

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



**SOLEMNITY OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**8 DECEMBER 2025**



# ORDER OF MASS

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

*His Eminence*

**CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE**

Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

*Principal Celebrant and Homilist at 12:10 p.m.*

### THE ANGELUS *(at 12:10 p.m. Mass)*

Celebrant: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

Assembly: **And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.**

Celebrant: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you!

Blessed are you among women

and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Assembly: **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Celebrant: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Assembly: **Be it done unto me according to thy word.**

Celebrant: Hail Mary...

Assembly: **Holy Mary...**

Celebrant: And the Word was made flesh.

Assembly: **And dwelt among us.**

Celebrant: Hail Mary...

Assembly: **Holy Mary...**

Celebrant: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,

Assembly: **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Assembly: **Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we,  
to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the  
message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the  
glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN



1. Come, let us wor - ship and ac - claim our Ma - ker,
2. He who is might - y has done great things for her:
3. Eve by her sin brought death to all the liv - ing;
4. God has pre - pared her, clothed her with sal - va - tion,
5. "Hail, high - ly fa - vored!" thus the an - gel greets her;



Bound - less in po - wer, boun - ti - ful in mer - cy,  
 First of these won - ders, which in song we hon - or,  
 Ma - ry, the new Eve, sin - less and un - sin - ning,  
 Made her a tem - ple where the Word in - car - nate  
 Full - ness of grace as - sures a choice made free - ly;



Who has be - stow'd on Ma - ry e - ver - vir - gin  
 Is her con - cep - tion, ho - ly and un - taint - ed  
 Mends Eve's of - fense and of - fers to her chil - dren  
 Finds a fit dwell - ing, fault - less and un - blem - ished,  
 Humb - ly as - sent - ing, she through faith con - ceiv - ing



Grace with - out mea - - - - sure.  
 Free from cor - rup - - - - tion.  
 Hope of re - demp - - - - tion.  
 Gra - cious and lov - - - - ing.  
 Crush - es the ser - - - - pent.

6. East vies with West to magnify her greatness:  
 "Higher than all the Cherubim in heaven,  
 Matchless in glory, Seraphim excelling,  
 God-bearing Virgin."
7. Blest by the Most high, blest beyond all women,  
 She is the fairest glory of Jerusalem –  
 Israel's gladness, honor of our people,  
 Champion and guardian.
8. All generations, her own words fulfilling,  
 Tell of her glory, bless her Name forever;  
 Virgin and Mother, Queen and humble servant,  
 Perfect disciple.
9. Worship and honor render to the Father.  
 Praise to the Son and glory to the Spirit;  
 Sing we with Mary hymns of adoration,  
 Joy and thanksgiving.





# LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING I

Genesis 3:9–15, 20

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4



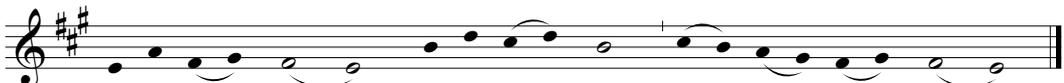
Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done mar'v - lous deeds.

READING II

Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 1:28



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;  
blessed are you among women.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26–38

HOMILY

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(All bow during these two lines.)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

### THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,  
may the *faith* you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of *charity* enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within  
both humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

(Choir) *Ave Maria*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
(1525–1594)

*Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum,  
benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus  
ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostræ.  
Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.



1. The God whom earth and sea and sky A -  
2. O Moth - er blest! the cho - sen shrine Where -  
3. Blest in the mes - sage Ga - briel brought; Blest  
4. O Lord, the Vir - gin - born, to you E -

