

# Welcome to Good Shepherd Parish

December 21, 2025



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:23

**Parish Office: (508) 650—3545**

**99 Main Street, Wayland, MA**

### GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH VISION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Parish strives to be a vibrant, welcoming community where every person can experience the Father's love. Through the Gospel proclamation, prayer, and joyous sacramental celebration, Good Shepherd Parish will inspire parishioners to discern and live out their vocations and to actively evangelize the world. As we bear witness to the Risen Christ, Our Lord and Savior, we aspire to serve our parish community. We will seek to welcome home the new, the lost, and the disheartened by using the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit..

### GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Roman Catholic community of Good Shepherd Parish, strive to be a living sign of Christ's love in and for the world. In response to our Baptismal call, nourished by the Eucharist and guided by the values of the Second Vatican Council, we seek to continue the mission of Jesus Christ by welcoming, supporting and guiding all through prayer, sacramental celebration, service and education.

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:**  
Fr. Laurence "Ren" Tocci  
Ext. 14  
frren@goodshepherdwayland.org

**Senior Priest in Residence:**  
Rev. Austin H. Fleming, M.A.  
fraustin@goodshepherdwayland.org  
Fr. Fleming's daily blog:  
ConcordPastor.blogspot.com

**Permanent Deacon:**  
Deacon Colm McGarry Ext. 22  
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cmcgarry@goodshepherdwayland.org  
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**Interim Director of Music Ministry:**  
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happyhojlos@verizon.net

**Communications & Sacramental Records:**  
Kat Holmstrom Ext. 13  
kholmstrom@goodshepherdwayland.org

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Vina Sousa Ext. 10  
vsousa@goodshepherdwayland.org

**Facilities Staff:**  
Steve McCarthy & Julio Pazmino Ext. 18

**Parish Office Hours:**  
Monday—Thursday  
9 AM—3 PM  
Friday 9 AM—12 PM



ST. ANN CHURCH, 134 COCHITUATE RD, WAYLAND, MA



ST. ZEPHERIN CHURCH, 99 MAIN ST, WAYLAND, MA

### Mass Times

Saturday, 4:00 PM St. Ann  
Sunday, 8:30 AM St. Zepherin  
Sunday, 10:30 AM St. Ann  
Sunday, 5:30 PM St. Zepherin

### Confession

Saturday, 3:00 –3:45 PM  
St. Ann  
(or by appointment)

### Weekday Masses

Monday—Tuesday  
9:00 AM St. Ann  
Wednesday—Friday  
9:00 AM St. Zepherin

### Mass Intentions

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20**  
4:00 PM  
PEOPLE OF  
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21**  
8:30 AM  
JOHN & MARY ELLEN JOHNSON  
10:30 AM  
STANLEY RICHARDS  
5:30 PM  
RITA WOOD EDWARDS  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22**  
9:00 AM  
MILLIE CHOINSKI &  
RUTH (CHOINSKI) FORNES  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**  
**HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVE!**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

### Parish Calendar

**DAILY MASS AT 9:00 AM**  
**MONDAY & FRIDAY ONLY**  
**THIS WEEK**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**MASSES**

4:00 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN

4:15 PM ST ANN

5:30 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**MASS**  
10:00 AM ST ANN



## *Do You Hear. . .*

I've been sampling all kinds of Christmas carols on my car radio this past month, and I think I've decided that my favorite one is "Do You Hear What I Hear." When I was a kid I objected to the song because in the last verse the king proclaimed the Christ Child as the Prince of Peace, and I knew from my mother reading the Bible to me at night that Herod did anything *but* recognize that the Child would bring us goodness and light. Listening to it now with the ears of an adult I've gained a new appreciation for the tune.

There's something interesting in the progression of the revelation of the Nativity. It begins with the night wind calling a little lamb's attention to the Star of Bethlehem; from there, the lamb then informs the shepherd boy of a mysterious song. The shepherd boy, in his turn, tells the mighty king of the Baby Jesus, shivering in the cold. And it climaxes with the king proclaiming to his people that the child will bring us goodness and light. Each verse is grounded on a question that invites the next creature in line to share in the revelation of God's entering into human history: *Do you see what I see? Do you hear what I hear? Do you know what I know?* The night wind and the little lamb are given personalities of their own, a certain consciousness as if they were human beings. They're able to communicate, and each has a secret to share. This secret takes on more clarity with each verse, and is passed up the food-chain to a humble shepherd boy and finally to a great monarch.

