

*St. Benedict Parish*

# *Advent Vespers*

*(Festival of Carols and Lessons)*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee,  
O Israel!*



*Sunday, December 9, 2018*  
*4:00PM*

*“Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to all of us. Advent’s intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church’s year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart’s memory so that it can discern the star of hope....”*

*It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”*

### **Entrance Procession**

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ~ String Quartet*

**(PLEASE STAND)**

**Priest:** God, come to our assistance.

**All:** Lord, make haste to help me.

**Priest:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

**All:** as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Alleluia.

**Opening Hymn:** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free!  
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in thee.
2. Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.
3. Born thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a king: Born to  
reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine  
all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

**(PLEASE BE SEATED AFTER HYMN)**

**First Reading:** *Genesis 3:1-15*

*"Let the King of Glory Come" ~Choir*

*"Beyond the Moon and Stars" ~Choir*

**Priest:** Lord of mercy, despite our sinfulness, you never stopped loving us. Fill our hearts with your mercy that we may forgive others.

**All:** Amen.

**Second Reading:** *Jeremiah 23:5-8*

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ~ Small Group: Treesa Schools, Nicole Angstadt, Matthew Reagan, and Tony Diederich Jr.*

**Priest:** Lord, you promised that your reign would bring the justice that would never end. May we help to bring this justice in our time.

**All:** Amen.

**Third Reading:** *Isaiah 11:1-10*

*"Creator of the Stars of Night" ~Choir, Soloists: Sue Hodgkins and Michelle Snider*

**Priest:** Lord, we wait for the day of your peace. May we help to bring this peace in our families, our communities, and our world.

**All:** Amen.

**Fourth Reading:** *Isaiah 9:1-6*

*"Alleluia! Hurry the Lord is Near" ~ Choir*

*"The Snow Lay on the Ground" ~ Women of the Choir*

**Priest:** God, you are always with us. May we always trust in your presence and share it with those around us.

**All:** Amen

**Fifth Reading:** *Luke 1:26-38*

*"Nativity Carol" ~Choir*

**Priest:** Lord, you asked Mary and Joseph to trust in you. May we come to share in their trust and always rely on you.

**All:** Amen.

**Sixth Reading: Luke 2:1-18**

*“Silent Night” ~Choir*

**(In honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this Hymn)**

*“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” ~Congregation and Choir*

1. Hark the herald angels sing: “glory to the new born king; peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim: “Christ in born in Bethlehem!”

**Refrain:** Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord.  
Late in time before him come, offspring of a Virgins womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased with man with us to dwell. Jesus our Emmanuel.

**(Refrain)**

3. Hail the heaven born prince of peace! Hail the Son of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second born. **(Refrain)**

*“Were You There On That Christmas Night” ~Choir*

**Priest:** Lord, you came to us in humility and vulnerability. May we always show loving care to those around us.

**All:** Amen.



**Seventh Reading: Matthew 2:1-12**

*“We Three Kings” ~Choir & Soloists: Matthew Reagan, Peter Snow, and Mark Ettaro & Congregation*

**Refrain (Congregation):** *O---Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Priest:** Lord, you are the giver of all good gifts. May we always remember to share our gifts with others.

**All:** Amen.

**Eighth Reading: John 1:1-14**

*“Child of the Poor” ~Choir*

**Priest:** God of power and might, you are beyond all time and space. May we never fail to recognize your majesty and give praise to you in all we do.

**All:** Amen.

**Ninth Reading: Matthew 28:16-20**

*“Joy to the World” ~Choir and Congregation*

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature  
sing.
2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the  
sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the  
sounding joy.
3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations  
prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, and wonders of his love.

**(PLEASE STAND AFTER HYMN)**

## Closing Prayer and Final Blessing

**Priest:** Lord, you call us to be your witnesses to the ends of the earth. Fill our words with power that we may proclaim your good news and draw all people to you...and may the almighty God bless you and remain with you, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

### **Closing Hymn:** *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

1. Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

**Refrain:** Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo!

Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be which inspire your heavenly song.  
**(Refrain)**
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn king.  
**(Refrain)**
4. See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above; Mary,  
Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.  
**(Refrain)**



***The Choir of St. Benedict Parish***  
***Director & Organist: Andrew Angstadt***

**Sopranos**

***Ellie Albright***  
***Carole Anstett***  
***Patti Brenner***  
***Charlie Flannery***  
***Sue Hodgkins***  
***Laura Kamerdze***  
***Kelly Reagan***  
***Mary Ann Sarge***  
***Treesa Schools***  
***Michelle Snider***

**Altos**

***Nicole Angstadt***  
***Ruth Beard***  
***Sheri Ettaro***  
***Mary Ann Ferrese***

**Tenors**

***Dennis Brizick***  
***Cathy Cuff-Coffman***  
***Tony Diederich***  
***Paul Franz***  
***Darcy Morawski***  
***Bill Schools***

**Basses**

***Bill Benonis***  
***Dan Dropp***  
***Mark Ettaro***  
***Matt Reagan***  
***Peter Snow***



***A special thanks to our wonderful Quartet for the evening... "Bella Música String Quartet", our Wonderful Lectors of the Parish, and our great Womens Club!***

***PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR FAMILY LIFE CENTER  
FOR REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED BY THE  
WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE PARISH!***

The Music Ministry of St. Benedict Parish extends  
our deepest gratitude for attending our Advent  
Vespers.

May you all have a blessed Christmas  
and a Joyful New Year.

