



Mystical Nativity, (ca. 1500-1501) Sandro Botticelli, National Gallery, London

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day

December 25, 2023 + 10 a.m.

Church of the Ascension, Chicago, Illinois

Sun	Dec. 24	The Fourth Sunday of Advent 9 a.m. Sung Mass 10 a.m. Confession available 11 a.m. Solemn Mass
Sun	Dec. 24	The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ 10:30 p.m. Organ Voluntaries & Congregational Carols 11 p.m. Procession to the Crèche and The First Mass of Christmas
Mon	Dec. 25	Christmas Day 10 a.m. Solemn Mass with Choir
Tues	Dec. 26	12 p.m. Said Mass: St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr
Wed	Dec. 27	6:30 p.m. Said Mass: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Thu	Dec. 28	12 p.m. Said Mass: Holy Innocents
Sun	Dec. 31	The First Sunday after Christmas Day 9 a.m. Sung Mass 10 a.m. Confession available 11 a.m. Solemn Mass
Mon	Jan. 1	7 p.m. Sung Mass: The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Wed	Jan. 3	6:30 p.m. Said Mass: Christmas Feria
Sat	Jan. 6	11 a.m. Solemn Mass: The Feast of the Epiphany

*Please silence all electronic devices that may distract you or others from worship.
Cameras in the church are for the purposes of live-streaming and/or recording our liturgies and music, but anyone in the church may be incidentally viewed.*



ORGAN

Chorale Partita: *Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele*

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

*When the sanctuary bell is rung, the People stand as the Ministers enter.
During the Introit, the Altar is censed.*

Opening Hymn 107

IN DULCI JUBILO

Introit “Puer natus est nobis” (Ps. 98) Mode VII

Puer natus est nobis, et filius datus est nobis: cuius imperium super humerum eius: et vocabitur nomen eius magni consilii Angelus. Ps. 98 Cantate Domino canticum novum: quia mirabilia fecit. Gloria Patri. Puer natus ...

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his Name shall be called Angel of mighty counsel. Ps. 98. O sing unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvelous things. V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Unto us ...

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Setting: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594) *Missa Aeterna Christi munera*

Gloria in excelsis

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,
we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly
King, God the Fa-ther Al - might - y.——
4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;
5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the

right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up-on us.

8. For thou on-ly art ho-ly; thou on-ly art the Lord; 9. thou on-ly, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, art most high in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

A men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The People are seated.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual “Viderunt omnes” (Ps. 98) Mode V

Viderunt omnes fines terræ salutare Dei nostri: Jubilate Deo, omnis terra.

All the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God: O be joyful in God, all ye lands.

The Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God's angels worship him.” Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.” But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all

wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

When the Gospel procession moves towards the pews, the People stand.

Alleluia "Dies sanctificatus" (Heb. 1) Mode II

Alleluia. Dies sanctificatus illuxit nobis; venite gentes et adorate Dominum: quia hodie descendit lux magna super terram. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. V. A hallowed day hath dawned upon us: come all ye nations, and worship the Lord: for on this day a great Light hath descended upon the earth. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord. *People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Carlos de la Torre

The People stand as able.

The Nicene Creed (S-104 Contemporary)

We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al-might - y, ma - ker of
hea - ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen. We be - lieve
in one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, e - ter - nal - ly
be - got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, be - got - ten, not made, of one Be - ing with the Fa - ther.
Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal - va - tion
he came down from hea - ven: by the pow - er of the Ho - ly Spi - rit
he be - came in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Ma - ry, and was made man.
For our sake he was cru - ci - fied un - der Pon - tius Pi - late;
he suf - fered death and was bur - ied. On the third day he rose a - gain

in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures; he a - scend-ed in - to hea - ven
and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther. He will come a -
gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the dead, and his king-dom
will have no end. We be - lieve in the Ho - ly Spi - rit, the Lord,
the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther and the Son.
With the Fa - ther and the Son he is wor - shiped and glo - ri - fied.
He has spo - ken through the Pro - phets. We be - lieve in one ho - ly
cath - o - lic and a - po - sto - lic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism
for the for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. A - men.