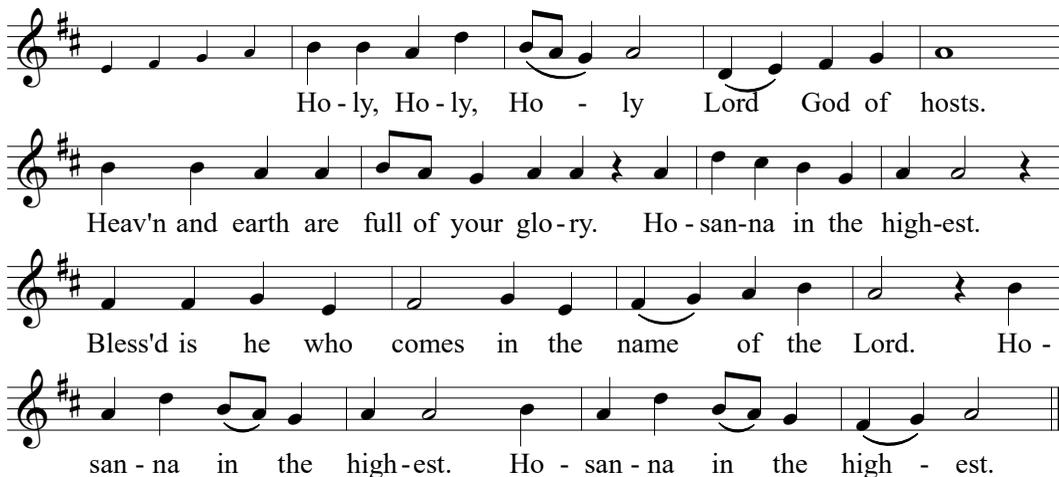


dore and praise and mag - ni - fy, Whose might they claim, whose  
in the ar - chi - tect di - vine, Whose hand con - tains the  
in the work the Spir - it wrought; Most blest, to bring to  
ter - nal praise and laud are due, Whom with the Fa - ther



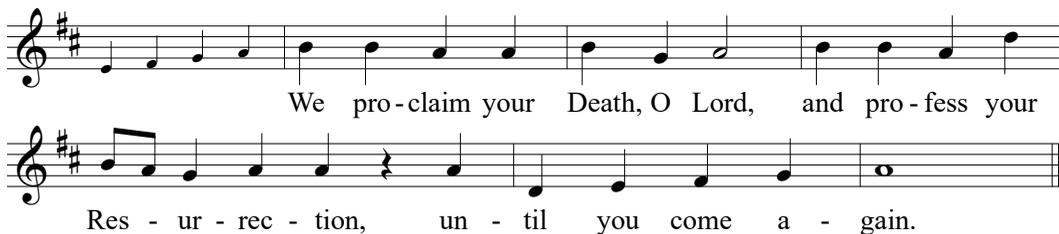
love they tell, In Mar - y's bod - y comes to dwell.  
earth and sky, Has come in hu - man form to lie:  
hu - man birth The long de - sired of all the earth.  
we a - dore And Spir - it blest for ev - er - more.

## PREFACE ACCLAMATION



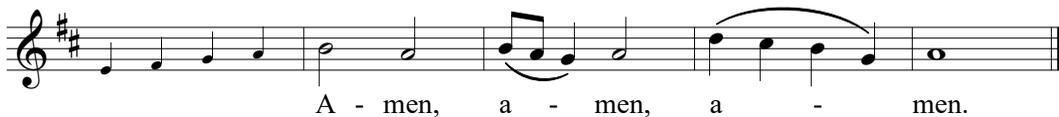
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



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

## GREAT AMEN



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

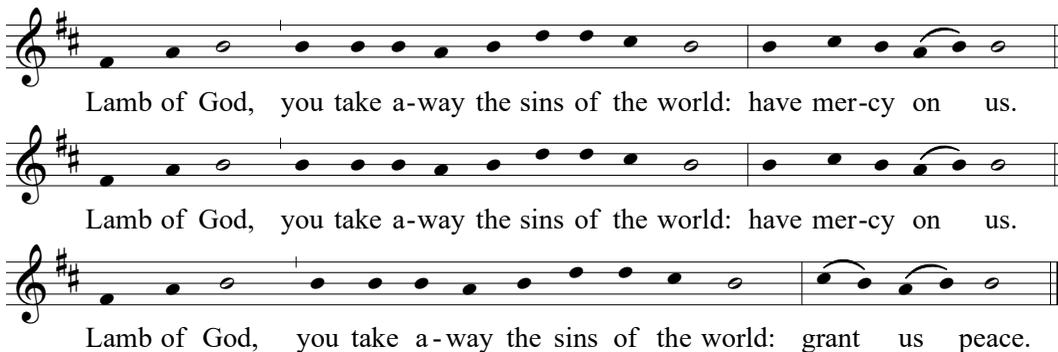
## COMMUNION RITE

### LORD'S PRAYER

### DOXOLOGY

## SIGN OF PEACE

### LITANY AT THE BREAKING OF BREAD



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

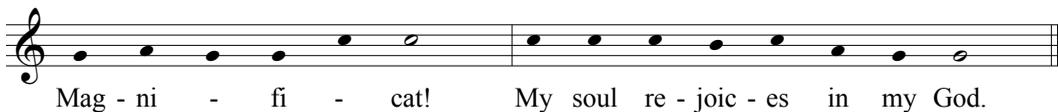
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

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

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary,  
for from you arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

### COMMUNION PROCESSION



Mag - ni - fi - cat! My soul re - joic - es in my God.

