

Ancient and Future Catholics/ChurchYear.net present:

# A Service of Lessons and Carols

12<sup>th</sup> Night (January 5<sup>th</sup>), 9:00pm EST

Paltalk: Catholics Building Bridges Room

To download program: [www.paltalk.com](http://www.paltalk.com)



*Introductory Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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;

*Refrain*

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
We would embrace Thee, with love and awe;  
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?

*Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

*Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, glory in the highest;

*Refrain*

**First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-14**

*Hymn: I Sing a Maid (by M.D. Ridge, arranged by M. Joncas)*

I sing a maid of tender years  
To whom an angel came,  
And knelt, as to a mighty queen,  
And bowed his wings of flame;  
A nation's hope in her reply,  
This maid of matchless grace;  
For God's own son became her child,

And she his resting place.

She watched him grow to manhood's strength  
To meet his destiny,  
And when the danger of his truth  
Brought him to Calvary,  
She stood by him all powerless  
To ease his dying pain,  
'Til in the darkest hour of all,  
She held her Son again.

And if the song had ended then,  
Our eyes would fill with tears,  
But ah! The song had just begun  
To echo down the years!  
Now lift your voices, hearts and souls,  
To sing with one accord  
To honor Mary, Mother of  
The Christ, the Risen Lord!

## **Second Lesson: Micah 5: 2-5**

*Hymn: Once in Royal David's City*

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her Baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,

And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

### **Third Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38**

*Hymn: Ave Maria*

Ave Maria gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
Et benedictus  
Fructus ventris tui, Iesus  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei  
Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
Nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae  
Amen.

### **Fourth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25**

*Hymn: Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the night 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 stay by my cradle til 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.

### **Fifth Lesson: Luke 2: 1-14**

*Hymn: Angels We Have Heard On High*

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song.

Refrain

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

Refrain

## **Sixth Lesson: Luke 2: 15-20**

*Hymn: O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

O sing a song of Bethlehem,  
Of shepherds watching there,  
And of the news that came to them  
From angels in the air.  
The light that shone on Bethlehem  
Fills all the world today;  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth  
The angels sing alway.

O sing a song of Nazareth,  
Of sunny days of joy;  
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath,  
And of the sinless Boy.  
For now the flowers of Nazareth  
In every heart may grow;  
Now spreads the fame of his dear name  
On all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Calvary,  
Its glory and dismay,  
Of him who hung upon the tree,  
And took our sins away.  
For he who died on Calvary  
Is risen from the grave,  
And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,  
Is mighty now to save.

### **Seventh Lesson: Luke 2: 21-40**

*Hymn: Bring a Torch Jeanette, Isabella*

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella  
Bring a torch, come swiftly and run.  
Christ is born, tell the folk of the village,  
Jesus is sleeping in His cradle,  
Ah, ah, beautiful is the mother,  
Ah, ah, beautiful is her Son.

Hasten now, good folk of the village,  
Hasten now, the Christ Child to see.  
You will find Him asleep in a manger,  
Quietly come and whisper softly,  
Hush, hush, peacefully now He slumbers,  
Hush, hush, peacefully now He sleeps.

### **Eight Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-12**

*Hymn: We Three Kings*

We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

*Refrain*

O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign.

*Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worshipping God on high.

*Refrain*

Glorious now behold Him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*

## **Ninth Lesson: Matthew 2: 13-18**

*Hymn: Coventry Carol*

Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

O sisters too, how may we do,  
For to preserve this day  
This poor Youngling for Whom we sing  
By, by, lully, lullay?

Herod the king, in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day  
His men of might, in his own sight,  
All young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee!  
And ever morn and day  
For Thy parting neither say nor sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

*Closing Statement*

## *Closing Hymn: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.

### *Refrain*

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came;  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

### *Refrain*

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface.

### *Refrain*

## **Participants:**

**Leader: David Morrison**

**Readers: David Bennett, Jonathan Bennett, Jennifer Dierker, Carmel Brizzi and others**

## **Acknowledgements**

**Service and Book Design: Jonathan Bennett**

**Photo: Blessed Sacrament Altar at the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation (<http://www.olcshrine.com>), Carey, Ohio (taken by Jonathan Bennett)**

**Songs performed by Various Artists from the following recordings: *50 Most Loved Christmas Carols* and *Celtic Christmas with Toot Sweet***

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