Prayers of the People

Form VI (BCP p. 392)

The Leader and People pray responsively
In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Paula our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence
The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence
The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word:
Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory “Tui sunt caeli” (Ps. 89) Mode IV

Tui sunt caeli, et tua est terra: orbem terrarum, et plenitudinem eius tu fundasti:
iustitia et iudicium praeparatio sedis tuae.

*The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: thou hast laid the foundation of the round
world, and all that therein is: righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat.*

Offertory Motet

*Today the Virgin comes to the cave
To give birth to the Word eternal:*

(Refrain)

*Rejoice, O World
With the Angels and the Shepherds
Give glory to the Child! Alleluia!*

*Mary my wife, O Mary my wife!
What do I see?
I took you blameless before the Lord*

*From the priests of the Temple
What do I see?*

*Joseph the Bridegroom,
O Joseph the Bridegroom!
Do not fear.
God in his mercy has come down to earth,
He takes flesh in my womb
For all the world to see.*

*Mary, my Bride, O Mary my Bride,
What do I see?
You, a virgin giving birth.
Strange mystery!*

*Joseph the Bridegroom,
O Joseph the Bridegroom!
Do not fear.
God in his mercy has come down to earth,
He takes flesh in my womb
For all the world to see.*

*Warned by the Angel we believe
That Mary gives birth inexplicable
To the infant, Christ, our God.*

Setting: John Tavener (1944-2013) *Today the Virgin* (1989)
Text: Mother Thekla (1918-2011)

Offertory Hymn 102

IRBY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP p. 367)

Orate Fratres

Celebrant Pray, beloved, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable
to God the Father Almighty.

People May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise
and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his
holy Church.

Celebrant Amen.

Sursum corda

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Setting: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594) *Missa Aeterna Christi munera*

The People stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to

be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Celebrant

There - fore, ac - cord - ing to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
 be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
 dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
 as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
 us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - - ry, for ev - er and ev - - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People
 There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof.

People **But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

† All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion, and all may come forward.

Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to receive may indicate a desire for a blessing by crossing arms on the chest upon approaching the priest. If you prefer not to receive the Chalice, please cross your arms on your chest and remain until the minister has said the words of reception, “The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.” If you require a gluten-free host, put your right hand over your heart.

- Please alert an usher if you need the Sacrament brought to you in the pew.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: grant us thy peace.

Setting: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594) Missa Aeterna Christi munera

THE COMMUNION

Communion “Viderunt omnes” (Ps. 98) Mode I

Viderunt omnes fines terræ salutare Dei nostri. Gloria Patri.

All the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God. Glory be to the Father.

Communion Motet

Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, wooly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little Lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb I'll tell thee;
Little Lamb I'll tell thee;
He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and he is mild,
He became a little child.
I, a child, and thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little Lamb God bless thee!
Little Lamb God bless thee!

Setting: John Tavener (1944-2013) *The Lamb* (1982)
Text: William Blake (1757-1827)

Communion Hymn 115

GREENSLEEVES

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

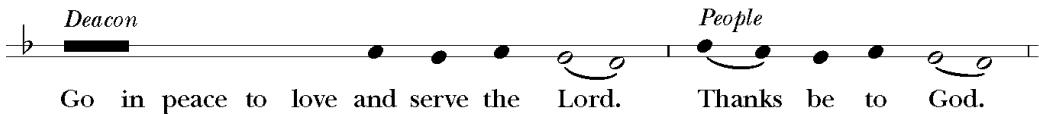
The Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and
heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

The People stand as they are able.

The Dismissal

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.



Closing Hymn 100

ANTIOCH

ORGAN

Von Himmel hoch da komm ich her' BWV 700

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Ascension Prayer List

For our prayers: Ellen Penrod, Andrew Carlin, Marilyn Labkon, Robert Baily, Lee Gould, Robert Pischke, Derek Petite, Florence Jones Clanton, David Schrader, Leslie Smebak Gormley, Rachel Smolinski, Sarah Reece Glanman, Suzanne Dines, MB Hwang, Juanita Malone, David S. Jones, Richard Francis Tracz, Victor Fernandez, Claire Green, Beth Hall, Sue Lenz, Brenda Martins

Birthdays: Ned Hedley, 12/27; Fletcher Glen Hedley, 12/31

Requiescat in pace: Dorothy Hall, 12/17/2023; Linda Clark; Joan Hedley, 12/26/2021



Please do remember your financial offerings to the church. At this time, they may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also write a check and mail it to the church or make a gift by scanning this QR Code.

