

## Postcommunions

LET THE newness of this Sacrament, O Lord, ever restore us on the birthday of Him whose wondrous birth revived mankind grown old. Through the same ...

### Commemoration of St. Anastasia

THOU HAS satisfied, O Lord, Thy household with holy gifts: refresh us always, we beseech Thee, by the intercession of her, whose feast we celebrate. Through our Lord ...

Hujus nos, Dómine, sacraménti semper nóvitas natális instáuret: cujus Natívitatis singularis humánam répulit vetustátem. Per eúndem ...

SATIÁSTI, Dómine, familiam tuam munéribus sacris: ejus, quæsumus, semper intervencióne nos réfove, cujus solénnia celebrámus. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum ...

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IT IS TIME to offer up the second Sacrifice, or, as it is called, the Mass of the Aurora. In the first, the Church celebrated the temporal Birth of the Word according to the flesh. In this, she is going to honor the second Birth of the same Son of God; a birth full of grace and mercy; that which is accomplished in the heart of the faithful Christian.

See then, how, at this very hour, Shepherds are told by the Angels to go to Bethlehem, and how they hasten there. With great eagerness they enter the stable, which is scarcely large enough to hold them. Obedient to the warning received from heaven, they are come to see the Savior, who, they have been told, has been born unto them. They find all things just as the Angels had said. Who could tell the joy of their hearts, and the simplicity of their faith? They are not surprised to find, in the midst of poverty greater even than their own, him whose Birth has made the very Angels exult. They find no difficulty in acknowledging the wonderful mystery; they adore, they love, the Babe that lies there before them. They are at once Christians, and the Christian Church begins in

them; the mystery of a God humbled for man finds faith in these humble souls. Herod will plot the death of this Babe; the Synagogue will rage; the Scribes and Doctors will league together against the Lord and his Christ; they will put this Savior of Israel to death; but the faith of the Shepherds will not be shaken, and will find imitators in the wise and powerful ones of this world, who will come at last, and bow down their reason to the Crib and the Cross.

What is it that has come over these poor Shepherds? Christ has been born in their hearts; he dwells in them by faith and love. They are our Fathers in the Church. They are our Models. Let us imitate them, and invite the Divine Infant to come into our souls, which we will so prepare for him, that he may find nothing to prevent his entering. It is for our sakes also that the Angels speak; it is to us also that they tell the glad tidings; for the Mystery that has been accomplished this Night is too grand to have the pastoral slopes of Bethlehem for its limits.

*Commentary from The Liturgical Year  
by Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875)*



## Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

### The Nativity of Our Lord (Second Mass, at Dawn)

#### Introit (Isaias 9:2,6)

LUX FULGÉBIT hódie super nos: quia natus est nobis Dóminus: et vocábitur Admirábilis, Deus, Princeps pacis, Pater futúri sǎculi: cujus regni non erit finis. *Ps. 92:1.* Dóminus regnávít, decórem indútus est: indútus est Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præxíxit se. *V.* Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in sǎcula sǎculórum. Amen. — Lux fulgébít hódie ...

A LIGHT shall shine upon us this day: for the Lord is born to us: and He shall be called Wonderful, God, the Prince of Peace, the Father of the world to come: of whose reign there shall be no end. *Psalm.* The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself. *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 light shall shine ...

#### Collects

DA NOBIS, quæsumus, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui nova incarnáti Verbi tui luce perfúndimur; hoc in nostro respléndeat ópere, quod per fidem fulget in mente. Per eúndem Dóminum ...

GRANT US, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that we on whom the new light of Thine Incarnate Word is poured, may show forth in our works that brightness, which now doth illuminate our mind by faith. Through the same, our Lord ...

#### Commemoration of St. Anastasia, Martyr at Rome (+ 303)

DA, QUÆSUMUS, omnípotens Deus: ut, qui beátæ Anastásie Mártiris tuæ solénnia cólimus, ejus apud te patrocínia sentiámus. Per Dóminum nostrum ...

GRANT, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that we who devoutly keep the Feast of blessed Anastasia, Thy Martyr, my feel the effects of her pleadings with Thee. Through our Lord Jesus Christ ...