If one listens to it with the ears of faith, the song has a lot to say about what Christmas means and the significance of God becoming a human being. The Incarnation ultimately transforms the entire created order, imbuing all of creation with the mystery of God's grace. The night wind, along with the Star, is the first to recognize this, and signals it to a meek little animal. The lamb confides the revelation to his intimate friend, the shepherd boy. And in a real twist of events, this unassuming, easily overlooked boy has the audacity to approach the king with the provocative question, "Do you know what I know?" The most important things—the things of God—are entrusted first to the meek and humble, who, in their lack of power or wealth, are open to the revelation. And this privileged knowledge emboldens them to approach the more prestigious and powerful with a wonderful temerity that comes from possessing a treasure that they know is far greater than the rich and mighty have—and in their humility and generosity are quick to share that treasure with the king.

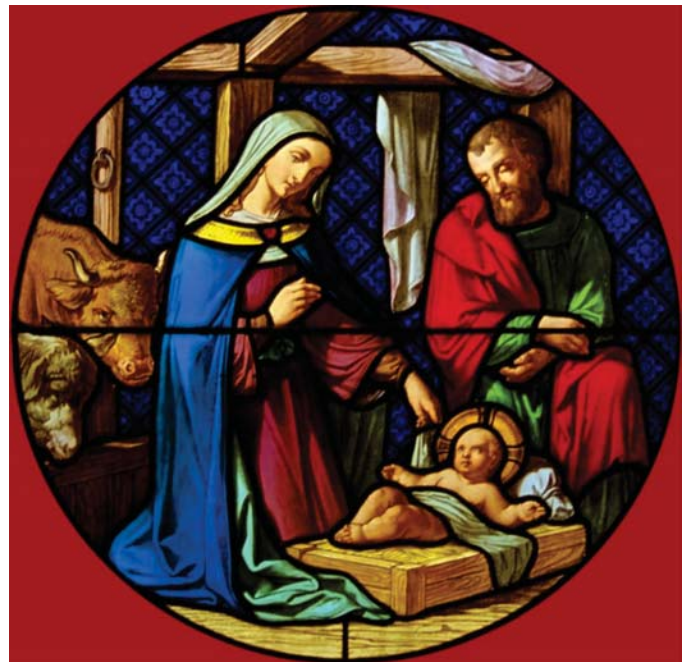
Christ renews all of His creation in the Incarnation, inserting Himself directly into the arrangement of this

world and its nature. And in doing so, He not only reverses the course of history from a downward spiral toward sin to a trajectory toward the Kingdom of Heaven, He also up-ends the social order of that old pattern, so the meek and humble (who are destined to inherit the earth) now are the ones who bestow true wisdom on the ruling class. Then, in a really unexpected turn of events, the king learns the humility to accept the revelation with an urgent sort of love. He now uses his position, not for his own benefit, but to proclaim the truth of this sleeping Infant, who will be the one to bring goodness and light into the world.

What a groovy thing to bear in mind this Christmas. That the logic of power politics, the manipulation of media spin isn't what's going to set this world right. It will be the humble and joyful reception of a Child born in a stable, laid to rest in a feeding trough, whose mere birth into time sets the night wind whispering to sheep, setting into motion a ripple effect that ultimately inspires mighty kings to ask his people to pray for peace and proclaim this Child the light-bearer. This is the ripple effect of grace: the growing circle of God's saving action spreading through history and across the world—the tiny mustard seed that blooms into a bush that all the birds of the air can nest in. This is the true miracle of Christmas.

To all our family of Good Shepherd Parish: Have a wonderful, a blessed, a holy day Thursday.

~ Fr. Ren



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

We wish you and your families a wonderful day of rejoicing in the birth of Christ.