(Choir) *Bogoróditse Dévo, ráduysia*

Sergei Rachmaninoff  
(1873–1943)

*Bogoróditse Dévo, ráduysia,  
Blagodátnaya Mariye, Ghospód s Tobóyu  
Blagoslovénna Ti v zhenáb.  
î blagoslovén Plod chréva Tvoyegó,  
Yáko Spása rodilá yesí dush náshib.*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,  
Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb,  
for you have borne the Savior of our souls.

*(Judith 13:23)*

## GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

### **For Catholics**

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

### **For Our Fellow Christians**

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 § 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 § 3).

### **For Non-Christians**

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

### **For Those Not Receiving Holy Communion**

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow down for the blessing.

Celebrant: May God, who through the childbearing  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
willed in his great kindness  
to redeem the human race,  
be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: May you know always and everywhere  
the protection of her,  
through whom you have been found worthy  
to receive the author of life.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: May you, who have devoutly gathered  
on this day,  
carry away with you the gifts  
of spiritual joys and heavenly rewards.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Assembly: Amen.

Deacon: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

MARIAN ANTIPHON (at 12:10 p.m. Mass)

Al - ma Re-dem-pto-ris Ma-ter, quæ per-vi-a cæ-li por-ta ma-nes,  
 et stel-la ma-ris, suc-cur-re ca-den-ti, sur-ge-re qui cu-rat po-pu-lo:  
 tu quæ ge-nu-i-sti, na-tu-ra mi-ran-te, tu-um sanc-tum Ge-ni-to - rem:  
 Vir-go pri-us ac pos-te-ri-us, Gab-ri-e-lis ab o-re  
 su-mens il-lud A-ve, pec-ca-to-rum mi-se-re-re.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

*We ask you to respect our custom of standing in place  
 and singing the complete Recessional Hymn.*

1. Im - ma - cu - late Mar - y, your prais - es we sing;
2. Pre - des - tined for Christ by e - ter - nal de - cree,
3. To you by an an - gel, the Lord God made known
4. Most blest of all wom - en, you heard and be - lieved,
5. The an - gels re - joiced when you brought forth God's Son;

You reign now in splen-dor with Je - sus our King.  
 God willed you both vir - gin and moth - er to be.  
 The grace of the Spir - it, the gift of the Son.  
 Most blest in the fruit of your womb then con - ceived.  
 Your joy is the joy of all a - ges to come.

A - ve, A - ve, A - ve, Ma - ri - a. A - ve, A - ve, Ma - ri - a.

**A SPECIAL PLENARY INDULGENCE  
ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

The faithful who devoutly visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and while within this church participate in any sacred rite or at least recite the Lord's Prayer and the Profession of Faith may obtain a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intention of the Supreme Pontiff).

*Domus Ecclesiae*, Norms for the Granting of the Title of Minor Basilica, 9 November 1989  
*Clarum constat*, Apostolic Letter Granting the Title of Minor Basilica to the  
National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 12 October 1990



**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

December 14, 21  
Great Upper Church

*All are welcome to this special celebration of  
Evening Prayer during the Season of Advent.*



**RORATE MASS**  
December 19, 2025 ♦ 7:00 A.M.

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI**  
Rector of the Basilica  
*Celebrant and Homilist*  
Crypt Church

*All are welcome to the celebration of the ancient and beloved  
Advent tradition of the Rorate Mass in honor of the Blessed Mother.*

## 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*



The Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (“the Event”) is being recorded, and all persons entering this facility grant to EWTN and its respective licensees, affiliates and related organizations the rights to use your image, likeness and voice or other sound effects for any live or recorded video display of the Event, for any other transmission or reproduction of the Event in whole or in part, and for other legal purposes throughout the world in any media now known or subsequently developed.



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Thank you for your generosity and support of Mary’s Shrine!

# 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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