

SIMBANG GABI

Saturday, December 18, 2004

Rituals for the day:

1. Penitential Acclamation to be read by a father, a mother and the Presider.
2. Presentation of personal gifts by different families.
3. "Mano Po" – Lector goes to the Presider for a blessing before reading and used as the Sign of Peace.

PRELUDE:

(Just before the Liturgy a commentator will read the introduction to the Mothers reading the Intercessions)

Commentator:

This morning, the Penitential acclamation will be read by a father, a mother and our Presider. This ritual symbolizes the role of the parents and the clergy in giving the children a better understanding of and participation in the full sacramental life of the Catholic Church. The parents and clergy have the responsibility to keep the faith alive, vital and relevant in the daily lives of the children so that they may grow in the life of Christ.

We are all called to evangelization, conversion, communion and solidarity in Christ. Marriage is the foundation of the family and the family is the foundation of this parish. Let us teach our children to continue the Church's pastoral ministry to sustain the work of our Savior, Jesus Christ for generations to come.

I. INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Rite

(entrance procession: cross bearer, parol bearer, altar servers, lector, presider)

Greeting

Presider:

**"In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit."**

All:

Amen.

Presider: **(Peace be with you)**
The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite (Father and Mother should be assigned seats on the left hand side of the church for easy access of the ambo.)

Presider: **Coming together as God's family, With confidence let us ask forgiveness as God is full of gentleness and compassion.**

Lord Jesus, you sanctified our families as you dwelt in Nazareth with Joseph and Mary growing in wisdom and age.
— Lord have mercy

All Lord, have mercy.

Mother: Christ Jesus, You experienced the human love of Joseph and Mary to be beneficial to your growth and formation. You constantly guide our families to be so.
- Christ have mercy

All: Christ, have mercy.

Father: Lord Jesus, with you in the family, we discover who we are in intimate affection, understanding and prayer. You are the center of our life and faith as we reach out to other families.
- Lord have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: **May almighty God have mercy on us, Forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.**

All: Amen

Opening Prayer:

Presider: **All powerful God,
We are oppressed and weighed down
By the ancient yoke of sin.
Grant that the birth of your only Son,
So long awaited, yet always new,
May deliver us and set us free.**

**We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, Who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and
ever.**

All: Amen

II. LITURGY OF THE WORD

(Lector goes up to the Presider and do *mano po* before proceeding to the ambo. **Presider says: "May God show you mercy"**)

First Reading: Jer 23:5-8

Lector: Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; as king he shall reign and govern wisely, he shall do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security. This is the name they give him: "The Lord our justice."

Therefore, the days will come, says the Lord, when they shall no longer say, "As the Lord lives, who brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt"; but rather, "As the Lord lives, who brought the descendants of the house of Israel up from the land of the north"— and from all the lands to which I banished them; they shall again live on their own land.

**Responsorial
Psalm**

Ps 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Lector/Response: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Lector: O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king' s son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

All: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Lector: For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

All: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Lector: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds. And blessed forever be his glorious name; may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

All: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

**Gospel
Acclamation**

(To be sung by choir)

Gospel

Mt 1: 18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of

David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

Homily:

General Intercessions:

Presider : **My dear Brothers and sisters: Let us ask God for Guiding grace so we may fully prepare for Christ's coming.**

Lector: Let us remember the Church throughout the world, particularly where she is persecuted because of the truth she proclaims. Let us pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Lector: Let us pray for those who are weak such as the sick, the elderly, the downtrodden, that Christ may give them hope from their pain and suffering. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Lector: Let us pray for all those who persevere in the task of spreading the Word of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Lector: Let us bring nature and whatever is left of its beauty closer to God, respecting, refining, and preserving nature, and never working to destroy it. Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord hear our prayer

Presider: **Lord, our God, give us the strength of faith and love of St. John the Baptist. May we always have the joy as we search for your truth and attempt always to do your will. This we ask, in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, without end.**

All: Amen

III. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song: (Sung by Choir)

Preparation of the altar and gifts: *Presentation of gifts different families, (collection will happen at this time) presentation of the bread and wine for Eucharist.*

Prayer over the Gifts:

Presider: **O Lord, Let the sacrifice to be offered to your name. Make us acceptable to you that we may share in the immortal life of your Son, Who healed our mortal nature by his death. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All: Amen.

Preface of Advent II (please use the sacramentary)

Eucharistic Prayer (please use the sacramentary)

IV. COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer:

Sign of Peace: (Families will give the sign of peace to the Presider in the *Mano po* manner **Presider says to each one who greets him the Mano Po to him: "May God show you mercy"**)

Breaking of the Bread: (To be sung)

Communion: Two songs with one Christmas song.

Announcements:

Prayer after communion:

Presider: **In this gathering of your Church
The living temple of your presence,
May we find your mercy, Lord,
And so approach with fitting reverence
the coming feast of our redemption.**

Grant this in the name of Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen

V. CLOSING RITE

Greeting

Presider: **The Lord be with you.
(Sumainyo ang Panginoon)**

All: And also with you

Blessing

Presider: **May almighty God bless you,
The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
(Pagpalain kayo ng Makapangyarihang**

Diyos

Ama, at ng Anak, at ng Espiritu Santo)

All: Amen

Dismissal

Presider: **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

All: Thanks be to God.

Recessional

Song: (To be sung in Tagalog – Medley of Christmas Songs)