# Merry Christmas

## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

### CALENDAR YR2026: HOLY DAY OR SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTIONS

Th. Jan. 1	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD HOLY DAY (GSP collection)
Jan. 24/25	CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA (RCAB Collection)
Wed. Feb. 18	CATHOLIC CHARITIES (RCAB collection) Ash Wednesday
Feb. 21/22	SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD (RCAB collection)
Fri. Apr. 3	GOOD FRIDAY- HOLY LAND (RCAB collection)
Apr. 4/5	<b>EASTER</b> /CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST (RCAB - main collection on Easter wknd.)
Th. May 14	ASCENSION - HOLY DAY (GSP collection)
May 23/24	SEMINARIANS COLLECTION (Pentecost) (RCAB collection)
Jun. 20/21	PROMOTING THE GOSPEL (RCAB collection)
Aug. (to be decided)	MISSIONARY COOPERATIVE APPEAL Propagation of the Faith)
Sept. 19/20	CLERGY HEALTH & RETIREMENT TRUST (RCAB Collection)
Oct. 3/4	HOLY FATHER & MISSIONARY EFFORTS (RCAB Collection)
Oct. 17/18	WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (Propagation of Faith)
Nov. 21/22	RETIREMENT FUND FOR WOMEN RELIGIOUS (RCAB collection)
Tue. Dec. 8	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - HOLY DAY (GSP collection)
Dec. 24/25	CHRISTMAS COLLECTION (RCAB - only one collection at Christmas Masses)

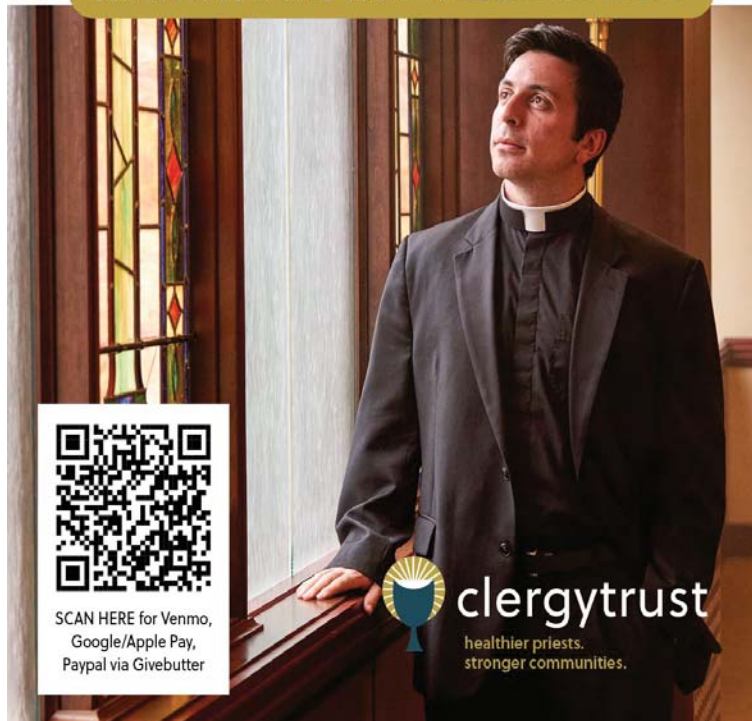


THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
OF OUR PARISH MISSION!



SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS CHRISTMAS

LEARN MORE & GIVE TODAY AT [CLERGYTRUST.ORG](https://clergytrust.org)



## READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2025

<b>SUNDAY</b> Dec 21	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6./Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
<b>MONDAY</b> Dec 22	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
<b>TUESDAY</b> Dec 23	<b>Saint John of Kanty, Priest</b> Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10+14/Lk 1:57-66
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Dec 24	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27+29/Lk 1:67-79
<b>NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)</b>	<b>Vigil:</b> Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 <b>Night:</b> Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
<b>THURSDAY</b> Dec 25	<b>Dawn:</b> Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20 <i>Holyday of Obligation</i> <b>Day:</b> Is 52:7-10/ Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
<b>FRIDAY</b> Dec 26	<b>Saint Stephen, The First Martyr</b> Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6ab+8a, 16bc+17/ Mt 10:17-22
<b>SATURDAY</b> Dec 27	<b>Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</b> 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
<b>SUNDAY</b> Dec 28	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



## Parish Offertory Commitment Program

Many thanks to all the families who had mailed their pledge expressing their support to the parish in FY 2026.


