

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



OPENING MASS  
NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE  
“FOR GIVING THANKS TO GOD  
FOR THE GIFT OF HUMAN LIFE”

28 JANUARY 2021

This program is formatted for mobile devices.

**OPENING MASS**  
**NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE**

**“FOR GIVING THANKS TO GOD  
FOR THE GIFT OF HUMAN LIFE”**

**28 JANUARY 2021**  
**8:00 PM**  
**GREAT UPPER CHURCH**  
**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE**  
**OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

# NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE

## NATIONAL ROSARY FOR LIFE

**INTRODUCTION**      *Sister Agnes Mary Holtz, C.F.R.*

### **ROSARY**

#### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of  
heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God,  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.  
Amen.

## **Our Father**

**Hail Mary** *(recite 3 Hail Marys for an increase  
of faith, hope and charity)*

## **Glory be to the Father**

## **Fatima Prayer**

# THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

*Recite One Our Father, 10 Hail Marys and  
1 Glory Be and the Fatima Prayer*

**1st Luminous Mystery:**      Sr. Agnes Mary Holtz, C.F.R.  
**The Baptism in the Jordan**

The Lord Jesus is Baptized in the Jordan River  
by John the Baptist,  
as a voice cries to us from the heavens:

“This is my beloved Son, hear him!”

Let us listen to Christ and, with his grace,  
work for the protection of every person  
from conception to natural death.

**2nd Luminous Mystery:**     Sister Mareja Bianchi , M.C.  
**The Self-Manifestation at the Wedding at Cana**

When they had run out of wine,  
Jesus blessed water and turned it into wine.  
May Jesus transform the darkness of sin and death  
in the proclamation of the Gospel of Life.

**3rd Luminous Mystery:**     Sister Donata Farbaniec, O.L.M.  
**The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God**

Jesus called the crowds to conversion,  
proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is at hand.  
May this world choose life and turn from all  
that leads to darkness and death.

**4th Luminous Mystery:**     Sister Constance Carolyn, I.S.P.  
**The Transfiguration**

The Lord Jesus led Peter, James and John with him  
to the top of the mountain  
where he was transfigured in light,  
and his garments shone whiter than snow.  
May Christ's glorious light shine on all  
who dwell in the shadow of darkness and sin.

**5th Luminous Mystery:**      Sister Lucy Marie, S.V.  
**The Institution of the Eucharist**

On the night before he suffered,  
he took bread, blessed it, broke it,  
gave it to his disciples,  
and said, Take this, all of you, and eat it.  
This is my body.

When supper was ended,  
he took a cup filled with wine,  
gave it to them, and said, Take this, all of you,  
and drink from it, for this is the cup of my blood.  
Strengthened by the Holy Eucharist,  
may we work to proclaim the Gospel of life  
and defend all who are endangered by the culture  
of death.



## Closing Prayer

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, O most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus:

O Clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**SOLEMN EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION**  
**MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY**

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND JOSEPH F. NAUMANN**  
Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas  
Chairman, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Committee on Pro-Life Activities  
*Principal Celebrant and Homilist*

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND CHRISTOPHE PIERRE**  
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND TIMOTHY P. BROGLIO**  
Archbishop for the Military Services, U.S.A.

*His Excellency*

**MOST REVEREND JOSEPH L. COFFEY**  
Auxiliary Bishop for the Military Services, U.S.A.

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI**  
Rector of the Basilica

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR VITO A. BUONANNO**  
Director of Pilgrimages



**GLORIA PURVIS**  
*Lector*

# ORDER OF MASS

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### AT THE PROCESSION

Lau - da, Je - ru - sa-lem, Do - mi - num, lau - da

De - um tu - um Si - on: Ho - san - na!

Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na Fi - li - o Da - vid.

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,  
he has blessed the children within you.  
He established peace on your borders,  
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth  
and swiftly runs his command.  
He showers down snow white as wool,  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He makes his word known to Jacob,  
to Israel his laws and decrees.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his decrees.

Give praise to the Father Almighty,  
to his Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord,  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts,  
both now and for ever. Amen.

