



Liturgy Cycle A

Christmas

Christ: The Meaning and Light Of Our Lives

Introduction

'Behold, I bring you news of great joy for all the people. To-day a saviour has been born for you; he is Christ the Lord.' This was the message the angels brought to the shepherds. Today through the voice of the Church, this marvelous message is announced to us too. Let us open our minds and our hearts to receive the 'great joy'. Christ himself is the 'great joy'.

Midnight Mass:

First Reading (Isaiah 9: 1-7)

This reading looks forward to the coming of the saviour- child who will rescue his people from darkness and oppression, and enable them to live in security and peace.

Second Reading (Titus 2: 11-14)

St. Paul reminds us of what is expected of us if we are to enjoy the salvation won for us by Christ.

Gospel (Luke 2: 1-4)

This tells about the birth of Christ in a manger and how the news was brought to the simple shepherds by angels.

Dawn Mass:

First Reading (Isaiah 62: 11-12)

With the birth of our Lord the Christian people can taste the joy of the exiles returning from Babylon.

Second Reading (Titus 3: 4-7)

We ourselves did nothing to merit the birth of Christ; rather, God sent his son out of compassion for us.

Gospel (Luke 2: 15-20)

With Mary we are invited to ponder on the deep meaning of the birth of Christ so that, with the shepherds, we may be moved to glorify and praise God.



Liturgy Cycle A

Day Mass:

First Reading (Isaiah 52: 7-10)

This great hymn of exultation at the return of the exiles from Babylon is also a poem of joy for our redemption.

Second Reading (Hebrews 1: 1-6)

The whole history of God's dealings with his people in the past was a preparation for the coming of his Son at a particular moment in history.

Gospel (John 1: 1-18)

This is a great hymn to the Word of God, the source of all life, whose coming among us makes us children of God.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Things have never been the same since the Son of God came down on earth to reveal to us the Father's love for us, our true dignity, and eternal destiny. Let us pray this day through Christ our Brother.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the pope and the bishops: that Christ's light may help them in their task of guiding the people of god to the Promise Land of eternal life. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all men and women of good will: that the coming of Christ may enlighten heir minds, raise their hopes and deepen their love. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the light of Christ may shine this day on he lonely, the sick and those who have no meaning in their lives. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the coming of Christ's light may help us to become more aware that we are indeed brothers and sisters, and deepen our love and respect for one another. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



Communion Reflection

**The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.
On those who lived in a land of deep shadow
A light has shone.**

**Christ is the true light
That shines for all people.
Since his coming
A light has been shining on our earth,
A light darkness cannot overpower.**

**So light your candles,
Offer your gifts,
And be happy on this bright day,
For Christ has enlightened us.**

**We now know who we are
And where we're going.
We are brothers and sisters of Christ,
And we are bound for the Father's kingdom.
So happy Christmas everyone!**