

A traditional religious painting of the Nativity scene. In the center, the Virgin Mary is shown in a blue and white robe, kneeling in prayer with her hands clasped. To her left, Joseph stands with a white beard, wearing a purple and gold robe, holding a wooden staff. In the foreground, the infant Jesus lies in a manger, wrapped in white swaddling clothes, with a halo around his head. The background features a dark, rocky landscape under a night sky with a bright star shining in the upper right corner. The overall style is reminiscent of classical religious art.

*Merry
Christmas!*

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Nativity of the Lord - December 25, 2022

Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Parish
1975 Daytona Dr. - Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403



The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

December 25, 2022

Out of love for us, God became flesh, for our Savior has appeared. Light dawns for us all!

Pastor's Corner

On Increasing Your Offering for Christmas

Beloved Parishioners,

In this week's corner, I make a sincere appeal to everyone to consider making special offerings at Christmas and New Year's for the sake of their religious and spiritual meaning, and their benefits for the Church. Perhaps, we have been making gift offerings on Christmas without knowing the real significance of it. The gift offering at Christmas has a unique significance in our life of faith as Christians. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, some wise men came from the East to see Him. When they saw him, they did two things: they worshipped Him and presented gifts to Him of gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2:1-11). This is what our Christmas gifts represent. When Christmas falls on a Sunday such as it has this year, the proper Christmas offering may be forgotten. For this reason, I appeal that we take up (or give something extra for) the Christmas offering gift separately from the normal Sunday offering.

Besides the graces of the Christmas offering for us individual persons and families, our family of faith, the Church in our parish stands to gain its own blessing too. An additional income to our parish particularly at this time is a blessing. I am sure that many of you looking at our offering gifts in the steward corner would have noticed that our finances have not been very positive. This has been there for many years, but it became worse with the COVID-19 pandemic. We have applied and continue to apply different measures to cut down on our expenses. For example, we have been reducing our staff and not hiring new ones to fill the vacant positions in our offices. I also decided we will make do with two priests for now instead of three. These measures put a lot of pressure of work on the service team in our parish, but the present situation calls for the sacrifices.

No matter how stringent the sacrifices we make to cut down on expenses, it would be difficult for our parish to operate effectively unless we boost our plate income. The appeal for giving something extra for Christmas goes for New Year's and on Sundays. While the expenses especially in the ministries we serve in the parish have increased significantly over the years, many families have kept giving the same amount for their offering gifts. It would be highly appreciated if you can increase a little more of what you have been giving to help meet the present challenges we face. I know very well how things are tough for every family. So, I am appealing for only a slight percentage increase in what you have been giving. The Church is also our larger family that needs our support to survive and function. Anyone who is touched to make a bigger donation to help us cut down on deficit is welcome.

Thank you very much as we pray for a lovely, blessed, and Spirit filled Christmas.

Fr. Tony Okolo C.S.Sp., V.F.



MERRY CHRISTMAS WISHES TO ALL!

My Beloved Family of Our Lady of the Lake Parish,

Christmas is here again when we celebrate the mystery of God coming down to be one of us. It is a time we remember those dear to us as we celebrate the joy of God's presence in our midst. It also gives us the unique opportunity to share God's amazing love that is dwelling among us with other people, such as friends and family members. As my beloved family members of Our Lady of the Lake Parish this message of

Christmas comes to you because each of you and your family members are deeply cherished, appreciated and loved. Your gift of love, faith and support are of great value and highly profound in this parish.

In the course of the year, we have had so many challenges. Despite all these challenges and evil around us, the Christmas season still affords us the hope that God loves us and that is why He came down to be with us.

As we celebrate this year's Christmas, I wish to encourage you to be firm in your faith and be hopeful that the light that the birth of Jesus has brought to the world, would continue to lead your family. I want to assure you that despite the political division, natural disasters, and economic crisis, the light of Christ will always abide in your families. As we celebrate, we remain confident that whatever Jesus' plans for you are, all would be accomplished and realized in God's time. My prayer for you all is that the New Year ushers in God's Holy Spirit in your homes that would bring a divine transformation in your family. May you experience His love in all you do as we begin this New Year 2023.

Fr. Tony Okolo, C.S.Sp., V.F.

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Christmastime is a wonderful time to reflect upon the mysteries of our faith, and on the merciful love of Jesus.

Each time another year has gone by, we become introspective of the joys and sorrows that have touched us, and pray for God's assurance in keeping us in His loving care.