## **GREETING**

Celebrant: Peace be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Assembly: I confess to almighty God,  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have  
failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary,  
ever-virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Celebrant: May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

Assembly: Amen.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Lord, have mercy." It is organized into three horizontal staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The first staff is labeled "Cantor/Choir:" and the second staff is labeled "Assembly:". Each staff contains two measures of music, separated by a vertical bar line. The lyrics "Lord, have mercy," are written below the notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final measure in each staff ending with a double bar line.

Cantor/Choir:

Assembly:

Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

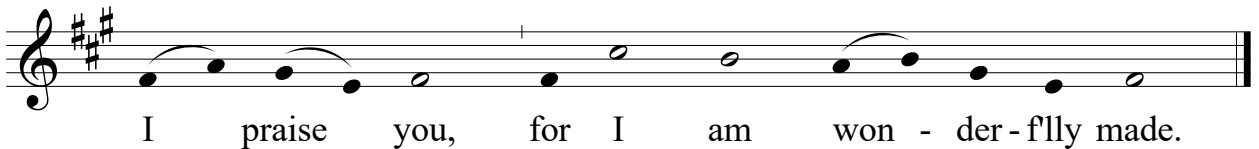
## COLLECT

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## READING I

Isaiah 49:1-6

## PSALM RESPONSE Psalm 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15



## READING I

I John 3:11-21

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:63c, 68c



Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke.

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-56

## HOMILY

Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann

*Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas*

*Chairman, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops*

*Committee on Pro-Life Activities*

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.



## PRAYER FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

O Blessed Mother,  
you received the good news  
of the incarnation of Christ, your Son,  
with faith and trust.  
Grant your protection  
to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.

Guide us as we strive  
to make our parish communities  
places of welcome and assistance  
for mothers in need.  
Help us become instruments  
of God's love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church,  
graciously help us build a culture of life  
and a civilization of love,  
together with all people of good will,  
to the praise and glory of God,  
the Creator and lover of life.\* Amen.

\*Cf. Evangelium vitae 105 © Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City.  
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# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

(Choir) *Look Up and Count the Stars*      Peter Latona  
(b. 1968)

Look up and count the stars if ye may,  
Thus God to Abram did declare  
So shall all your descendants be  
for now and all eternity.

We are the stars from God's own hand  
reflections of his own true love,  
the beauty of God's heavn'ly plan,  
th'eternal gift from heav'n above.

Now gaze upon the infant child  
with Joseph and the Virgin nigh  
may all our fam'lies be like them  
in peace and joy and unity.

Grant Lord we pray the grace to be  
The shining splendor of God's love  
His radiant light of truth and hope  
from heaven down to earth below.

5. So gaze u - pon the stars on high, sing  
6. Praise God the Fa - ther, God on the Son and

praise to God with sin - gle voice Ac - cept His gift and  
Ho - ly Spi - rit with them one. We pray they bless our

guard it well and let his will be our hearts' choice.  
fam - 'lies now and through-out all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Peter Latona

## **PREFACE**

Celebrant: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty  
Father.

Assembly: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your  
hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good  
and the good of all his holy Church.

