

READINGS & PRAYERS

ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD
(IN LENT)

COLLECT

We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isa 7.10–14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 40



℣. Here I am, O Lord! I come to do your will.
(All repeat)

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. ℣.

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. ℣.

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. ℣.

I have not hidden your justice in my heart, but declared your faithful help.
I have not hidden your love and your truth from the great assembly. ℣.

SECOND READING

Heb 10.4–10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
 The Word became flesh and dwelt among us:
 and we have seen his glory.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

GOSPEL READING

Lk 1.26–38

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Luke.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, almighty God, the offerings of your Church, whose first beginnings were in the incarnation of your only-begotten Son; may we find joy in celebrating the mysteries that he instituted: who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SOLEMN BLESSING

May God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for life eternal. **Amen.**

May God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge, reveal to you the path from darkness to light. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...