

Praying that the Holy Family, Baby Jesus, Holy Mother Mary and Good Saint Joseph will obtain for you and yours all of the Joys, Graces and Blessings of this Holy Christmas / Epiphany Season. May the Holy Angels, Shepherds and Kings obtain for you that Peace, Joy and Love that the Divine, Infant King, Jesus willed to be in this world when as our Savior:
THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US.



Lessons from the Third Nocturn of the Divine Office.

Midnight Mass

Homily of Pope St. Gregory on the Gospel.

Since by the Lord's favor we are to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Mass three times today, we cannot speak at length upon the lesson of the Gospel. Yet, the Nativity of our Lord, compels us to say something, however brief. Why is it, when our Lord was to be born "the world is enrolled"? Is it not this – to show clearly that He, who now appears in the flesh, will one day enroll His elect in eternity. But to the reprobate the Prophet says, Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and with the just let them not be written. Happily, too, Jesus is born in Bethlehem – Bethlehem, which signifies a house of bread – since it is Jesus who said of Himself: I am the living bread which came down from heaven. The place, therefore, where the Lord is born is prophetically called the House of Bread. There He was to appear in the vesture of flesh, He who was to refresh the souls of the elect with spiritual refection. He was not born in the house of His parents but away from home, to show that in assuming His human flesh He was being born, as it were, in an alien country.

The Second Mass

Homily of St. Ambrose, Bishop

Behold the beginning of the infant Church! Christ is born; the shepherds begin to watch, gathering together the flock of the Gentiles, who up to now had lived like brute animals; leading them into the sheepfold of the Lord, lest they suffer attack from spiritual wild beasts during the darkness of the night. Well do they keep watch, these shepherds trained by the Good Shepherd. The flock is the people; the night the world; the shepherds, priests. Perhaps he even is a shepherd to whom it was said, Be watchful and strengthen. The Lord has ordained as shepherds of His flock, not Bishops only, He appointed the very Angels guardians.

The Third Mass

Homily of St. Augustine, Bishop

Lest you think this is a commonplace, as you are in the habit of thinking when men talk to you of human things, hear what you are to think: The Word was God. Now I know that some Arian unbeliever may come forward to say that the Word of God was made. How can it be that the Word of God was made, when God made all things by the Word? If the very Word of God was also made, by what other word was He made? If you say that the word of the Word is the one by which He was made, then I will say that That is Itself the only Son of God. But if you do not say the word of the Word, then admit that He, by whom all things were made, was Himself not made. For He, by whom all things were made, could not make Himself. Therefore believe the Evangelist.

Thank you for all prayers, gifts, and good deeds received from you during this past year. May God grant you every grace you need.

In Jesus, Mary and St. Joseph,

Patrick Henry