## **PREFACE DIALOGUE**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

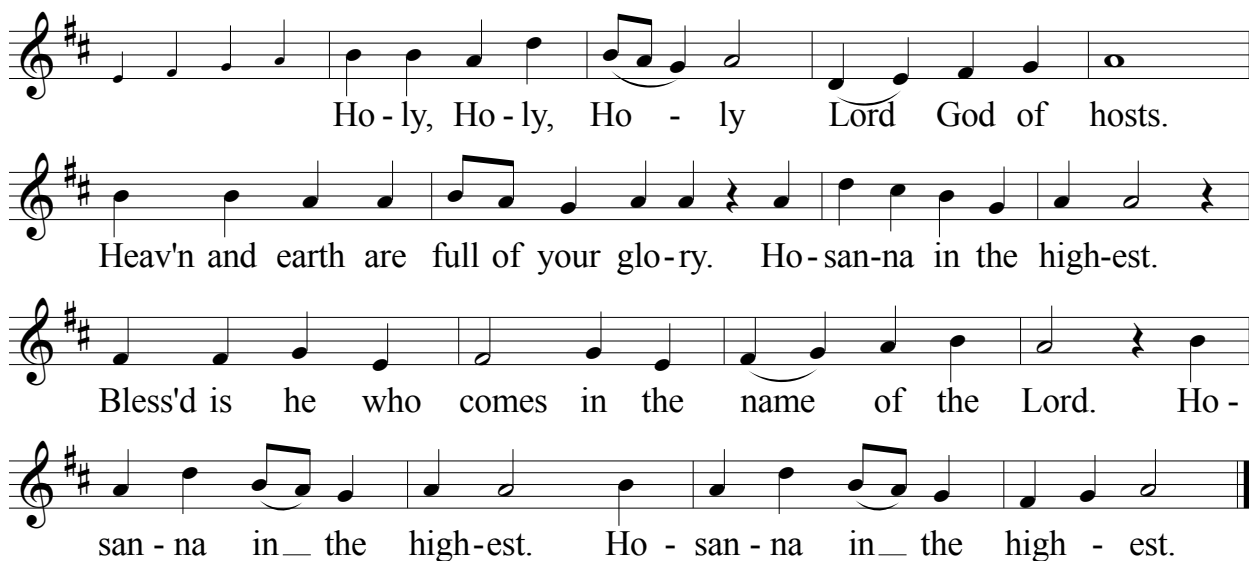
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right and just.

## PREFACE ACCLAMATION

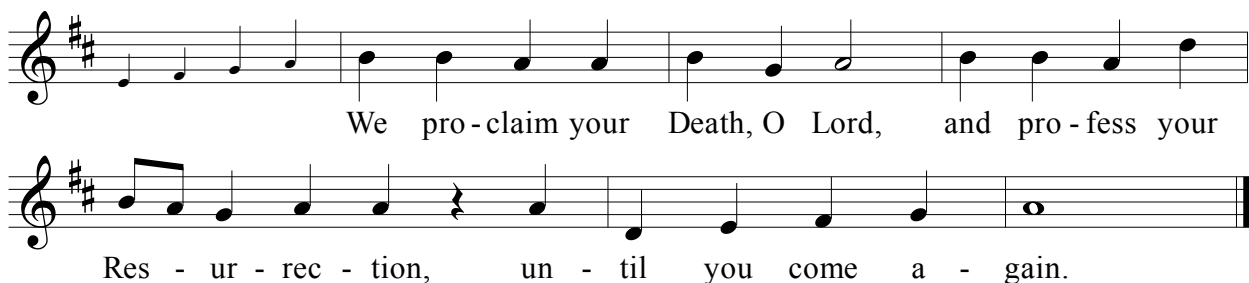


Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff has a melody with lyrics 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.' The second staff continues with 'Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.' The third staff has 'Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -' and the fourth staff concludes with 'san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' There are various musical markings including slurs, ties, and rests.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: The mystery of faith.



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a melody with lyrics 'We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your' and the second staff concludes with 'Res - ur - rec - tion, un - til you come a - gain.' There are various musical markings including slurs, ties, and rests.

## GREAT AMEN



A - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of one staff with a melody and lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - men.' There are various musical markings including slurs, ties, and rests.

# COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY

SIGN OF PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

## LITANY AT THE BREAKING OF BREAD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away  
the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called  
to the supper of the Lamb.

Assembly: Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

With you, O Lord, is the fountain of life,  
and in your light, we see light.

*(Ps. 36:10)*

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

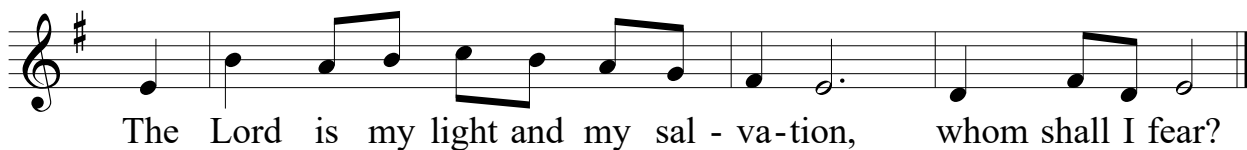
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

## COMMUNION PROCESSION





(Choir) *Thy Perfect Love*

John Rutter  
(b. 1945)

