

## December 2011 Liturgical Notes

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



### Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord.

And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

*Luke 2: 11-14*

**6 Dec**

**St. Nicholas** [Lect. 687]

The First Reading for the Feast of St. Nicholas is Isaiah 6:1-8. It is the source for two of the texts in the Order of Mass, the priest's text before proclaiming the Gospel (Isaiah 6:5-7) and a portion of the Sanctus (Isaiah 6:3).

**8 Dec**

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

This is the Patronal Feastday of the United States of America and a Holyday of Obligation.

Notice the Prayer over the Gifts contains the word "prevenient". Consider catechizing students on the meaning of this in classroom preparation during the week before the Mass.

The Preface for this Feastday is contained in the Proper of Saints with the other texts for this day.

**11 Dec**

**Third Sunday of Advent, Year B**

The first invocation of Form C of the Penitential Rite found printed in the Order of Mass echoes today's First Reading (Isaiah 61:1).

**25 Dec**

**Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Mass at Midnight** [Lect. 14]

The words of the Gloria echo the Gospel reading for the Mass at Midnight (Luke 2:14).

The words of the embolism echo the Second reading (Titus 2:13) for this Mass.

**Mass During the Day** [Lect. 16]

The third invocation of Form C of the Penitential Rite found printed in the Order of Mass echoes today's Second Reading (Hebrews 1:3).

### Other Considerations for Christmas Celebrations

Prepare assembly before Mass with catechesis on changes to the Mass texts, rehearse new spoken and sung texts with the assembly.

Christmas Masses can be a wonderful opportunity to preach on the Eucharistic Prayer translation of *pro-multis*. Knowing that "for many" may cause some discomfort for people it might be helpful to preach on **1)** the Second Reading for Midnight Mass—Titus 2:11-14 [Lect. 14] because the first line reads, "*For the grace of God has appeared, saving all*" or **2)** Preface II or III of the Nativity of the Lord which reference *all*.

Consider reprinting the US Bishops' resource *Six Questions on the Translation of Pro-Multis* and making it available on the parish website, in bookracks, and in the bulletin.

Give pew cards with the translation of *Roman Missal: Third Edition* to all who attend Christmas Mass as an evangelization initiative. Encourage reflection and discussion on these words at home. Include a web address for further information.