



Feast of the Nativity of the Lord

25th December 2020



Entrance Antiphon

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world.
Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

First reading

Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth.

Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

*Our Lady of Fatima is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity
of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.*



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Second reading

Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia! I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

Communion Antiphon

Jn 1: 14

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

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OUR LADY OF FATIMA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

ROSEBUD

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

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MASS TIMES

Wed 9:30am
Fri 9:30am
Sat 9:30am
Sun 9:00am, 5:00pm

CONFESSION

Half an hour before Masses

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN PAUL

Merry Christmas to all the faithful of Our Lady of Fatima Rosebud, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Dromana. May the peace of the Christ child, experienced by the Holy Family in Bethlehem even amongst their trials, be with you and your families this Christmas.

Whose heart is not moved by the passing words of Luke's Gospel, "for there was no room for them at the Inn"? (Lk 2:7)

This is echoed at the beginning of John's Gospel, "The world was made through Him but the world knew Him not. He came to His own people, and His own people received Him not." (Jn 1:10,11)

And in Matthew's Gospel, Our Lord Himself says, "foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." (Mt 8:20)

It certainly makes us happy to see the Nativity where Our Lord is so well loved and at home under the parentage of Joseph and Mary. We who love Christ, love to see Him being loved! Indeed, in the pure hearts of Joseph and Mary, there is room for Him, He was known, He was received, He could lay His head, and indeed He found perfect adoration and worship. He is truly enthroned in the pure hearts of Mary and Joseph. What a perfect example for us!

Having made us free, God comes to us as a beggar, helpless and vulnerable, and desiring of all our love.

As an aside, here is a good question to reflect on: would we have been more loving and obedient to God if he first appeared in power and ruled with an iron fist like Caesar or Herod..?

Let us love Him even more, and be even more faithful to His teachings, for coming to us is such humility! By being born in a stable, as a beggar, God is making an appeal to us to make a place for Him in



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DROMANA

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MASS TIMES

Tues 6:00pm
Thurs 9:30am
Sat Vigil 6:00pm
Sun 11:00am

CONFESSION

Half an hour before Masses

our lives and in our families. Let our hearts be moved at seeing the Christ child in poverty and take the next step in our faith- let's get serious about following Jesus!

If we receive the Lord Jesus into our lives and into our families just as Mary and Joseph did, we can experience the same peace and happiness that their lives were filled with.

Have you suffered much this year? God knows that you have, and I pray that you will find great comfort in contemplating the Nativity scene. Joseph and Mary endured so many difficulties, and yet quietly and courageously they went, carrying Christ with them, totally trusting in God's providence. No doubt there will be even more tough times ahead. Let us take example from Joseph and Mary and we can endure all things! (1 Cor 13:7)

I want to thank all the faithful people at Our Lady and Fatima and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parishes who have helped and supported our Parishes over this difficult year. Without our office staff and volunteers, we simply could not keep going. On behalf of the Parish – a huge thank you!

To all our Parishioners who have struggled in their faith over this last year, I thank you for your courage! As St James the Apostle says, "Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4) You have endured a great trial this year. I pray that your faith and love will grow only stronger in the year to come. God bless you for your faith!

Merry Christmas to all.

Pax Christi,

Fr John Paul Mount

Parish Priest

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church