



First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
80 Mansion St. | Cossackie, NY 12051

PROCESSIONAL HYMN [Please Stand]

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

STUTT GART



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set thy peo - ple free!
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and yet a king;
4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



1. From our fears and sins re - lease us, Let us find our rest in thee.
2. Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
3. Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
4. By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: 87 87; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788.

Music: Christian F. Witt's *Psalmody Sacra*, 1715; adapt. by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876.

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FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5(1A)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9



R. Let us go re - joic - ing to the house of the Lord.

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SECOND READING

Romans 13:11 – 14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION [Please stand]

Refrain
Cantor, then all:

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

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Verse: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **R**

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-44

~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE GIFTS

PREPARATION HYMN

WAITING IN SILENCE

Carey Landry

1-5. Wait-ing in si - lence, wait-ing in hope; we are your

1. peo-ple, we long for you, Lord. God ev - er with us, Em - man - u -
2. peo-ple, we trust in your love. O Sun of Jus - tice, true Prince of
3. peo-ple, Lord, we seek your truth. Wis - dom In - car - nate, teach us your
4. peo-ple, we long for new life. O Key of Da - vid, o - pen our
5. peo-ple, our hearts thirst for you. Flow - er of Jes - se, bloom in our

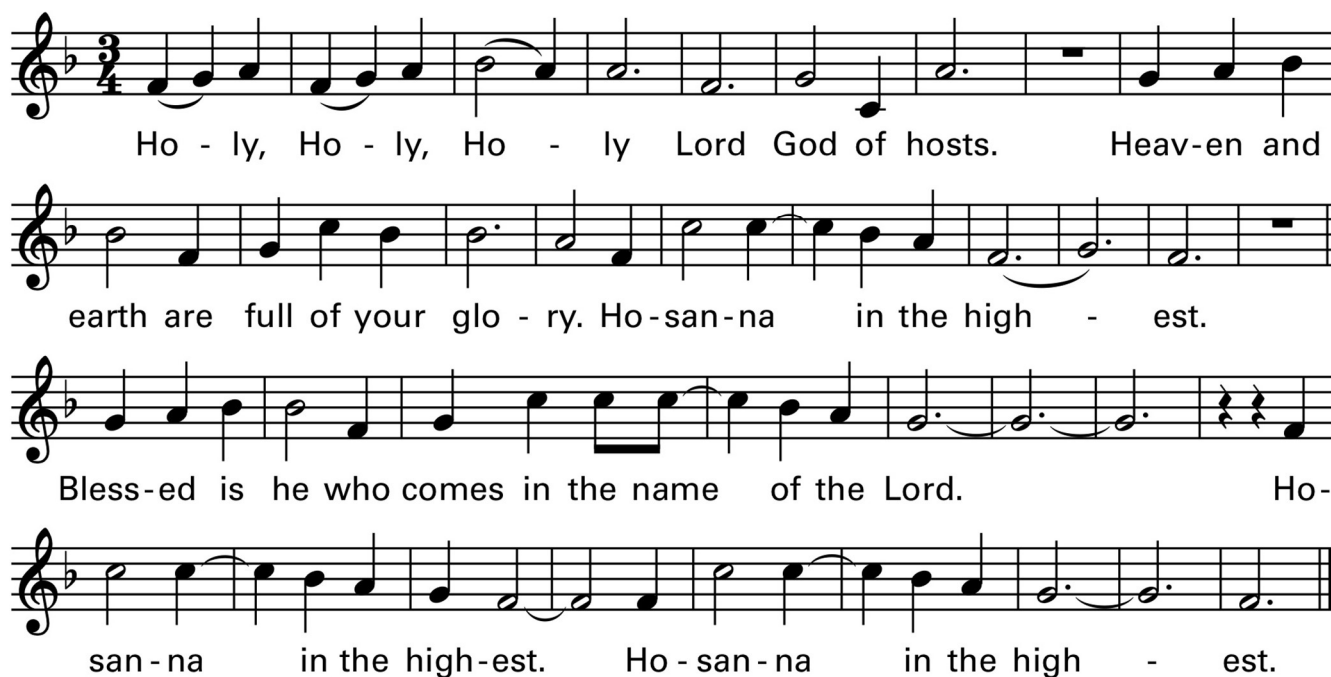
1. el, Come, Lord Je - sus,
2. Peace, Come with your jus - tice, Lord,
3. way; Show us the path of life, } Ma-ra-na - tha!
4. hearts. Give us new vi - sion, Lord,
5. midst. Make us your gar - den, Lord,

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SANCTUS

Mass of Renewal
Curtis Stephan



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

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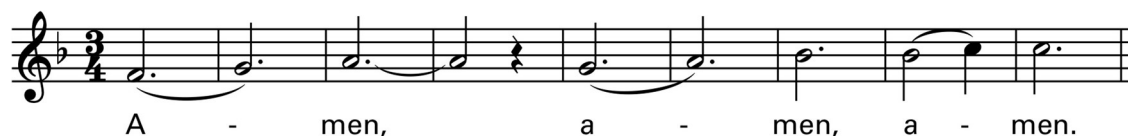
MYSTERY OF FAITH



Save us, Sav-ior of the world, for by your Cross and Res - ur -
rec - tion you have set us free, you have set us free.