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest,  
Thy perfect love close in my breast  
That I thee love and never rest;  
And make me love thee of all things best,  
And wound my heart in thy love free,  
That I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

# EXPOSITION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

(Choir) *O salutaris hostia*

André Caplet  
(1878-1925)

*O salutaris hostia,  
quae coeli pandis ostium:  
Bella premunt hostilia,  
Da robur, fer auxilium.*

*Uni trinoque Domino  
sit sempiterna gloria:  
qui vitam sine termino  
Nobis donet in patria. Amen.*

O Saving Victim, opening wide  
The gate of heaven to us below!  
Our foes press on from every side:  
Your aid supply, your strength bestow.

To your great name be endless praise,  
Immortal Godhead, One in Three;  
O grant us endless length of days  
When our true native land we see. Amen.

*(Text: Thomas Aquinas, 1227-1274;  
translated by Rev. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, alt.)*

# **CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY**

**Our Father**

**Hail Mary**

**Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God,  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.  
Amen.

*On the “Our Father” bead before each decade:*

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood,  
Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son,  
Our Lord Jesus Christ  
in atonement for our sins  
and those of the whole world.

*On the “Hail Mary” beads of each decade:*

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion  
have mercy on us and on the whole world.

*After five decades, the concluding Doxology:*

Holy God, Holy Mighty One,  
Holy Immortal One,  
have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(Choir) *Anima Christi*

Marco Frisina  
(b. 1954)

*Anima Christi, sanctifica me.  
Corpus Christi, salva me.  
Sanguis Christi, inebria me.  
Aqua lateris Christi, lava me.  
Passio Christi, conforta me.  
O bone Iesu, exaudi me.  
Intra tua vulnera absconde me.  
Ne permittas me separari a te.  
Ab hoste maligno defende me.  
In hora mortis meae voca me.  
Et iube me venire ad te,  
Ut cum Sanctis tuis laudem te  
in saecula saeculorum. Amen.*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me,  
Body of Christ, save me,  
Blood of Christ, refresh me,  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me,  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me,  
O good Jesu, hear me;  
Within thy wounds hide me;  
Suffer me not to be separated from thee;  
From the malicious enemy defend me;  
In the hour of my death call me,  
And bid me come to thee,  
That with thy saints I may praise thee  
forever and ever. Amen.

*(St. Thomas Aquinas, c. 1227-1274)*

**REFLECTION**      Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio  
*Archbishop for the Military Services, U.S.A.*

# LITANY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF LIFE

*Response: Mary, pray for us.*

Mary, Mother of all Life, help us to respect human life  
from the moment of conception  
to the moment of natural death. R.

Mary, Mother of Compassion,  
you showed us how valuable a single life can be;  
Help us to guard and protect the lives of all people  
entrusted to our care. R.

Mary, Mother of the Child Jesus,  
with Saint Joseph you formed the Holy Family.  
Guard and protect all families in this earthly life; R.

Mary, Mother Most Holy,  
you sanctified the vocation of motherhood;  
Pour out your heavenly aid on all mothers  
and help them to be holy. R.

Mary, Mother of Sorrows,  
Simeon's prophecy foretold  
that a sword of suffering would pierce your heart;  
Bring comfort and hope to all mothers  
who suffer over their children. R.

Mary, Full of Grace,  
you had a choice in responding to God's call;  
Help us always to say "Yes"  
to the will of God in our lives,  
and strive always to do whatever he tells us. R.

Mary, Comforter of the Afflicted,  
Pour forth your heavenly grace  
on all who are in need of God's healing,  
Especially those involved in abortion;  
Help them to experience the love and mercy  
of Christ, your Son. R.

Mary, Intercessor and Advocate,  
we lift up the poor, the displaced,  
the marginalized and vulnerable members of society;  
Help them to never abandon hope,  
but to place their trust in the God  
who gave them life. R.