With each passing moment we see that our time here is short, reflecting upon those who are no longer with us is profound, and at the heart of the Christmas message as Christmas teaches us in our human way to long for the things of heaven as the Child Jesus is our closest experience of it.

Let us take time this Christmas Season to breathe in all that is from God and learn to cherish each moment as if it is our last, enjoying faith, family and friends, and renewing with vigor the sense of the sacred in awe of God's presence within our heart and home.

Blessings of Christmas Peace,

Fr. Michael Accinni Reinhardt

Christmas Homily 2022

The Nativity of the Lord Year A. December 25, 2022

Christmas is one of the most important events in human history as we celebrate the mystery of God coming down to be with us. He took our human nature to be one of us, to liberate us from the of death caused by the disobedience of Adam and Eve. This event happened about 2000 years ago when Jesus was born in Bethlehem and until date the celebration reminds us that Jesus still wants to be born in our lives. The birth of Jesus took place while Joseph and Mary were on their way to be registered for the census that was going on during the period. It was along the way that Mary was due to be delivered of her baby. As Joseph and Mary were searching for a place for Jesus to be born, every door they knocked at were closed against them as no one offered room for Jesus. Finding no place to have her baby, Mary delivered her baby in a house of animals, wrapped Him in swaddling cloth and laid Him in a manger because people closed their doors to Joseph and Mary who is pregnant of Jesus.

Today Jesus still searches for a place to be born. He wants to be born in our hearts but there are no rooms for Him to be born because our hearts are closed and there is no space to let Him in. Our hearts are filled with countless worries, anxieties, envy, attachments, unforgiving spirits, and pride. Let us take the opportunity of this Christmas to free our hearts of all these attachments and give Jesus a chance to come in. Let the door of your heart be open for Jesus to come in. We can begin by giving Him a place in our busy schedule to come to Mass more regularly especially on Sundays. Let us realize that when we welcome Jesus into our lives He takes care of our anxiety, worries, and frees us of all these unnecessary attachments that keep us in chain. When we allow Jesus to be born in our lives, He gives us the Spirit of peace that His birth brought to the world and we would be able to face the challenges of the future with hope knowing that God is with us.

To our dear friends, guests, and those of you who are here today to celebrate this Christmas with us this year may your coming be blessed with the grace of God, may your family be blessed with peace and good health, may your prayers be heard and may you find joy in coming to be with us today. If you are among those that come once a year, Jesus wants to be born in your heart today that you continue to come every Sunday as He searches for you and wants you to be with Him every Sunday and not on a yearly basis.

Happy Christmas and a blessed new year.

Father Tony Okolo C.S.Sp., V.F.

Parish Calendars

The Parish calendars are running late this year, but are expected to arrive by Christmas.

There will be No Confessions between Christmas Day December 25, 2022 and New Year's January 1, 2023.

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

We have an opportunity to come before Jesus in the Eucharist for Adoration. Every first Friday of the month we will have All Day Eucharistic Adoration following the 8:30 am Healing Mass. At 3 pm we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, at 5:30 pm we will have confessions followed by a Healing Mass at 6:30 pm. From 9 am to 6:30 pm we have an opportunity to come to church and spend time with Jesus in prayer & adoration. Please stop by the Narthex to sign up for an Adoration time slot for Friday, January 6th.

Catholic Men's Fellowship Group

We are a group of men who come together every first Thursday of the month from 7:00 am to 8:00 am to pray and share our faith. Our next meeting is on Thursday, January 5, 2023, in the Holy Family Parish Center. Just bring your Bible, we furnish the rest, including breakfast.

What is the Liturgy of the Word?

The Liturgy of the Word is the first main part of the Mass in which readings from Scripture are read and proclaimed. The readings include biblical readings, the responsorial psalm, and the Gospel. Afterwards, the homily, profession of faith, and general intercessions or prayer of the faithful complete this part of the Mass. In the readings, explained by the homily, God is speaking to His people, opening us to His wisdom, love, and redemption, and nourishing us with His Word.