The pledge is non-binding but gives the parish an idea of what it may receive this year.

If you haven't yet done so, please complete a pledge and return it to our parish office. Blank pledges are available by the entrances of the church.

Your intentional, consistent support is greatly appreciated. Please know you are welcome to adjust your giving as your circumstances dictate.

All parishioners and benefactors are ever in our prayers and are integral to this parish's ability to serve the community. Thank you for your support!





# Readings To-Go!

4th Sunday of Advent  
December 21, 2025

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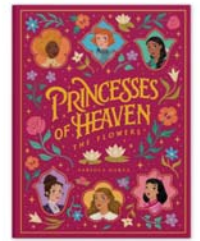
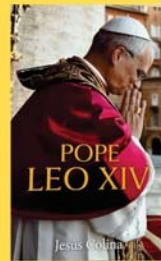
*Scan QR code to see  
this week's readings!*



## GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH LIBRARY

*located at St. Ann Church  
across from the confessional*

**Please feel free to come  
visit our bookshelves and  
check out a book!**



For your convenience, the library  
will be accessible  
Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays  
from 9:30 AM - 3 PM  
Saturdays from 10 AM - MASS time



*A heartfelt thank you  
to all our  
parishioners for  
your wonderful  
support of the  
Breakfast with  
Santa fundraiser for  
NPH!*



## Breakfast with Santa

Because of your generosity, the morning was filled with joy, laughter, and the true spirit of the season.

Families enjoyed a festive breakfast, decorated cookies, colored holiday cards for the kids at NPH, and of course the children were thrilled to meet Santa, Mrs. Claus, and one of Santa's cheerful elves! Fun was had by all, and your participation helped make a meaningful difference in the lives of the children served by NPH. Funds raised from this year's event will be going to support the NPH Guatemala vocational training program, that offers 5 vocational training areas that include cooking, baking, sewing, blacksmith and carpentry, to 130 adolescents. We heard from Alexis, who grew up in the NPH home in Guatemala, about the difference the vocational school has made in his life.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the local businesses whose generosity helped make the event such a success—Russell's Garden Shop, Charlie Estes Golf Pro, Femiluxe Nail Salon, Silk Veterinary Hospital, Spark Salon, and Stop & Shop. We are also deeply grateful to the many Faith Formation families who donated items for our raffle baskets, the Knights of Columbus for providing and cooking the food, and the Youth Ministry members who helped with cookie decorating, table setup, and serving. Your kindness and teamwork made a big difference!

Thank you again for helping us support the children of NPH. May God bless you abundantly this Advent season!

There is still time to donate, if you would like to help out, please go to this web page: [onecau.se/bfsanta](https://onecau.se/bfsanta)



## GENETIC REVEAL?

A “gender reveal” party with family and friends has replaced the traditional “baby shower” for many young couples today. Some even announce what name they have chosen for their child. Biblical stories typically assign special names that assign a special role in God’s plans for salvation. Isaiah rebuked King Ahaz for not trusting God. The king’s offspring will not be God’s chosen. Another woman’s child is to be called “*Emmanuel*, God is with us” (Isa 7:10-14). The name an angel assigns Joseph’s son, *Yeshua* (Hebr. typically “Joshua”; in Greek “Jesus”) means “God is salvation” and was a popular choice in the 1<sup>st</sup> cent. CE. Clearly, not the only one in the village or even among his cousins.

So, the angel explains that this baby’s name not only represents generations of Israelites hoping for an experience of salvation but a new reality. Then the evangelist reminds readers of Isaiah’s prophecy. God becomes present with humanity, not some distant force. When relatives and friends inspect the newest family member, they often find resemblances to a parent or sibling as a baby. Did the Spirit tweak the genome of the new born Jesus to play the same tricks on adoring relatives? Perhaps. Growing up villagers knew him as the carpenter Joseph’s son and sometimes point to his origins with scorn (Matt 13:55; Lk 4:22; Jn 6:42).