Mary, Mother of the Word Incarnate,  
you bore in your womb him  
whom the heavens cannot contain;  
Help us to bear witness to Christ  
by the example of our lives  
and show the world the extravagant love of God. R.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known  
that anyone who fled to your protection,  
implored your help, or sought your intercession  
was left unaided.  
Inspired with this confidence, we fly unto you,  
O Virgin of virgins, our Mother.  
To you we come, before you we stand,  
sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,  
despise not our petitions,  
but in your mercy hear and answer them. Amen.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.  
God our Creator,  
Lord and Redeemer of mankind,  
we give thanks to you,  
who alone have the power  
to impart the breath of life  
as you form each of us  
in our mother's womb;  
you alone have the power  
to forgive sins against human life,  
and to heal the wounds  
caused by these sins;  
grant the prayers  
we have placed before you,  
and grant that we, your children,  
will place all our trust  
in your Divine Mercy  
so that the world and all its inhabitants  
may be saved.  
Through Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

(Choir) *Sicut cervus* Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
(1525-1594)

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Sicut cervus desiderat</i>  | As the deer longs    |
| <i>ad fontes aquarum,</i>      | for running streams, |
| <i>ita desiderat anima mea</i> | so my soul longs     |
| <i>ad te Deus.</i>             | for thee, O God.     |

*(Psalm 42:1)*

# BENEDICTION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

## HYMN

(Choir) *Tantum ergo*

Fernand Laloux  
(1901-1970)

*Tantum ergo Sacraméntum  
Venerémur cernui:  
Et antiquum documéntum  
Novo cedat rítui:  
Praestet fides suppleméntum  
Sénsuum deféctui.*

*Genitóri, Genitóque  
Laus et jubilátio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedíctio:  
Procedénti ab utróque  
Compar sit laudátio. Amen.*

Come, adore this wondrous presence;  
Bow to Christ, the source of grace!  
Here is kept the ancient promise  
Of God's earthly dwelling place!  
Sight is blind before God's glory,  
Faith alone may see his face.

Glory be to God the Father,  
Praise to his coequal Son,  
Adoration to the Spirit,  
Bond of love, in Godhead one!  
Blest be God by all creation  
Joyously while ages run! Amen.

Celebrant: You have given them bread  
from heaven.

Assembly: **Containing all sweetness within it.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament  
have left us a memorial of your Passion,  
grant us, we pray,  
so to revere the sacred mysteries  
of your Body and Blood  
that we may always experience in ourselves  
the fruits of your redemption.

Who live and reign with God the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

## THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be his most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.



1. Ho - ly God we praise thy Name, Lord of all, we  
2. Ho - ly Fath - er, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spi - rit,



bow be - fore thee; all on earth thy scep - ter claim,  
Three, we name thee, while in es - sence on - ly One,



all in heaven a - bove a - dore thee; in - fi - nite thy  
un - div - i - ded God we claim thee; then, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.  
bend the knee and con - fess the my - ster - y.





## PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA

Prot. N. 16/21/I

### Decree

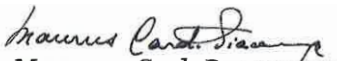
For the sake of increasing the devotion of the faithful and salvation of souls, by the power of the faculties given by the Supreme Pontiff, Francis, the Pope by Divine Providence, in response to the request of His Eminence Wilton Daniel Cardinal Gregory, Metropolitan Archbishop of Washington, the Apostolic Penitentiary kindly grants, from the heavenly treasures of the Church, a plenary Indulgence, to be obtained under the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) by the Christian faithful truly penitential and compelled by charity, which indeed they can also apply to the souls of the faithful held in Purgatory, by way of suffrage, if they take part in the sacred celebrations, among the great assembly of people, during the course of the annual event that is called “March for Life,” which will be carried out on the 28th and 29th days of January 2021, in the Archdiocese of Washington (particularly in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and in the Cathedral church itself).

The aged, sick, and all those who due to grave reason are not able to leave home will be equally able to obtain the plenary Indulgence, having the disposition of detachment from any kind of sin, with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as one is able, the three customary conditions, if they spiritually join themselves to the sacred ceremonies, provided that they will be made available by means of television and radio but also through the new instruments of social media, and also having offered prayers and their sufferings or the ailments of their own life to the merciful God.

Therefore, and in order that easier access unto the attaining of this divine favor through the keys of the Church might go forth, for the sake of pastoral charity, this Penitentiary earnestly asks that Pastors and priests, those provided with suitable faculties to hear confessions, with a willing and generous spirit, might make themselves available for the celebration of Penance.