Mass Intentions & Readings

Sun.	Dec.	25	Is 62:11-12 Ti 3:4-7 Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6	Lk 2:15-20 Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14	7:00 am 8:45 am 10:30 am	All the Military Serving at Home & Abroad For All Those Suffering from Homelessness For All Parishioners	
Mon.	Dec.	26	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59	Mt 10:17-22	8:30 am	Patty Potter H/B	(Mary Sutton)
Tues.	Dec.	27	1 Jn 1:1-4	Jn 20:1a, 2-8	8:30 am	Patti Miller S/I	(Anna & Dan)
Wed.	Dec.	28	1 Jn 1:5-2:2	Mt 2:13-18	8:30 am 5:30 pm	Donald M Levan Jr. † For protection & family affection for all babies	(Thomas Carolina Levan)
Thurs.	Dec.	29	1 Jn 2:3-11	Lk 2:22-35	8:30 am	Anne Cote †	(Jackie Zimmer)
Fri.	Dec.	30	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17	Mt 2:13-15, 19-23	8:30 am	Andree Jones †	(Jackie Zimmer)
Sat.	Dec.	31	1 Jn 2:18-21 Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7	Jn 1:1-18 Lk 2:16-21	8:30 am 4:00 pm 5:45 pm	St. Benedict of Nursia † Arthur Ontiveros † Maria Del Refugio Jaime Rangel	(Melanie Sarino) (Wife, Linda) (Fonseca Family)
Sun.	Jan.	1	Nm 6:22-27 Gal 4:4-7	Lk 2:16-21	7:00 am 8:45 am 10:30 am 12:30 pm	Candidates & Catechumens in RCIA All those who are incarcerated Parishioners For the Poor	



Altar Candles
In Loving Memory of
Tim Wilkerson & Nozl Wilkerson
With Love
Your Wife & Mother



THE SOLEMNITY of MARY MOTHER of GOD

Is a Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Schedule

News Years Eve

Saturday, December 31st, 2022

4:00 pm, 5:45 pm

News Years Day

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

7:00 am, 8:45 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

*Thank you for
your Stewardship*



Plate Collection for December 10 & 11, 2022

Envelope, Loose Checks & Cash **\$16,857.00**

Immaculate Conception **\$3,275.00**

Online Giving Dec. 5 - Dec. 11 - Plate Collection

(Please visit www.ourladyofthelakeromancatholicparish.org to establish an online giving account.)

\$4,727.00

TOTAL \$24,859.00

Budgeted for the week of December 11 \$24,202.00

SURPLUS: \$657.00!

This does not include the school financials.

“God Loves a Cheerful Giver” 2 Corinthians 9:7



Contact Us - Our Lady of the Lake
Parish Office Departments, Ministries, & School

**CHRISTMAS SEASON
OFFICE CLOSURES**

Monday, December 26th, Closed all Day

Monday, January 2nd, Closed all Day

In the event of an emergency, please
call 928-855-2685

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Calling All Catechists!

We are in search of assistance with our Sacrament Preparation Class for our teens 6th through 12th grade. We are looking for someone who has a desire to pass on the faith and is open once a week for 1.5 hours. Safe Environment Training is required. Teaching experience is a plus! If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please contact Elliott Seidel at the Parish office or email eseidel@ourladylhc.org.

SCHOOL WINTER BREAK

The school and the school office will be closed from December 22, 2022 at 1:30 pm until January 9, 2023 for winter break. We wish everyone a safe and joyous Christmas Season.

**Small Faith Sharing Group
Leaders and Participants**

God speaks to us in many ways. Small groups are an amazing way for Him to do just that. They are an opportunity to gather in a smaller setting outside of Mass, and they give us an additional chance to get to know each other better and grow deeper in our faith. We want to begin having Small Faith Sharing Groups, and are looking for those who would like to lead a Small Faith Sharing Group. To lead a Small Faith Sharing Group or be a part of one, please contact Dcn. Patrick at 928-855-2685 or at ptoilolo@ourladylhc.org.



Youth Ministry Events

December 2022

26th - **No** Jr. High Night

28th - **No** High School Night

January 2023

18th - High School Night

23rd - Jr. High Night

25th - Jr. and Sr. High Bowling Night

30th - Jr. High Night



Santo Nino Novena

The Santo Nino Novena will continue every Friday until Friday, January 13, 2023. This is hosted by different families (in person attendance). The Santo Nino celebration will be on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at the 10:30 am Mass followed by the Sinulog Celebration in the new St. Joseph's Hall.

Addresses for the scheduled Novenas will be available at the Parish Office. For further detail please contact Maria at 928-486-3106.



**PARISH
PILGRIMAGE**

Italy's Religious Treasures - A 12 Day Pilgrimage to Italy

Our next pilgrimage with Fr. Tony will be a journey to some of the Religious Treasures of Italy. These include Vatican City (the Basilica of Saint Peter with an Angelus with Pope Francis), San Giovanni Rotondo (Sanctuary of Padre pio), Cascia (Monastery of Santa Rita), Assisi (Saint Francis Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli), The dates for this pilgrimage are Sept. 11-22, 2023. The tour price is \$5,800 (all inclusive). **For more information pick up a registration packet at our parish office, or to register online visit <https://alexinternationaltours.com>**

January Anniversaries

Couples that will be celebrating their Wedding Anniversary during the month of January will have an opportunity to receive a special blessing, at all the Masses celebrated next weekend on Saturday, December 31, 2022 and Sunday, January 1, 2023.