Was skilled wood-working the only trait Jesus shared with his foster father? Today’s gospel provides another in describing Joseph’s response to the news that his betrothed had been unfaithful. A strict legal approach could have allowed him to publicly repudiate her; keep any dowry agreed to in the marriage contract, and bring public shame on Mary and her parents. But the gospel tells us that as a “just” or “righteous” man, Joseph had decided to keep it quiet. No “social media” shaming! Only then does the angel let Joseph in on God’s plan. Joseph buys into God’s plan completely. Joseph’s original idea represents a principle that Jesus’ teaching will develop: *God’s justice requires compassion.*

Pheme Perkins, Ph.D.  
Joseph Professor  
Of Catholic Spirituality  
Boston College






PARISH OFFICE WILL BE

# CLOSED

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

on both

**DECEMBER 25 & 26 and**

**JANUARY 1 & 2**

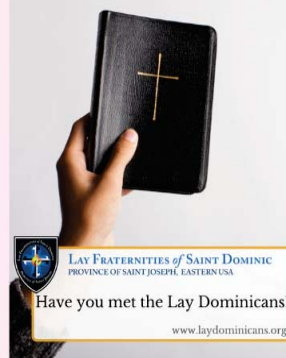
**2026**

HAVE A BLESSED  
AND SAFE HOLIDAY!

*Happy New Year*

## ADVENT

**TO PRAISE,  
BLESS,  
PREACH**



LAY FRATERNITIES of SAINT DOMINIC  
PROVINCE OF SAINT JOSEPH, EASTERN USA  
Have you met the Lay Dominicans?  
[www.laydominicans.org](http://www.laydominicans.org)

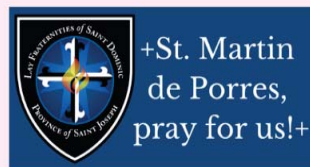
"To praise, to bless, to preach."  
This is the motto of the Dominican Order,  
and a particular invitation for all of us  
during this time of expectation.

During Advent, the Church asks us to  
prepare for the coming of Christ-- not just in  
a historical remembrance of His birth at  
Christmas, but in the very real sense that we  
are waiting for Jesus to come back!  
As members of the Dominican Family, your  
local fraternity of Lay Dominicans invites  
you to contemplate what it would mean  
to live each day of Advent expecting  
Christ to come *again*, to finally fulfill His  
promise to establish the fullness of the  
Kingdom of God.

Would you praise God *in expectation*?  
Would you bless His Holy Name *in a spirit of  
joyful longing*?  
Would you preach His reign, *from now until  
the end of time*?

Maranatha! Lord Jesus: come!

For information about the Lay Fraternities of  
St. Dominic, please visit [www.boston3op.com](http://www.boston3op.com)  
Mrs. Mikayla Dalton, O.P.  
(fraternity president) at  
[mikayla.v.dalton@gmail.com](mailto:mikayla.v.dalton@gmail.com)



## DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

(ADJUSTMENTS WHILE FR. FLEMING IS AWAY)

**MONDAY 9 AM @ ST. ANN**

**WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY  
9 AM @ ST. ZEPHERIN**

No Daily Mass on Tuesdays  
December 16th, 23rd, and 30th



# GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

## MASS SCHEDULES

CHRISTMAS EVE  
MASSES  
4:00 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN

4:15 PM ST ANN

5:30 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN

CHRISTMAS DAY  
MASS  
10:00 AM ST ANN

RECONCILIATION  
SATURDAYS  
3:00 -3:45 PM  
ST ANN CHURCH

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE  
FOLLOWED BY ADORATION  
THURS 12/18 @ 7:00 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN CHURCH

THE IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION OF THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MONDAY 12/8

9:00 AM ST ANN

7:00 PM  
ST ZEPHERIN

New Year's Day  
SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY, MOST  
HOLY MOTHER OF  
GOD

9:00 AM  
ST ZEPHERIN

7:00 PM  
ST ANN





## PENITENTIAL ACT

*Priest, deacon, or cantor, then all:*

(Invocation)

1. Lord, have mer - cy.  
2. Christ, have mer - cy.  
3. Lord, have mer - cy.

*Priest:* May almighty God...everlasting life.

*Assembly:*

A - men.

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Advent Gospel Acclamation

Jay Maenhout

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

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

Text: ICEL, © 2010  
Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION A

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro -  
fess your Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

Text: ICEL, © 2010

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

## AMEN

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

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

## LAMB OF GOD

*Cantor:* *All:* *Repeat ad lib.*

Have mer - cy on us. Have mer - cy on us.  
Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Music: *Mass of the Angels and Saints*, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Alternate Refrain

Let the Lord en - ter, let the Lord  
en - ter, the King of glo - ry.