The present Decree will be valid for this event only. Anything whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given in Rome, from the offices of the Apostolic Penitentiary, on the 13th day of January, in the year of our Lord 2021.

  
MAURUS Card. PIACENZA  
Paenitentiarius Maior

  
CHRISTOPHORUS NYKIEL  
Regens

# HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE

What is today the National Prayer Vigil for Life began in 1979 as the National Rosary for Life and all-night vigil from the inspiration of Maryknoll Brother Goretti Zilli from New York. Fifty people attended the first vigil Mass celebrated by Father John Gabin of Philadelphia in the lower level Crypt Church. Eucharistic adoration and other devotions continued through the night, with Father John Randall of Providence offering Mass at midnight. Brother Michael Cerrone, (who later became Army Chaplain Father Michael Cerrone) coordinated and led prayers through the night for an end to abortion, and then led the group in the March for Life the following morning.

Key organizers of the first Vigil also include Mrs. Sally Reynolds and the Mothers of Mary of the Archdiocese of Detroit, Miss Virginia Murphy and the Immaculate Heart Reparation Society of D.C., as well as groups from Michigan and Rhode Island. At their request the following year, Cardinal John Carberry asked the Bishops' conference to co-sponsor the event. With every passing year, thousands of Catholics from all over the country have responded enthusiastically and in ever greater numbers by taking part in the National Prayer Vigil for Life.

Today, the founders' dream of a program of prayer for life exceeds anything they could have envisioned. The Great Upper Church of the Basilica fills to overflowing for the opening liturgy, which is concelebrated by hundreds of clergy, including Bishops, Cardinals, and the Apostolic Nuncio, the Holy Father's personal representative in the United States. With the assistance of the Eternal Word Television Network, the Opening and Closing Masses of the National Prayer Vigil for Life are televised live worldwide.

After the Opening Mass, programs of prayer and adoration continue throughout the night beginning with the National Rosary for Life and ending with Morning Prayer and Benediction. On the following morning, thousands more gather in the Great Upper Church for the Closing Mass of the Vigil before taking part in the March for Life on the Mall in Washington, D.C.

The Church and the Pro-Life movement are deeply indebted to the visionaries who began this event decades ago. May this great prayer for life continue as their lasting legacy for years to come.

# **NATIONAL PRAYER VIGIL FOR LIFE 2022**

## **Opening Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life**

*Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:30 pm*

## **Closing Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life**

*Friday, January 21, 2022 at 7:30 am*

Help women in your community to choose life.  
Learn about “Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service” at [walkingwithmoms.com](http://walkingwithmoms.com).



The National Prayer Vigil for Life is co-sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and the Campus Ministry Office of The Catholic University of America, and assisted by Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary, the Dominican House of Studies, and Epiphany of our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, Annandale, Virginia.

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2020-2021 JUBILEE YEAR

100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE PLACING  
OF THE FOUNDATION STONE  
OF THE BASILICA  
OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

For the period of the Jubilee, September 23, 2020 - September 23, 2021, the Holy Father, Pope Francis has granted a *Plenary Indulgence* (remission of temporal punishment due to sin) to the truly penitent members of the faithful who fulfill the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion, prayers for the Holy Father's intentions), if they undertake a sacred pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and there devoutly participate in the Jubilee rites, or will at least devote a considerable period of time in pious reflection and prayer on the Christian vocation, for the increase of priestly and religious vocations, and for the defense of the institution

of the human family, having poured out their humble prayers to God, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Those pious faithful, the elderly, the infirm, or those impeded by some other serious reason, are equally able to obtain the *Plenary Indulgence* if, having detestation of sin and the intention of being there, as it is permitted above, fulfilling the three usual conditions, during the anniversary celebrations, in the presence of an image of the heavenly Patroness, they spiritually join themselves, offering their prayers, sorrows, and difficulties of their own life to the merciful God through Mary.

*Decretum*, Paenitentiaria Apostolica, July 16, 2020

# BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



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Susan Lewis Kavinski, B.M., Jacob Perry Jr., B.A.,  
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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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