

# THE NATIVITY OF LORD OUR JESUS CHRIST

December 25

The Liturgy at Midnight

**The Introit**

**Dominus dixit ad me, Psalm 2:7/1**

ROSSINI 8



**Antiphon:**

The Lord said to me, "You are my Son, \*

this day I have be-got-ten you."

**Psalm.**

ROSSINI 8 P



Why are the nations in an up-roar? \*

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

[2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, ↓

and the princes plot together, \*

against the LORD and against his A-nointed? **Ant.**

6 "I myself have set my king \*

upon my holy hill of Zion."

8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for

your inheritance \*

and the ends of the earth for your possession.] **Ant.**

**Gloria Patri**

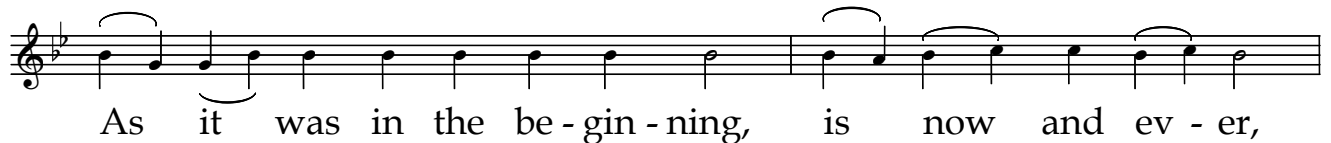
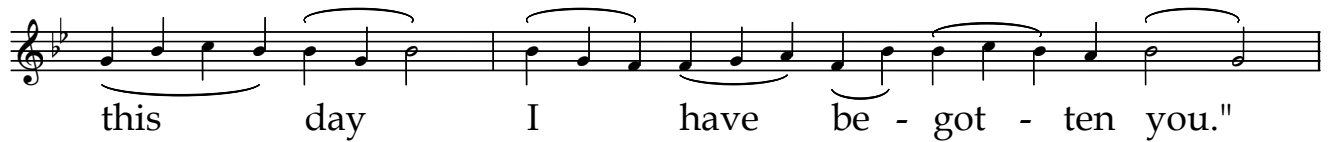
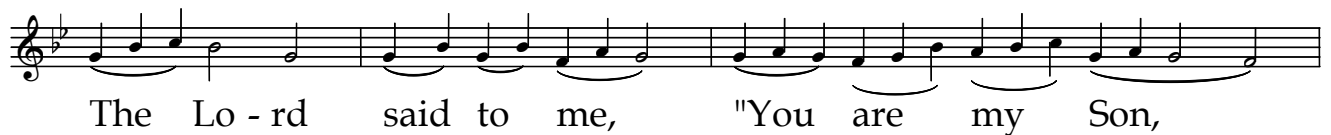
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, ↓ and to the Ho-ly Spir-it, \*

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,

for all ages of a-ges. Amen **Antiphon**

# Traditional Introit For Midnight Mass

## Dominus dixit ad me, Psalm 2:7/1



## The Collect

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ your Son, or Lord, who lives and reigns with you, O Father and the Holy Spirit, God for all ages of ages. *Amen.*

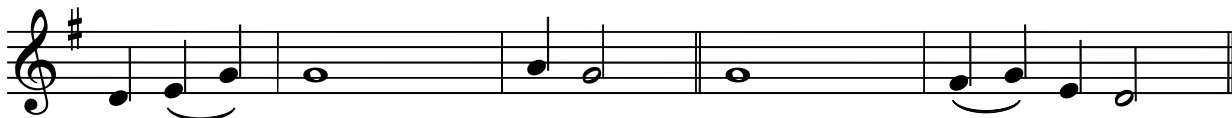
## Old Testament: **Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

## The Gradual

## Psalm 110

Tone I



- 3 Prince-ly state has been yours from the day of your birth; \*  
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,  
like dew from the womb of the morning."

1 The LORD said to my Lord, ↓ "Sit at my right hand, \*  
until I make your enemies your footstool."

### The Epistle: Titus 2:11-15

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

### Alleluia Luke 2:10, 11; Psalm 2:7



V. Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy: \*  
to you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord.

7 The Lord said to me, "You are my Son, \*  
this day have I begotten you."



## The Gospel: Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among men of good will!"

## The Offertory: Lætentur cæli, Psalm 96:11,12



Let the heavens rejoice, \*  
and let the earth be glad before the Lord when he comes.

## **The Prayer over the Gifts:**

O Lord, let the joyful offering of this night's celebration be acceptable in your sight, and, by your grace, grant us through this holy exchange of gifts to be transformed in him whose Person, the substance of our humanity is united to the Godhead, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

## **The Preface of the Nativity**

Because by the mystery of the Word made flesh,  
the light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind;  
so that, while we acknowledge him to be God in visible form,  
he may draw us to the love of things invisible.

## **Christmas Eve Before the Pax Domini**

*Priest:* May Almighty God, Who has put to flight the darkness of the world through the Incarnation of His only-begotten Son, and, through His glorious birth, has illuminated this most holy night, put to flight the darkness of your sins, and illuminate your hearts with the light of holiness.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May He, Who willed that the joy of this most holy birth should be told to the shepherds by an angel, pour upon you the gracious dew of His blessing, and lead you, Himself the Good Shepherd, to the everlasting pastures of eternal joy.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May He, Who has united Heaven and earth, through the Incarnation of the Son, inwardly fill you with the sweetness of peace and good will, and make you the companions of the Heavenly host.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May the Lord God Almighty, Whose glorious Kingdom endures for ever, be pleased to bestow these blessings upon you; and...

*Priest:* The ✠ Peace of The Lord be always with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

### **The Communion:**

**Psalm 110:3**



In the beauty of holiness have I begotten you, \*  
like dew from the womb of the morning

### **The Postcommunion:**

O God, your blessed Son Jesus Christ became man, that we might become the children of God: Grant, we pray, that being made partakers of the divine nature of your Son, through these Holy Mysteries we may be conformed to his likeness; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and for all ages of ages. *Amen*