1. All creation is the work of God.  
The earth and all creatures  
belong to the Lord.  
From mountains to valleys,  
from ocean to land,  
the Lord God made them all.
2. Who will climb the sacred mountain,  
the holy place of God?

- Those who have not done evil,  
whose hearts are pure,  
whose eyes are not blind.
3. God will send a blessing  
to honor his faithful ones.  
Lord, this is the people  
who seek the face of Jacob's God.

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## A CHRISTMAS GLORIA

GLORIA



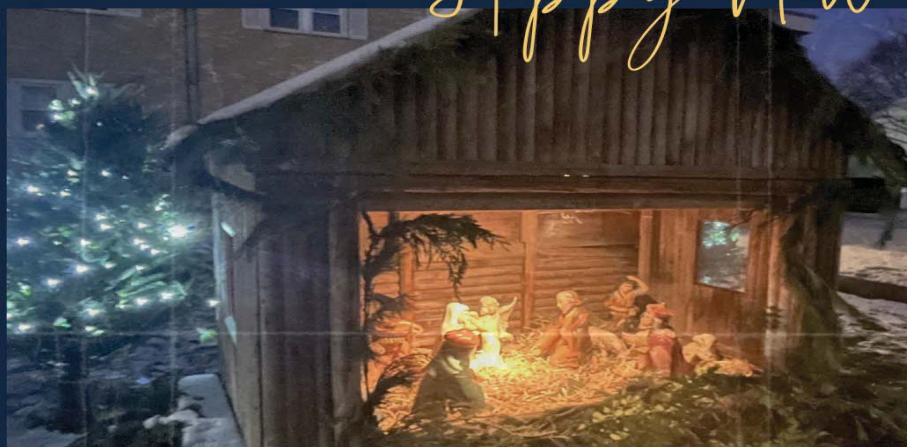
Music: Trad. French carol; verses arr. by Paul Gibson.

\*Verses available in accompaniment books.

## CHRISTMASTIME ALLELUIA

James J. Chepponis  
based on ADESTE FIDELES

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EPIPHANY PAGEANT  
CELEBRATIONAll children in grades K-5 are invited to  
participate in the **Epiphany Pageant!**At St. Ann's **Sunday Mass, January 4th,**  
**10:30 AM.****For sign-up & details scan QR.**Prayer  
Requests+St. Martin  
de Porres,  
pray for us!+**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH****PRAYER LINE:****GSPPRAYERS@GMAIL.COM****OR CALL THE NEW LINE  
TO LEAVE A MESSAGE :****(508) 650 - 3545 EXT. 11**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling  
clothes and lying in a manger

LUKE: 2:12

**FROM THE STAFF OF  
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH**



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AZ ROC344027 AR 366920925, CA1035795, CT HIC0671520, DC 420223000087, FL CBC056678, ID ROC-51604, IA C127230, LA 559544, MD MHIC11225, MA 213292, MI 262300331, 262300330, 262300329, 262300328, 262300318, 262300173, MN IR810524, MT 266192, NE 50145-24, NV 86990, NJ 13VH13285000, NM 408693, ND 47304, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN10981, UT 10783658-5501, VT 174,0000871, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFLH763PG, WV WV056912.  
\*The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America.

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Help open doors for students in need and brighten  
their futures with the blessing of a Catholic education.  
Your donation is an investment in their future.



The Catholic Schools Foundation (CSF) is the largest K-12  
scholarship granting organization in Massachusetts.  
For more information, visit us at [www.csfboston.org](http://www.csfboston.org)



**\$349.99**

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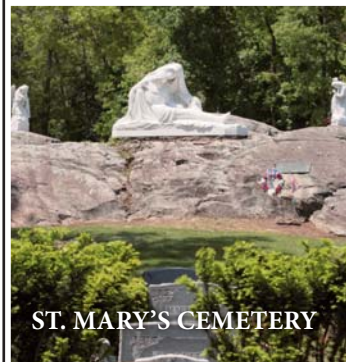
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