

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



MORNING PRAYER  
WELCOMING CEREMONY  
FOR THE RELIQUARY OF  
SAINT THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

20 NOVEMBER 2025



# ORDER OF CEREMONY

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI**

*Rector of the Basilica*

*Presider*

## INTRODUCTORY RITE

### PROCESSION

Cantor:	Lord, have mercy.	All:	Lord, have mercy.
	Christ, have mercy.		Christ, have mercy.
	Lord, have mercy.		Lord, have mercy.

Cantor: Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
(to)  
All holy men and women, Saints of God,

All: 

### GREETING

Presider: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: Amen.

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is the crowning glory of all the saints,  
and the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

### INVITATION TO PRAYER

## PRAYER OF BLESSING

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, source of all grace and holiness,  
look kindly on your servants  
who have come to venerate the relics of Saint Thérèse,  
the friend and coheir of Christ.

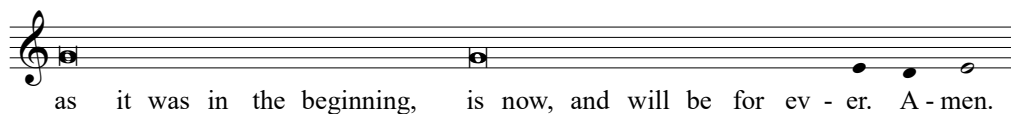
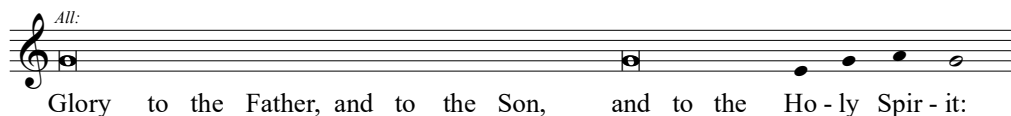
She is for us your witness  
to the life of the Gospel  
and stands in your presence to plead for us.  
Grant that we may benefit from her intercession.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

## INTRODUCTORY VERSE

*All sign themselves in the form of the cross.*



# HYMN



1. Let all who lov - ing - ly a - vow  
 2. Her pa - tro - ness and mo - ther chose  
 3. All glo - ry, Je - sus, be to you



Those gifts the Christ Child came to share  
 The loft - y peaks of Car - mel's height  
 This day re - vealed to lit - tle ones,



Ac - claim Thé - re - sè's vir - tues now  
 And there Thé - resè in fer - vor goes  
 To Fa - ther and blest Spi - rit, too,



And praise her name in song and prayer.  
 To fol - low Christ her one de - light.  
 While age on age for - e - ver runs.

# PSALMODY

*All sit.*

## PSALM 63:2-9

Antiphon: With my whole being I worship Christ;  
I long for him and desire to be with him for ever.

(*All*) O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.  
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.  
So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon: With my whole being I worship Christ;  
I long for him and desire to be with him for ever.

Antiphon: O virgins, praise the Lord with all your heart.  
He sowed the seeds of your virtue;  
he crowned the fruits of your life with his gifts.

*(All)* Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.  
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.  
You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever  
in your name I will lift up my hands.

Antiphon: O virgins, praise the Lord with all your heart.  
He sowed the seeds of your virtue;  
he crowned the fruits of your life with his gifts.

## **PSALM 149**

Antiphon: The saints will sing for joy in heaven's glory;  
radiant is their victory over human frailties.

*(All)* Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its maker,  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
shout for joy and take their rest.  
Let the praise of God be on their lips  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,



to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained;  
this honor is for all his faithful.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon: The saints will sing for joy in heaven's glory;  
radiant is their victory over human frailties.

#### READING

Song of Songs 8:7

Deep waters cannot quench love,  
nor floods sweep it away.  
Were one to offer all he owns to purchase love,  
he would be roundly mocked.

#### RESPONSORY

Lector: My heart is ever pleading, show me your face.  
**All: My heart is ever pleading, show me your face.**

Lector: I long to gaze upon you, Lord.  
**All: Show me your face.**

Lector: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
**All: My heart is ever pleading, show me your face.**

*All stand.*

Antiphon: Truly I say to you, unless you change your lives and become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.



1. Bless'd ✕ be the God of Is - ra - el, The ev - er -  
 2. Through ho - ly proph - ets did he speak His word in  
 3. Of old he gave his sol - emn oath To Fa - ther  
 4. O ti - ny child, your name shall be The proph-et  
 5. The ri - sing Sun shall shine on us To bring the



liv - ing Lord, Who comes in pow'r to save his own,  
 days of old, That he would save us from our foes  
 A - bra - ham: His seed a might - y race should be,  
 of the Lord; The way of God you shall pre - pare  
 light of day To all who sit in dark - est night



His peo - ple Is - ra - el. For Is - ra - el he  
 And all who bear us ill. To our an - ces - tors  
 And bless'd for ev - er - more. He vowed to set his  
 To make his com-ing known. You shall pro - claim to  
 And sha - dow of the grave. Our foot - steps God shall



rais - es up Sal - va - tion's tow'r on high In Da - vid's  
 did he give His co - ve - nant of love; So with us  
 peo - ple free From fear of ev - 'ry foe That we might  
 Is - ra - el Sal - va - tion's dawn-ing day, When God shall  
 safe - ly guide To walk the ways of peace. His name for



house, who reigned as king And ser - vant of the Lord.  
 all he keeps his word In love that knows no end.  
 serve him all our days In good - ness, love and peace.  
 wipe a - way all sins In his re - deem-ing love.  
 ev - er - more be bless'd Who lives and loves and saves.

