

The Diocese of Los Angeles

The Parish of Saint Patrick  
The Episcopal Church in Thousand Oaks



*God Is With Us*, Hanna Varghese

**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:  
CHRISTMAS DAY**

The Holy Eucharist + December 25, 2020 + 10:00 am

# WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS

The days are short at this time of year. The nights are long. Here we shall hear of angels, of shepherds, and of Mary and Joseph wondering about the future of the baby Jesus. They may have seen the star overhead in the night sky. Others, wise men from the East, were on a journey following that light, probably not knowing what it meant. Many of us bring questions about God, about the meaning of life, along with our own empty places or struggles.

*No one comes with all the answers.*

It's just so much better that we come with a sense of wonder and expectation and hope as we sing Silent Night, Holy Night.

May the gift of this Christmas Day find you hearing God's call to follow Jesus in the following seasons of the church year that give us the rest of the story. Many of us know that as we tell his story, we are finding the Christ in the story of our own lives.

*Please come back. Come often.*

May the gift of this Christmas not be something left under a tree, but the Spirit of Christ planted in all our hearts, and what brings us back to be the People of God.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST: CHRISTMAS DAY

The Holy Eucharist + December 25, 2020 + 10:00 am

*The Altar Flowers are Dedicated to the Glory of God  
and in Honor of the Birth of Christ Our Savior*

## The Acclamation and Collect for Purity

*Officiant*        ✠ The Word became flesh, and lived among us, alleluia;

*People*            **And we beheld his glory, alleluia;**

*Officiant*        Glory as of God's only Son, alleluia;

*People*            **Full of grace and truth, alleluia.**

*The Officiant prays the Collect for Purity*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Salutation and Collect of the Nativity of Our Lord

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The People are seated.*

## The First Reading

**ISAIAH 52:7-10**

**H**OW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Lector*            This is the Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## The Second Reading

LUKE 1:26-58

**N**OW IN THE SIXTH MONTH the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. After having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when Mary saw the angel, she was shocked, and considered what manner of greeting this was. So the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of God; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am not yet married?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will shine on you, and the power of God will come upon you; in that way, the Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now take note, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible."

Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*A period of meditative silence follows the Reading.*

## The Gospel

LUKE 2:1-20

*Officiant*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**I**N THOSE DAYS A DECREE WENT OUT from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Officiant*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        Thanks be to God.

## **The Homily**

**The Reverend George Daisa**

*A period of meditative silence follows the Sermon. All then stand.*

*The Nicene Creed, the ancient summary of the Christian faith, is recited by all in unison.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father,  
the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from  
the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead ✠,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Intercessor* Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Intercessor* Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy,

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Intercessor* Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy,

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Intercessor* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy,

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Intercessor* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Intercessor* We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* ***Hear our prayer.***

*The Officiant prays this concluding Collect*

**O** GOD, WHO WONDERFULLY CREATED, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

## Prayers and Intercessions

*Officiant* Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

*Please add your own prayers aloud or in the silence of your heart.*

*Officiant and People*

**O**UR 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## A Musical Offering

A Cradle in Bethlehem

Al Bryan, Lawrence Stock

Dr. Eric Kinsley, *piano*

Mr. Lucas Chambers, Mr. Theo Chambers, *singers*

Mr. Kyle Chambers, *cello*

## A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis, *prayed together*

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand;**

**to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

## The Christmas Blessing and Dismissal

*Officiant* May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your hearts with the light of his holiness.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

***MERRY CHRISTMAS!***



**The Parish of Saint Patrick**  
One Church Road  
Thousand Oaks, California 91362

[The Reverend George Daisa, Rector](#)  
[The Reverend Steve Simpson, Associate for Family and Youth](#)  
[Ms. Susannah Ruth, Parish Administrator / Choirmaster](#)  
[Dr. Eric Kinsley, Music Director](#)

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