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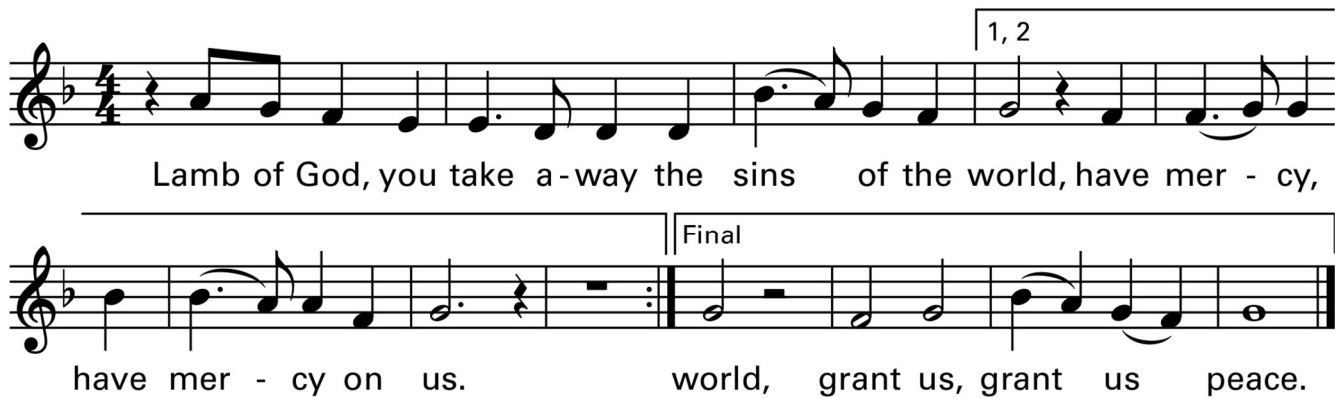
GREAT AMEN



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

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LAMB OF GOD



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~COMMUNION RITE~

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- V.** Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to the Supper of the Lord.
- R.** Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

(For the communion procession, we ask that you form two lines in the center aisle, starting from the front, one row at a time, and then return to your pew by the side aisles. All are welcome to join in the communion procession. If you are not Catholic, or for spiritual, medical, or other reasons receiving Communion is not the right choice for you today, you can still come forward for a blessing. Simply fold your arms across your chest as you approach the priest or deacon.)

COMMUNION HYMN next page

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell



1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark - ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, — man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5. Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —
2. hope, — man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone —
3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, —
4. warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



1. your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
3. bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.
4. shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
5. to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

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COME NOW, ALMIGHTY KING

ITALIAN HYMN



1. Come now, Al-might - y King, Help us your name to sing,
2. Come now, In - car - nate Word, Who for us death en-dured.
3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, Your sa-cred wit - ness bear
4. To you, O Trin - i - ty, E - ter-nal prais - es be



1. Help us to praise: Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic -
2. Our prayer at - tend: Come, and your peo - ple bless, And give your
3. In this glad hour: To us your grace im - part, And rule in
4. For - ev - er - more! Your sov-'reign maj - es - ty May we in



1. to - ri - ous, Come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
2. word suc-cess; Fill us with righ-teous-ness, Sav - ior and friend.
3. ev - 'ry heart! Nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
4. glo - ry see, And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore!

Text: 66 4 666 4; anonymous, ca. 1757. Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796.

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How are Mass schedules determined?

Answered by: Father Jay

I receive this question often. It's an important one. Mass schedules are not simply a matter of preference or tradition; they are the result of a great deal of study, prayer, and planning. **My goal is always the same: to create a schedule that gives the greatest number of people the best possible access to the Mass.** Every decision flows from that one priority.

To do this well, I must weigh many moving pieces at once. I look at typical attendance at each location and time. I take into account the capacity of each church building, what times tend to draw families or older parishioners, and how full the churches normally become. Our geography also matters. Our network covers a large and varied area. I must consider how far people might travel, normal road conditions, and what other Mass options exist.

Then there is the factor that changes most often: priest availability. The constraints are real, and they shape what is possible. It is not just the number of priests available, but when and where we can serve, our personal limitations, and how many Masses we are allowed to celebrate. The schedule must respect not only the needs of parishioners, but also the health, limits, and canonical responsibilities of the priests who serve you.

People's customs and habits matter too. Some time slots are popular with nearly everyone (like the Vigil for Christmas). Others appeal only to certain segments of our community (like early mornings on weekdays with those still working full-time). Honoring those needs while still serving the common good requires balance, creativity, and sometimes challenging tradeoffs. I consult closely with our lay staff, my brother clergy, and at times our parish trustees. I also follow diocesan policies and guidance that shape what is possible. But the final responsibility for determining the Mass schedule does rest with me as pastor.

All of this requires more planning every year. And the truth is that, across our diocese, the number of priests is decreasing while the needs of evangelization are increasing. That means that, for the foreseeable future, fewer Masses will be offered—not because we want less for our people, but because we are working with the resources we actually have.

Still, here is the good news: the vast majority of our parishioners will continue to be able to find a Mass—at a reasonable time and in a reasonably accessible location—with some planning and a willingness to adapt. Just as we in leadership have to think more carefully and creatively about these schedules, I ask you to do the same. A small sacrifice of convenience can help us serve the whole Body of Christ across all our communities.

My promise is that I will continue to make these decisions with fairness, sincerity, and a deep desire to help as many people as possible encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. Your understanding, flexibility, and prayerful support help us carry this mission forward together.