Parish Council Members

*Dante Marinelli, Mark Martinez, Margee Chieffo, Christopher Aldridge,
Rick Allsup, Israel Amaro, Raquel Ibarra, Paula Levensailor, Bill Meehan,
Maria Oyas, Felis Ramirez, Pat Rooney*

Wishing Blessings this Holiday season and throughout the new year to you and your families. Let us Rejoice in the Glory of the birth of Christ and celebrate all of the Miracles and Blessings of the Holy Spirit.

Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30 pm in St. Joseph's Hall

St. Vincent de Paul

We are committed to providing assistance to needy families & individuals. Our mission is to show the love of Christ in all we do. The generous support of all the parishioners of Our Lady of the Lake allows us the ability to continue helping the needy families in Lake Havasu. Thank you for your contributions and support.

Our Knights of Columbus St. Thomas More Council 6442 provides many services to the parish & the community. Our goal is to build a stronger sense of unity within the parish & increase our personal connection to the parish. Our Council Meetings are at 6:00 pm the second Tuesday of the month at the Columbian Hall. We welcome all members, including winter visitors, to attend our meetings. Please call Jose Ramirez, G.K. at 928-412-1981 to learn more.

Mary's Prayer Garden

Mary's Prayer Garden is located on the left side of the church. It is a place to pay homage to our Blessed Mother, to pray & give thanks, and to sit & reflect about our loved ones whose names are engraved on the bricks. Forms are available in the Parish Office for anyone interested in purchasing an engraved brick. For more information, please contact Rosalie Smith at 928-854-8657.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas – Court 2213

The Catholic Daughters welcome you to come to our meetings, the second Thursday of the month, at the Columbian Hall: Social is at 10:00 AM & meetings start at 10:30 AM. Come join us for a spiritual & rewarding experience. We welcome winter visitors to join us as our meetings are from September through May. You may contact Sherry Ketner, Regent at 928-855-4445 to learn more.

Oremus Rosary Makers

Since 1979, we have made & delivered thousands of rosaries to missions both here in the United States & all over the world. Our members make & send approximately 1000 to 1500 rosaries per month.

We invite you to come join us in learning how to very simply string beads and make knots... and make new friends! Please call Annette Troffer at 661-972-1070 to learn more about our Ministry.

Soup Kitchen

Three times a week the Soup Kitchen continues to provide hot, healthy & nutritious meals to anyone in need. There are no criteria & no one is turned away. Serving days are Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm & Saturdays from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. Thank you to the volunteers who give their time & energy for this ministry. Please feel free to donate to the Soup Kitchen if able. God Bless.

Rosary Guild

Our Mission is to help support families during the loss of a family member by saying the Rosary with the priest or deacon before a Funeral Mass or Memorial Mass. We come as a group to the funeral home or church to say the rosary with the leader. This ministry requires no scheduled time commitment. We have no meetings or dues. Safe Environment Training is a must. Please call Charlotte Van Nierop at 928-855-1358 to learn more.

Funeral Reception Ministry

The funeral reception ministry provides a reception after funeral services upon request of the grieving family. We are in need of additional volunteers. If you would like to help by providing prepared food, laundering table linens, or helping with set-up, serve, or clean up, please call the Parish Office at 928-855-2685 or call Diane Cichinsky at 928-453-5941 for more details.

Liturgical Ministries

We are always looking for volunteers to help in these ministries: Altar Guild, Altar Servers, Break Open the Word Leaders & Assistants, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EM), Sick & Homebound Ministers, Ministers of the Word (Lectors), Music Ministry, Sacristans, Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters & Ushers), Video Projection Ministry. If you felt a calling in your heart while reading the list of different Liturgical Ministries or have any questions, please contact Deacon Patrick or Martha Campos by calling the Parish Office at 928-855-2685 or by email: mcampos@ourladylh.org



Thank you...

