

..... John 1:1-5, 9-14

In the beginning was the Word:
the Word was with God and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.

He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him who was born
not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

Readings Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:1-7

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14

Readings Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10

Hebrews 1:1-6

John 1:1-18 or John 1:1-5,9-14

Responsorial Psalm:

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia.

Prayers of the Faithful:

Lord, hear our prayer.

A Christmas Blessing:

May there be harmony in all your relationships.

May you give and receive love generously.

May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ.

May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul.

May the wonder and Awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened within you.

May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as you gather with your family and friends around the table of festivity and nourishment.

May you daily open the gift of your life and be grateful for the hidden treasures it contains.

May you often go to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit One who offers you peace.

May you bring this peace into our world.

A Grace before Christmas Dinner

Lord of All, we give you thanks for your abundance,

and for all the great things you have given us, especially the birth of Your Son on this day.

We ask your blessing upon this food, and upon our friends and family.

We also pray that in your great mercy, you would look kindly upon all those in need this day.

We pray in Jesus name,
Amen.