



All the music is from Handel's Messiah Overture

Reader:

Proclamation of the birth of Jesus from the Roman Martyrology

Today, the twenty-fifth day of December / unknown ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth/ and then formed man and woman in his own image. Several thousand years after the flood / when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant. Twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah / thirteen centuries after Moses led the people out of Egypt. Eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the Judges / one thousand years from the anointing of David as King / in the sixty-fifth week according to the prophecy of Daniel. In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad / the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome. The forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus / the whole world being at peace / Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father / desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming / being conceived by the Holy Spirit, and nine months having passed since his conception / was born in Bethlehem of Judea of the Virgin Mary. Today is the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

**All:** O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant that we may share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. (From the Mass of the Nativity)

**Reader:** Today the Savior of the world is born for us. With joy we pray

**All:** Glory to God in the highest.

**Reader:** Accept our carols of gladness and hymns of praise

**All:** Glory to God in the highest

**Reader:** Attune us to the wisdom of the children, the humble, the poor  
**All:** Glory to God in the highest

**Reader:** Let the joy of this day reach into the dark places of our world  
**All:** Glory to God in the highest.

**Reader:** May the peace and joy that Christ brings to the world fill the hearts of all people. Amen

**Music: Comfort Ye My People / Every Valley Shall Be Exalted**

**All:** We feel we are in our own "Rebecca moment". We are leaving what we know in order to open ourselves to what is new. We are living in a time of change and violence and seeking who God is calling us to be and what God is calling us to do

**Reader:** We embrace our three images of acting as one body, as one Society baking bread, as a family setting sail for new lands, at the same time living more humanly, to deepen our interior life while welcoming new members and volunteers and a new approach to discernment (Theory U) and embrace JPIC.

**All:** We say "Presente" You can count on us.

**Music: And the Glory of the Lord**

**All:** Son of God, Jesus, through you all things were made. You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother, You became part of this earth, and you gazed upon this world with human eyes. Today, You are alive in every creature in your risen glory. Praise be to you! Laudato Si

**All:** A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord. For today a great light has come upon the earth.

**Today's Mass Music: A Child is Born to us**

**All:** We join with Barbara Dawson in her closing conference of the 2016 Chapter. "Having received Pope Francis' blessing today not only for ourselves, but also for our families, our communities, our people let us go forward in hope to live the mission, as women of fire and sowers of seeds of new life."

**The Hallelujah Chorus**

**All:** Merry Christmas to each and everyone and all whom we touch in one way or another  
Amen

*May the peace and joy  
that Christ brings to the world  
fill the hearts of all people.*