We are growing in numbers and in virtues! Your prayers and re-directed taxes are making a difference. Our students are living the virtues of obedience, sincerity and gratitude. We have added a 6th grade class this year and know that every day our students are praying for our Parish family as we visit the Blessed Sacrament for adoration. We will especially remember you during this Christmas season as the Christ-child will be adored in our midst.
Merry Christmas! Ms. Mu

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry's mission is to lead teens and their families closer to Christ by empowering young people to fully participate in the life and mission of the Church, to continue the work of Jesus Christ, and to make His name known and loved everywhere. May they grow holistically into mature Catholic adults who will practice their faith and ultimately become saints.

We have a leadership team of adults and teens that plan and put together our gatherings. We host annual retreats and help other ministries and causes through events such as Baby Shower Month and the Giving Tree.

If you wish to register a Jr. High or High School student, or if you're interested in volunteering, please contact the coordinator: Elliott Seidel at eseidel@ourladylh.org or call 928-855-2685.

GRIEF MINISTRY

Grief is a normal & natural response to loss. Many times grief is misunderstood because of cultural biases that are based in misinformation & myths surrounding grief. Fr. Michael brings his many years of experience to Our Lady of the Lake within end of life ministry as well as pastoral support to the bereaved to assist those struggling through grief to overcome & move through their unique grief journey. Fr. Michael holds various Master's level degrees in theology, mental health & wellness with an emphasis in grief. Join Fr. Michael for Companions on the Journey or schedule a one-on-one session with him at 928-855-2685. These opportunities of ministry at the parish are meant to move participants from hurting to healing.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To learn more about our Religious Education program for preschool, kindergarten, and elementary or register your child, contact Laura Hernandez at lhernandez@ourladylh.org or at 928-855-2685.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

We help adults learn about the Catholic faith & make an informed decision. To learn more about RCIA, or to become a Catholic & receive the sacraments, call Dcn. Patrick at 928-855-2685 or email ptoilolo@ourladylh.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Learn about the Catholic faith through our programs, including: online or in-person Bible Studies, Men's Group, & Share the Word. Please call 928-855-2685 or email ptoilolo@ourladylh.org.

JOVENES PARA CRISTO/YOUNG ADULTS FOR CHRIST

"Our Mission is to bring the Good News of God to all people" (Matthew 28, 18-20). By a process of formation that is integral, continuous & systematic; that supports the life in the community that is multicultural in our world; helping to guide responsible leaders that will fight for justice, peace & charity; always searching for the sincere conversion & example of Christ alive in our world today. JPC/YAFC community began here at Our Lady of the Lake in September of 2006. Many thanks to Rafael & Lourdes Ibarra who responded to God's call to evangelize here at Our Lady of the Lake. We also pray & help with the needs of our parish & community.

ENTRANCE SONG

O Come, All ye Faithful*

John F. Wade

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him, born the King of angels; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Adéste fidéles, laéti, triumphántes, veníte, veníte in Béthlehem. Natum vidéte, Regem angelórum. Veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus Dóminum.

Sing, Choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above! Glory to God, all glory in highest; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Cantet nunc aula caeléstium. Gloria, glória, in excélsis Deo. Veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus, veníte adorémus Dóminum.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Glory to God

Tony Alonso

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our Prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God*

Steve Janco

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Psalm 89*

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Psalm 96

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Psalm 98

**All the ends of the earth
have seen the saving power of God.**

OFFERTORY SONG

Silent Night*

Joseph Mohr

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, round yon Virgin Mother and child, holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

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SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

(For those who are not able to receive Communion at this time)

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.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

COMMUNION SONGS

Away in a Manger*

John T. McFarland

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Angels We Have Heard on High*

Crown of Jesus Music

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain: **Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what the tidings may be, which inspire your heav'nly song.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; come adore, on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

***Children's Mass Only**

COMMUNION SONGS

O Holy Night

John P. Kee

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth, long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt his worth. A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn; fall on our knees, oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night O holy night O night divine!

Truly he taught us to love one another, His law is love and his gospel peace; chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name; Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise his name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

The Angels Sang

Margaret Pleasant Douroux

How precious is the gift God gave to all mankind, there is no greater gift I know you'll ever find.

Refrain: **The angels sang hallelujah, glory hallelujah! Peace on earth good will to men; Jesus Christ is born.**

God, let this child be born in a manger filled with hay. A bright and shining star showed wise men where he lay.

When that great child was born, his parents loved him so, but when the time had come, they knew that he would go.

God let this child be born to save this world from sin. It was the greatest gift that God could give to men.

CLOSING SONG

Joy to the World

Isaac Watts

Joy to the world! The Lord has come: let earth receive her King: let every heart prepare him room. And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: let us our songs employ: while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace: and makes the nations prove, the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders and wonders of his love.