#### Epistle (Titus 3: 4-7)

CARÍSSIME: Appáruit benignitas et humánitas Salvatóris nostri Dei: non ex opéribus justítie, quæ fécimur nos:

DEARLY BELOVED: the goodness and kindness of God our Savior appeared: not by the works of justice which we have done, but

according to His mercy He saved us by the laver of regeneration and renovation of the Holy Ghost, whom He hath poured forth upon us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior: that, being justified by His grace, we may be heirs according to hope of life everlasting: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Gradual (Psalm 117:26, 27, 23)

BLESSED BE He that cometh in the name of the Lord: the Lord is God, and He hath shone upon us. This is the Lord's doing: and it is wonderful in our eyes. **Alleluia, alleluia.** (*Ps. 92. 1.*) The Lord hath reigned, He is clothed with beauty: the Lord is clothed with strength, and hath girded Himself with power. Alleluia.

### Gospel (Luke 2:15–20)

AT THAT TIME the shepherds said one to another: Let us go over to Bethlehem, and let us see this word that is come to pass, which the Lord hath showed to us. And they came with haste: and they found Mary and Joseph, and the Infant lying in the manger. And seeing they understood of the word that had been spoken to them concerning this Child. And all that heard wondered: and at those things that were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. — *Creed.*

sed secúndum suam misericórdiam salvos nos fecit per lavácrum regeneratiónis et renovatiónis Spíritus Sancti, quem effúdit in nos abúnde per Jesum Christum Salvatórem nostrum: ut justificáti grátia ipsíus, herédes simus secúndum spem vitæ ætérnæ: in Christo Jesu Dómino nostro.

BENEDÍCTUS qui venit in nómine Dómini: Deus Dóminus, et illúxit nobis. A Dómino factum est istud: et est mirábile in óculis nostris. **Alleluia, alleluia.** *Ÿ.* Dóminus regnávít, decórem induit: induit Dóminus fortitúdinem, et præcínxit se virtúte. Alleluia.

IN ILLO TÉMPORE: Pastóres loquebántur ad ínvicem: Transeámus usque Bétlehem, et videámus hoc verbum, quod factum est, quod Dóminus osténdit nobis. Et venérunt festinántes, et invenérunt Mariám: et Joseph, et infántem pósito in præsépio. Vidéntes autem cognóverunt de verbo, quod dictum erat illis de púero hoc. Et omnes, qui audiérunt, miráti sunt: et de his, quæ dicta erant a pastóribus ad ipsos. María autem conservábat ómnia verba hæc, cónferens in corde suo. Et revérsi sunt pastóres glorificántes, et laudántes Deum in omnibus, quæ audierant, et viderant, sicut dictum est ad illos. — *Credo.*

### Offertory (Psalm 92:1, 2)

DEUS FIRMÁVIT orbem terræ, qui non commovébitur: paráta sedes tua, Deus, ex tunc, a sæculo tu es.

GOD HATH established the world, which shall not be moved: Thy throne, O God, is prepared from of old: Thou art from everlasting.

### Secrets

MÚNERA nostra, quæsumus, Dómine, Nativitátis hodiérnæ mystériis apta provéniant, et pacem nobis semper infúndant: ut, sicut homo génius idem refúlsit et Deus, sic nobis hæc terréna substántia cónferat, quod divinum est. Per eúndem Dóminum ...

MAY OUR gifts, we beseech Thee, O Lord, prove worthy of the Mysteries of this day's Nativity, and ever shed forth peace upon us: that, as He Who was born as man, shone forth also as God, so may these things of earth bestow on us what is divine. Through the same Jesus Christ ...

### Commemoration of St. Anastasia

ACCÍPE, quæsumus, Dómine, múnera dignánter obláte: et beátæ Anastásiæ Mártiris tuæ suffragántibus méritis, ad nostræ salutis auxiliúm provenire concéde. Per Dóminum ...

GRACIOUSLY accept our offerings, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and grant that, by the merits and intercession of blessed Anastasia, Thy Martyr, they may prove a help to our salvation. Through our Lord ...

### Preface of the Nativity

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

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)

EXSÚLTA, filia Sion, lauda, filia Jerusalem: ecce rex tuus venit sanctus, et Salvátor mundi.

REJOICE greatly, O daughter of Sion, shout for joy, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold thy King comes, holy, the Savior of the World.