

# THE CATHOLIC MASS SHEET

ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

Holy Family (A)

28th December 2025

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon or a hymn

Stand

Lk 2:16

**The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant  
lying in a manger.**

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the Priest says:*

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

*The Priest greets everyone present.*

*The people respond: **And with your spirit.***

*The Mass of the day may be introduced.*

## Penitential Act

*The Priest invites the people to repentance  
using one of the Penitential Acts.*

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

**For we have sinned against you.**

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

**And grant us your salvation.**

*The Priest says the absolution. All reply:*

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## Gloria

**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.**

## Collect

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.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Sirach 3:2–6, 12–14

The Lord honoured the father above the  
children, and he confirmed the judgement of  
the mother over her sons. Whoever honours  
his father atones for sins, and whoever  
glorifies his mother is like one who lays up  
treasure. Whoever honours his father will be  
gladdened by his own children, and when he  
prays he will be heard. Whoever glorifies his  
father will have long life, and whoever obeys  
the Lord will refresh his mother.

O son, help your father in his old age and do  
not grieve him as long as he lives; even if he  
is lacking in understanding, show indulgence;  
in all your strength do not despise him. For  
kindness to a father will not be forgotten, and  
against your sins it will be credited to you.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



**Psalm** Psalm 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R.cf. 1

**R. Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.**

Blessed are all who fear the LORD,  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be blessed and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive  
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the husband who fears the LORD.  
May the LORD bless you from Sion.  
May you see Jerusalem prosper  
all the days of your life!

### **Second Reading**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Colossians. Colossians 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Acclamation before the Gospel** *Stand*  
**Alleluia, alleluia.** Colossians 3:15a, 16a  
**Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;  
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.  
Alleluia.**

**Gospel** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

- R.** When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Out of Egypt I called my son.'
- R.**

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.' And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Homily**

*Sit*

### **The Nicene Creed**

*Stand*

**I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**



For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
*and by the Holy Spirit* *All bow*  
*was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,*  
*and became man.*

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Or:*

#### *The Apostles' 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* *All bow*  
*Holy Spirit,*  
*born of the Virgin Mary,*  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated 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.  
Amen.

#### *Prayer of the Faithful*

*Response example:* Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

*After the concluding prayer all say: Amen. Sit*

#### *THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST*

*The offerings are brought to the altar.  
A hymn may be sung. If the Priest says the two  
prayers of offering aloud, the response both  
times is:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The people rise as the Priest says:*  
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

*The people reply:*

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice  
at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good  
and the good of all his holy Church.**

#### *Prayer over the Offerings*

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation,  
humbly asking that,  
through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of  
God and Saint Joseph,  
you may establish our families firmly in your grace  
and your peace.

**Amen.**

#### *The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

*The Priest continues with the Preface and  
concludes with the people, singing or saying aloud:*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Kneel*

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until the  
Priest says:*

The mystery of faith.

*And the people continue, acclaiming one of the  
following:*

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

*Or:*



**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

*Or:*

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer  
saying alone:*

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

*The people acclaim: Amen.*

### **The Communion Rite**

*Stand*

*The Priest invites all to join in 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.**

*The Priest continues alone:*

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

*The Priest says:*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins,  
but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**  
The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And with your spirit.**

*The Deacon, or the Priest, adds:*

**Let us offer each other the sign of peace.**

*The Priest takes the host and breaks it.*

*Meanwhile the people say or sing:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*Kneel*

*The Priest shows the host to the people and says:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

*The Priest or other minister says to each  
communicant:*

The Body [Blood] of Christ.

*Each communicant answers: Amen.*

### **Communion Antiphon**

*Bar 3:38*

**Our God has appeared on the earth, and  
lived among us.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Stand*

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly  
Sacrament,  
most merciful Father,  
to imitate constantly the example of the Holy  
Family,  
so that, after the trials of this world,  
we may share their company for ever.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE CONCLUDING RITES**

*Announcements may be made.*

*Then:*

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Then the Deacon, or the Priest, says:*

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

*Or:*

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. *Or:*

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. *Or:*

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**



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