2023 Advent Greens & Christmas Flower Donations

In memory of Betty and Weldon Reeves, Ricky Reeves, Dan Reeves, Michael Berkshire,
Jim Berger, John Mulcare, Bill Flodin
By David Reeves

In memory of Theodore D. Saunders, Jr., Samuel H. Rollé, Jr.
By Laverne Rollé Saunders

In memory of James M. Berger, M.E. & Anna Mae Drury, Jane Drury,
John Mulcare, William Flodin, Robert Coale, Thomas Prince, Ph.D., Edward F. X. Hughes, MD
By James Drury

In memory of Dr. C. Jeriel (Jay) Howard
By Richard Francis Tracz

In memory of Charlene Gehm MacDougal
By Gary MacDougal

In memory of Gary P. Fertig (*Priest*), Kurt A. Olson, (*Priest*), James H. Dunkerley, (*Priest*),
Louise Kellogg White, Robert A. White, Robert West
By David White & John West

In memory and in thanksgiving for
Anthony Couchman (*Priest*), Dolores Baran, Fred Baran, Roy Robertson,
Mary Jane Robertson, Sandra Robertson, Mike Lazos, Linda Packard (*Priest*)
By James & David Baran-Robertson

In memory of James Dunkerley (*Priest*), Kenzaburo Oë, Ryuichi Sakamoto,
all the people killed in Gaza
By Kuni Sakai

In thanksgiving for our family and friends
By Jay & Cheryl Peterson

In memory of Doris Williams, Vincent Hector, other families and friends
By Avril & Lynette Hector

In honor of All Ascension Alumni
By Edward Minieka

In thanksgiving
By Robert Petite and Mark Tabbut



In memory of Leroy & Augusta Woods, Louise, Curly, Doris, LuVell, Teresa,
Nelson, Robert, Bobby, Earmy and James
By Ruby Woods

In memory of Bernard & Mary Schram, Thaddeus & Cecelia Kowalski,
Wanda Dole, Karen Noe, James H. Dunkerley (*Priest*)
By Timothy & Mary Jane Kowalski

In honor of Joie & Seni, our beautiful granddaughters
In memory of Our Parents, Marvin Files, Chuck Kelley
By DiAnne and Jim Walsh

In memory, thanksgiving and honor of Yousef Ha Siddique, Mitron-Sarapanim,
Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Shem Ha Meforash, John Glanman, Ashraf Khan
By Sara Reece Glanman, Reece Alexander Conrad-Glanman, Reece Zulqurnayn Glanman

In thanksgiving for Ms. Lisa Weeks
By Jeffrey A Garcia

In memory of all victims of war in 2023
By Fr. Gary E. A. Lawler

In memory of Robert (Bob) Susman, Sarah Susman, Matt & Angeline Susman,
Mae & Dwight Johnson, Harold & Constance Clark, Bobby Faber
By Barbara A. Susman

Many thanks to those who serve:

The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite, *Celebrant*; The Rev. Meghan Murphy-Gill, *Deacon*,
The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, *Preacher*; Jay Jacot, Victoria Dvonch, Nancy Pardee, *Acolytes*;
Roberta Dawson, *Lector*; Eric Canales, Andrew Smith, *Technology*;
Roberta Dawson, *Ushers*

The Choir of the Ascension

Soprano Carolyne DalMonte, Alexia Rivera
Alto Miya Higashiyama, Amy Johnson, Cassidy Smith
Tenor Damon Cole, James Judd, Aaron Short
Bass Matthew Brennan, Ian Morris, Ian Prichard

