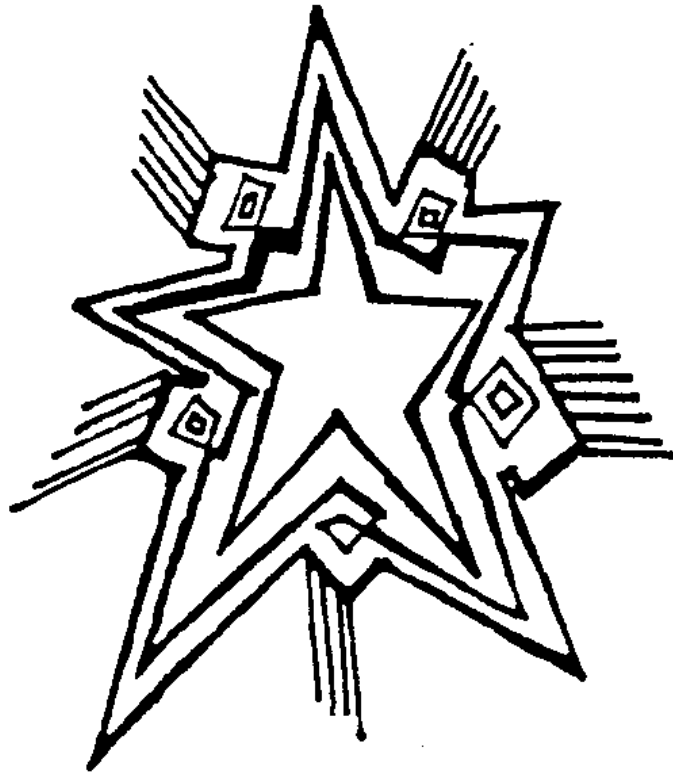


St Leo the Great
Christmas 2025

Welcome everyone



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Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er our plains,
And the mountains in reply echo still their joyous strains. **Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your rapturous strain prolong?
Say, what may your tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song. **Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing:
come, adore on bended knee the infant Christ, the new-born King. **Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Christmas Carols with children of St Leo's

From the Prologue of St John's Gospel

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God,
and everything was made through him that was made;
in him was life and that life was the light of men,
and that light shines now in the darkness.

Jesus, Redeemer, Lamb of God.

You are with me always, you are my Lord.

The light to all men had come to the world,
and the world though made by him, did not know him.
His own people knew him not, but to all who believed
he gave power to become the children of God.

Jesus, Redeemer, Lamb of God.

You are with me always, you are my Lord.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
 full of grace and truth; we've seen his glory.
 He is the only Son of God, who has given us himself,
 in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Jesus, Redeemer, Lamb of God.

You are with me always, you are my Lord.



The Christmas Proclamation

On the 25th day of December,
 unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens
 and the earth,
 and then formed man and woman in his own likeness.
 Several thousand years after the flood
 when God made the rainbow shine as a sign of the
 Covenant.

Twenty centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;
 13 centuries after Moses led Israel out of Egypt;
 one thousand years from the anointing of David as King;
 in the 65th week according to the prophecy of Daniel.
 In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;
 The seven hundred and fifty-third year since the foundation

of Rome.

The forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Augustus;
the whole world being at peace;

Jesus Christ, eternal God, and Son of the Father,
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
was born of the Virgin Mary,
in Bethlehem of Judaea.

Today we proclaim the birthday of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Introit of Christmas - we light our candles

All: The Lord said to me; You are my Son;
 I have begotten you, begotten you this day.
 God speaks to the earth, the word speeds forth.
 God speaks his word to Jacob,
 to Israel his laws and decrees.
 The Lord said to me; You are my Son;
 I have begotten you, begotten you this day.

The Penitential Rite:

Kyrie, eleison.
Christe, eleison.
Kyrie, eleison.

Come, come, come to the manger,
Children, come to the children's King;
Sing, sing, Chorus of angels,
Stars of morning, o'er Bethlehem sing.

He lies 'mid the beasts of the stall,
 Who is Maker and Lord of us all,
 The wintry wind blows cold and deary,
 See, He weeps, the world is weary,
 Lord, have pity and mercy on me.

Come, come, come to the manger,
 Children, come to the children's King;
 Sing, sing, Chorus of angels,
 Stars of morning, o'ver Bethlehem sing.

The blessing of the crib

'Loving God, Your Son Jesus came among us
 as the sign of your love for us, and your presence with us.
 This crib is a symbol of his birth
 and of his sharing our humanity.
 May we, and all who look upon it,
 find here a sense of encouragement and hope.
 Let the crib be a reminder to everyone
 that in our humanity all people belong
 that together we are one human family –
 and that 'God-is with-us'.
 We bless this crib, and all who pause here,
 in the name of the Father
 and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 Amen.

The Gloria



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.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10

**Today a Saviour is born for us. he is Christ the Lord.
Today a Saviour is born for us, Jesus Christ.**

O sing to God a song that is new! Sing, heav'n and earth!
Proclaim the joy of his help this day! Sing praise to God!

**Today a Saviour is born for us. he is Christ the Lord.
Today a Saviour is born for us, Jesus Christ.**

Rejoice, you seas and thunder his praise!
Sing, heav'n and earth!
For gift of the land and fruit that it bears! Sing praise to God!
**Today a Saviour is born for us. he is Christ the Lord.
Today a Saviour is born for us, Jesus Christ.**

O shake with joy, you trees of the wood!
Sing, heav'n and earth!
Our king has come to bring justice and peace!
Sing praise to God.
**Today a Saviour is born for us. he is Christ the Lord.
Today a Saviour is born for us, Jesus Christ.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
I bring you news of great joy today
a Saviour has been born to us;
Christ the Lord, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

The Homily

The Creed

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth?



Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried,
 rose again from the dead
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

I believe, I believe.

Do you 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?

I believe, I believe.

Intercessions

Response: Peace for your children: **let there be peace.**

The Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts:

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

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
 and praises sing to God the King,
 and peace to men on earth;
 for Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,

while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of
wondering love.

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

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

the Eucharistic Prayer:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Memorial: When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come,
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us. (2)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;
Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

The Communion Verse



The Word___ be came flesh and we have seen_ his__

glo - ry, we have seen,_____ we have seen, *molto rit* we have seen_ his glo - ry.

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. (2)

Silent night, holy night. Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing
alleluia: Christ, the Saviour is born. (2)

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. (2)

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 thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from
the sky, and stand by my side until morning is nigh.

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

Blessing

When the Son of God came to us as man, then the light of the world was born.

May the God of all goodness fill your hearts with holiness. **Amen.**

God sent angels to the shepherds to proclaim the saviour's birth:

May he fill you with joy and delight in the good news.

Amen.

When the Word became man, earth was joined to heaven.

May the Saviour give you peace and good will with all God's children.

Amen

May Almighty God bless you,

The Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

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**
(3) Christ the Lord.

Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
gestant puellae viscera;
Deum verum, genitum non factum.
Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus Dominum.