## INTERCESSIONS

*All remain standing.*

Presider: Christ extolled those who practiced virginity  
for the sake of the kingdom.

Let us praise him joyfully and pray to him:

**All: Jesus, example of virgins, hear us.**

Lector: Christ, you presented the Church to yourself  
as a chaste virgin to her spouse,

**All: keep her holy and inviolate.**

Lector: Christ, the holy virgins went out to meet you with their lamps alight,

**All: keep the fidelity of your consecrated handmaids burning brightly.**

Lector: Lord, your virgin Church  
has always kept its faith whole and untarnished,

**All: grant all Christians a whole and untarnished faith.**

Lector: You have given your people joy  
in celebrating the feast of your holy Virgin Thérèse,

**All: give us constant joy through her intercession.**

Lector: You have admitted the holy virgins to your marriage banquet,

**All: in your mercy lead the dead to your heavenly feast.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us offer the prayer Christ himself taught us:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

## CLOSING PRAYER

Presider: O God, who open your Kingdom  
to those who are humble and to little ones,  
lead us to follow trustingly  
in the little way of Saint Thérèse,  
so that through her intercession  
we may see your eternal glory revealed.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Presider: May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Presider: Go in peace.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## CANONIZATION CENTENARY OF SAINT THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

To celebrate the centenary of the canonization of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has on display the “A Shower of Roses” Exhibit in Memorial Hall through the end of November. From November 20 to 22, the Basilica will host a relic of Saint Thérèse for public veneration and centenary Masses will be celebrated in the Great Upper Church at 12:10 p.m. each day.

### **“A Shower of Roses” Exhibit**

August 29 to November 30, 2025 ♦ Memorial Hall

### **Veneration of the Relic of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**

November 20 to 22, 2025 ♦ Great Upper Church

*Public veneration available*

*from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on November 20 and 21*

*and from 9:00 a.m. through the 12:10 p.m. Mass on November 22*

### **Centenary Masses in the Great Upper Church**

*Votive Mass of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux*

November 20, 2025 ♦ 12:10 P.M.

**WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY**

Archbishop Emeritus of Washington

*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

*Mass for the Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

November 21, 2025 ♦ 12:10 P.M.

**SEÁN CARDINAL O'MALLEY, OFM CAP.**

Archbishop Emeritus of Boston

*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

*Votive Mass of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux*

November 22, 2025 ♦ 12:10 P.M.

**CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE**

Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

# THANKSGIVING DAY

NOVEMBER 27

9:00 A.M. ♦ CRYPT CHURCH

SOLEMN MASS AT 12:00 NOON ♦ GREAT UPPER CHURCH

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI**

Rector, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

*Celebrant and Homilist*

*There will be no Confessions on Thanksgiving Day*

*The Basilica will close at 3:00 P.M.*



## SUNG VESPERS AT THE BASILICA

*We invite you to join us in celebrating Sung Vespers*

**Sundays in Advent at 4:00 P.M.**

4:30 P.M. Mass following

November 30, December 7, 14, 21

Great Upper Church

*All are welcome to this special celebration of*

*Evening Prayer during the Season of Advent*



## IN CONCERT

***Follow the Star: Choral Music for the Christmas Season***

Choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Peter Latona, *conductor*

**December 20, 2025 ♦ 6:00 P.M.**

Great Upper Church

*Free and open to the public*

# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Rossi  
*Rector of the Basilica*

Rev. Msgr. Vito A. Buonanno  
Rev. Ismael N. Ayala  
Rev. Raymond A. Lebrun, O.M.I.  
*Priests of the Basilica*

Deacon Joseph Pak  
Deacon Timothy Wolfkill  
Deacon Yannick Allepot  
*Deacons*

Peter Latona, D.M.A., *Director of Music*  
Benjamin J. LaPrairie, M.M., *Associate Director of Music*  
Adam S. Chlebek, M.M., *Assistant Director of Music*  
Choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine

Liturgical Ministers of the Basilica of the National Shrine  
Knights of Columbus, Ushers of the Basilica of the National Shrine  
Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, Sacristans of the Basilica of the National Shrine

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Rossi, Rector

**400 Michigan Avenue, NE • Washington, DC 20017-1566**

**(202) 526-8300 • [www.nationalshrine.org](http://www.nationalshrine.org)**