**Christmas Day,
December 25
10 a.m.**

**Tuesday, Dec. 26 at 12 p.m.
St. Stephen**

**Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 6:30 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist**

**Thursday, Dec. 28 at 12 p.m.
The Holy Innocents**

**Sunday, December 31
First Sunday after Christmas Day
9 a.m. Sung Mass; 11 a.m. High Mass**

**Monday, January 1 at 7 p.m.
The Most Holy Name of Our Lord
Jesus Christ**

**Saturday, January 6 at 11 a.m.
The Epiphany**

**Sunday, January 7
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
9 a.m. Sung Mass; 11 a.m. High Mass**

**The Church of the Ascension
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**The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago
The Rev. Carlos de la Torre, Rector
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The Rev. Meghan Murphy-Gill, Curate
(mmurphygill@ascensionchicago.org)
The Rev. Charles F. Farrell, Deacon Associate**

**Assisting Clergy
The Rev. Gary Lawler
The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite
The Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins
Benjamin Rivera, Choirmaster
(brivera@ascensionchicago.org)**

**David White, Organist
(benbritten@yahoo.com)**

David Schrader, Organist Emeritus

**LaVerne Rollé Saunders
(SeniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)
David Reeves
(JuniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)**

**Ian Barillas-McEntee, Jim Lo Bello,
Ken Cozette, Marlea Edinger, Sean Hansen,
David A. Robertson, Elizabeth Simpson,
Joshua Simpson, Sam Sommers (Clerk), Vestry
Gary Alexander, Communications and Technology
MB Hwang, Verger
George Panice, Facilities Manager
(gpanice@gmail.com)
Nathanael Deward Rahm BSG, Parish Office
(office@ascensionchicago.org)**



Nativity, Sawai Chinnawong, 2004

MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Gloria in excelsis (S202) From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968) by Permission of Oxford University Press *The Lord's Prayer* (S119); *The Nicene Creed* (S-104) Plainsong Mode 4; *Credo I*; adapt. Mason Martens © 1984; *Sursum Corda* (S120); *Alleluia Christ our Passover* (S152); *Dismissal* (S174) © 1985 Church

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Welcome to worship at the Church of the Ascension

An Anglican-Episcopal parish in the
city and Diocese of Chicago

SOME WHO HAVE GATHERED HERE TODAY may have traveled from afar and visited before. Church of the Ascension has long been a destination for those who feel blessed by the Anglo-Catholic worship here. Others may have made a shorter trip, and those here for the first time may ask, “What’s Anglo-Catholic?” The term refers to two aspects of our history and ongoing faith and worship.

Anglican churches are those in the tradition of, and with ongoing ties to, the Church of England. (In the United States we are mainly called Episcopalians.)

The ‘Catholic’ part of our identity is evident all around us here, in the church interior and in our worship.

- + We value and relish liturgy and music that engage and nourish the heart the mind and all the senses.
- + Our reverence for the sacrament of the Eucharist, the Mass, Christ’s Body and Blood, is emphasized by the architecture of the space and many elements of our worship.
- + We have a strong sense of taking part, as Christ’s people, in the Communion of Saints, including Blessed Mary and our patron saint, Michael the Archangel. Our faith is inspired and sustained by remembering the lives and witness of those who are now eternally with God.

We hope and pray that our sense of grateful, divine fellowship translates to our welcome of all and to faithfulness in the ministries that we share beyond our life of worship.

Your questions about our parish community, our worship and other ministries may be found by inquiring with our clergy or parishioners, or on our website – www.ascensionchicago.org.

Thank you and bless you for joining us.



The mosaic on the door of the altar tabernacle, Church of the Ascension

- **All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion.** Others are welcomed to come forward at the time of Communion to receive a blessing.
- **Please join us for Coffee Hour in Wheeler Hall** after the Mass.
- **If you are a visitor,** please consider completing one of the blue visitor cards found in the pews.
- **Live-Streaming** of select liturgies is available on Facebook and YouTube. Links for these can be found on our website Home page.
- **Please ask an usher about a parking permit** if your car will be in our parking lot after 1:30 pm today.

Church of the Ascension

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