heart enthroned him:
Raise, raise your song on high
while Mary sings her lullaby,
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the Babe, the son of Mary.



Parish of St Gabriel & St Stephen of Hungary
Reservoir—Reservoir East

Parish Priest: Fr Gregory Pritchard
Parish Office: 1 Viola Street Reservoir 3073
Closed. Phone messages and Emails checked regularly
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St. Gabriel's Church
1 Viola St Reservoir 3073

St Stephen's Church
71 Whitelaw St Reservoir East 3073

January 01 & 08 2023

MASS & RECONCILIATION

Saturday *St Stephen's*
5pm Reconciliation 6pm Vigil Mass
Sunday *St Gabriel's*
9am Reconciliation 10am Mass
Weekday Mass at St Raphael's
Preston West
Tuesday 4pm
Wednesday 8.30am
Thursday 8.30am
Friday 8.30am

*Lets include the
Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
during the Christmas season
(December 25 to January 8)*

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

At Christmas we provide extra support to our Bishops and priests, retired and sick priests. The Christmas offering envelope is included in our parish Thanksgiving envelopes. Christmas offering envelopes are also available at St Gabriel's & St Stephen's churches.

Thanksgiving and Clergy support offering by direct debit

Parish of St Gabriel &
St Stephen of Hungary
BSB: 083-347
account: 639372585



***Our Parish is committed
to the safety, wellbeing and dignity
of all children and vulnerable adults***

***Please hand sanitise
at entry & Holy Communion
Face masks optional***



MARKING TIME WITH THE LORD I

Before my conversion, I wrestled with a life that felt meaningless. Without a spiritual centre, I was simply marking time. Days, months, and years passed, but what was the purpose of it all? When I discovered Christianity, I discovered a treasure trove of meaning and purpose - and one of those gems was the liturgical year. "Marking time" took on a new meaning.

Early on I learned that the Church year begins with the first Sunday of Advent. A friend who had been influential in my conversion gave me an Advent wreath, and a new ritual was born in our home. By this time, our first child had also been born. Over the weeks of Advent, as we slowed down and prepared our hearts and our home for Christmas, I pondered the wonder of Christ's incarnation. I realized that I shared something with the mother of Jesus: like Mary's soul, mine too wanted to sing out and proclaim the greatness of the Lord. Carving out such quiet, reflective time in Advent became an annual tradition.

Lent became a time to renew commitments to God and to stretch and push myself in the areas of sacrifice and self-discipline. Knowing that there was a prescribed time each year for interior reflection was ironically liberating. In the past, I felt as if I were on a hamster wheel, chasing down novel ideas and approaches to personal growth all the time. But as a Christian, I realized that I didn't have to agonize continually about "where I was" spiritually because there was little chance I would neglect my faith. Every year I could count on a lovely nudge from the Church to examine my heart and determine where God might be leading me.

Both my husband and I were received into the Catholic Church at an Easter Vigil. Easter had already become a time of great celebration, but now we have a new layer of personal connection to this greatest of feasts. Over the fifty days of the Easter celebration, we often reminisce about and thank God for the Easter Vigils that changed our lives.

Karen Edmisten wau.org