

Secret

SANCTIFY, O Lord, the gifts offered to Thee, by the new birth of Thine only begotten Son: and cleanse us from the stains of our sins. Through the same ...

Preface of the Nativity

IT IS TRULY meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God: for through the Mystery of the Word made flesh, new radiance from Thy glory hath so shone on the eye of the soul that the recognition of our God made visible draweth us to love what is invisible. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the host of the heavenly army we sing a hymn to Thy glory, evermore saying: — *Sanctus*.

Communion (Psalm 97:3)

ALL THE ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Postcommunion

GRANT, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that as the Savior of the world, born on this day, is the Author of our heavenly birth, so He may also be to us the Giver of immortality: Who liveth and reigneth ...

OBLATA, Dómine, múnera, nova Unigéniti tui nativitate sanctifica: nosque a peccatorum nostrorum máculis emúnda. Per ...

VERE DIGNUM et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper, et ubique grátias agere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus: Quia per incarnáti Verbi mystérium, nova mentis nostræ óculis lux tuæ claritátis infúlsit: ut dum visibíliter Deum cognóscimus, per hunc in invisibílium amórem rapíamur. Et ideo cum Ángelis et Archángelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni milítia cœlestis exercitus, hymnum glóriæ tuæ cánimus sine fine dicéntes: — *Sanctus*.

VIDÉRUNT omnes fines terræ salutáre Dei nostri.

PRÆSTA, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut natus hódie Salvátor mundi, sicut divínæ nobis generatiónis est auctor; ita et immortalitátis sit ipse largitor. Qui ...



The Naming of St. John the Baptist (detail), 1434-35. Fra Angelico (c.1395-1455).

Cover: The Nativity (detail), 1304-06. Giotto di Bondone (c.1266-1337).



Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

The Nativity of Our Lord (Third Mass, During the Day)

Introit (Isaias 9:6)

PUER NATUS est nobis, et filius datus est nobis: cujus impérium super húmerum ejus: et vocábitur nomen ejus magni consilii Ángelus. *Ps. 97:1.* Cantáte Dómino cánticum novum: quia mirabilia fecit. *V.* Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. — Puer natus ...

A CHILD is born to us, and a Son is given to us: whose government is upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called, the Angel of great counsel. *Psalm.* Sing ye to the Lord a new canticle: because He hath done wonderful things. *V.* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. — A child is born to us ...

Collect

CONCÉDE, quæsumus, omnipotens Deus: ut nos Unigéniti tui nova per carnem nativitas liberet; quos sub peccáti jugo vetústa sérvitus tenet. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum ...

GRANT, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the new birth of Thine only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free, who are held by the old bondage under the yoke of sin. Through the same Jesus Christ ...

Epistle (Hebrews 1: 1–12)

MULTIFÁRIAM, multisque modis olim Deus loquens pátribus in prophétis: novíssime diébus istis locútus est nobis in Fílio, quem constituit heredem universórum, per quem fecit et sæcula: qui cum sit splendor glóriæ, et figúra substantiæ ejus, portánsque

GOD, WHO at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets, last of all in these days hath spoken to us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the world: who being the brightness of His glory and the figure of His substance, and upholding all things by

the word of His power, making purgation of sins, sitteth on the right hand of the Majesty on high: being made so much better than the angels as He hath inherited a more excellent name than they. For to which of the angels hath He said at any time: Thou art my Son, today have I begotten Thee? And again: I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son? And again, when He bringeth in the first begotten into the world, He saith: And let all the angels of God adore Him. And to the angels indeed He saith: He that maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. But to the Son: Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a scepter of justice is the scepter of Thy kingdom. Thou hast loved justice and hated iniquity: therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows. And: Thou in the beginning, O Lord, didst found the earth: and the works of Thy hands are the heavens. They shall perish, but Thou shalt continue: and they shall all grow old as a garment: and as a vesture shalt Thou change them and they shall be changed: but Thou art the selfsame, and Thy years shall not fail.

Gradual (Psalm 97 : 3, 4, 2)

ALL THE ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God: sing joyfully to God, all the earth. The Lord hath made known His salvation: He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. **Alleluia, alleluia.** A sanctified day hath shone upon us: come ye Gentiles and adore the Lord: for this day a great light hath descended upon the earth. Alleluia.

omnia verbo virtutis suae, purgationem peccatorum faciens, sedet ad dexteram maiestatis in excelsis: tanto melior Angelis effectus, quanto differentius prae illis nomen hereditavit. Cui enim dixit aliquando Angelorum: Filius meus es tu, ego hodie genui te? Et rursum: Ego illi in patrem, et ipse erit mihi in filium? Et cum iterum introducit primogenitum orbem terrae, dicit: Et adoret eum omnes Angeli Dei. Et ad Angelos quidem dicit: Qui facit Angelos suos spiritus, et ministros suos flammam ignis. Ad Filium autem: Thronus tuus, Deus, in saeculum saeculi: virga aequitatis, virga regni tui. Dilexisti iustitiam, et odisti iniquitatem: propterea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, oleo exultationis prae participibus tuis. Et: Tu in principio, Domine, terram fundasti: et opera manuum tuarum sunt caeli. Ipsi peribunt, tu autem permanebis; et omnes ut vestimentum veterascent: et velut amictum mutabis eos, et mutabuntur: tu autem idem ipse es, et anni tui non deficient.

VIDERUNT omnes fines terrae salutare Dei nostri: jubilate Deo, omnis terra. V. Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum: ante conspectum gentium revelavit iustitiam suam. **Alleluia, alleluia.** V. Dies sanctificatus illuxit nobis: venite, gentes, et adorare Dominum: quia hodie descendit lux magna super terram. Alleluia.

Gospel (John 1 : 1–14)

IN PRINCIPIO erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum. Hoc erat in principio apud Deum. Omnia per ipsum facta sunt: et sine ipso factum est nihil quod factum est: in ipso vita erat, et vita erat lux hominum: et lux in tenebris lucet, et tenebrae eam non comprehendunt. Fuit homo missus a Deo, cui nomen erat Joannes. Hic venit in testimonium, ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine, ut omnes crederent per illum. Non erat ille lux, sed ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine. Erat lux vera, quae illuminat omnem hominem venientem in hunc mundum. In mundo erat, et mundus per ipsum factus est, et mundus eum non cognovit. In propria venit, et sui eum non receperunt. Quotquot autem receperunt eum, dedit eis potestatem filios Dei fieri, his qui credunt in nomine ejus: qui non ex sanguinibus, neque ex voluntate carnis, neque ex voluntate viri, sed ex Deo nati sunt. (*Hic genuflectitur*) ET VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST, et habitavit in nobis: et vidimus gloriam ejus, gloriam quasi Unigeniti a Patre, plenum gratiae et veritatis. — *Credo.*

Offertory (Psalm 88 : 12, 15)

TUI SUNT caeli et tua est terra: orbem terrarum et plenitudinem ejus tu fundasti: justitia et iudicium praeparatio sedis tuae.

IN THE BEGINNING was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was made nothing that was made: in Him was life, and the life was the Light of men; and the Light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to give testimony of the Light, that all men might believe through him. He was not the Light, but was to give testimony of the Light. That was the true Light, which enlighteneth every man that cometh into this world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, He gave them power to be made the sons of God, to them that believe in His Name, who are born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (*Here all kneel*) AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, and dwelt among us: and we saw His glory, the glory as it were of the Only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. — *Creed.*

THINE ARE the heavens, and Thine is the earth, the world and the fullness thereof. Thou hast founded: justice and judgment are the preparation of Thy Throne.