# **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH**

National Catholic Church

250 Old Maxwell Road Latham, NY 12110
Office 518.453-2258 | Office Hours: Friday Noon-2:00 pm | Rectory 518.437-1889
www.bvmcChurch.org | E-mail: revmagncc@yahoo.com
Rev. Mark A. Gnidzinski. Pastor



## **Worship Schedule:**

Saturday 5:00 pm - Vigil Holy Mass Sunday 9:00 am - Holy Mass (also livestream on Facebook)

The hymns in this booklet and during our livestreamed Holy Mass are used with permission from Oregon Catholic Press and OneLicense

# Humble Shepherds Solemnity 'A' December 28, 2025

Altar Servers: Abby, Parker

Greeter: Ed Sawczak
Trustees: Jim, Bob

Lector: Justine Fazziola Cantor: Dick Mossey

## **Mass Intentions:**

Sun. Dec. 28 - In Memory of †Richard Michael Sawczak (req. by Ed Sawczak).





## **STAND**

#### **OPENING HYMN**

# O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADESTE FIDELES



Text: Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, ca. 1711-1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt. Music: John F. Wade.



#### **STAND**

#### INTRODUCTORY RITE

- C. In the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- R/. Amen.
- C. Lord bless us with the wisdom to praise You in spirit and in truth, so that by following Your holy will we may gain eternal salvation.
- R/. Amen.

#### THE PENITENTIAL RITE

The celebrant invites the faithful to join in the prayer of confession.

C. Let us confess our sins and weaknesses to God and ask for His mercy and forgiveness. Please make an examination of your conscience.

During a moment of silent reflection evoke spirit of contrition.

Silently confess your sins to God, and then join the celebrant in acknowledging your sins:

All: I confess to almighty God in the presence of the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the saints and you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault

striking the breast three times and continuing

in my thoughts, in my words, in what I have done or failed to do. I ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

Penance is given.

- C. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
- R/. Amen.

The celebrant imparts the absolution, saying

- C. May our Lord Jesus Christ absolve you and, with His authority vested in me, I absolve you from all your sins: in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- R/. Amen.

#### THE KYRIE

C. Lord, have mercy. R/. Lord, have mercy. C, Christ, have mercy. R/. Christ, have mercy. C. Lord, have mercy. R/. Lord, have mercy.

#### THE GLORIA

STAND

All: Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of + God the Father. Amen.

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

C. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

C. Let us pray.

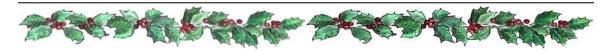
God our Father, when Your Son came into this world You chose humble shepherds as the first witnesses of His Incarnation.

As we honor them, may we continue to proclaim His presence among us.

We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R/. Amen.

SIT



#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Reading Is 62:11–12

## A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

See, the LORD proclaims to the ends of the earth: say to daughter Zion, your savior comes!

Here is his reward with him, his recompense before him.

They shall be called the holy people, the redeemed of the LORD, and you shall be called "Frequented," a city that is not forsaken.

L. The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12...

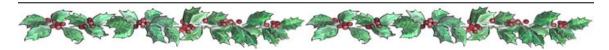


## R/. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice; let the many isles be glad. The heavens proclaim his justice, and all peoples see his glory. R/. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

Light dawns for the just; and gladness, for the upright of heart. Be glad in the LORD, you just, and give thanks to his holy name. R/. A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.





## Second Reading Ti 3:4-7

## A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Titus.

#### Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

L. The Word of the Lord.

## R/. Thanks be to God.

**STAND** 

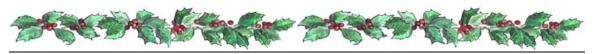
## Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:14



## R/. Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

## R/. Alleluia, alleluia!



## Gospel Lk 2:15-20

C. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

C. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

R/. Glory be to You, Lord.

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

"Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child.

All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.

And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

C. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## R/. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

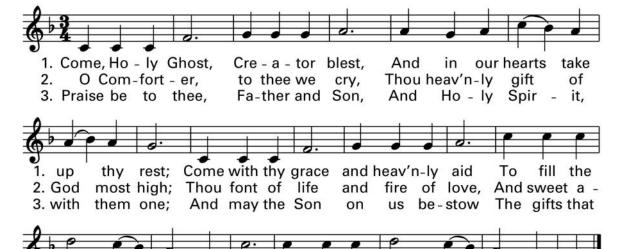


#### KNEEL or SIT

#### HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

# COME, HOLY GHOST

LAMBILLOTTE



- 1. hearts which thou hast made; To fill the hearts which thou hast made.
- 2. noint ing from a bove; And sweet a noint ing from a bove.
- 3. from the Spir it flow; The gifts that from the Spir it flow.

Text: LM with repeat; Veni, creator spiritus; attr. to Rabanus Manus, 776–856; tr. by Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt. Music: Louis Lambillotte, SJ, 1796–1855.



## SIT

HOMILY



#### **STAND**

#### THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

C. I believe in One God,

All: the Father, the Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

He was born of the Virgin Mary (here genuflect or bow)

AND BECAME MAN.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and Giver of Life

Who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son

He is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism

for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the + life of the world to come.

Amen.

#### **STAND**

## **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

- C. We rejoice that our Savior has come to us. We join with the shepherds, praising our newborn King and placing before Him our prayers and petitions.
- 1. For Christians everywhere: May the celebration of Christmas mysteries strengthen their faith and their allegiance to Christ. We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

2. For our world, for its nations and governments; for places where people suffer injustice, disaster, and conflict. We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

3. For those who find Christmas a difficult time – for those who are lonely, bereaved or suffering. May they find comfort in Christ, Who through His life on earth knows what it is like to feel alone and to suffer. We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

4. For ourselves as we celebrate Jesus' birth: May we find him in our hearts and homes. May our hands be His to reach out to others. We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

5. For Richard Michael Sawczak, for whom this Holy Mass is being offered, and for all the faithful departed: May they rest in the Kingdom of light and unending joy. We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

6. For our own intentions ...... [long pause for silent prayer] ..... . We pray to the Lord.

## R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

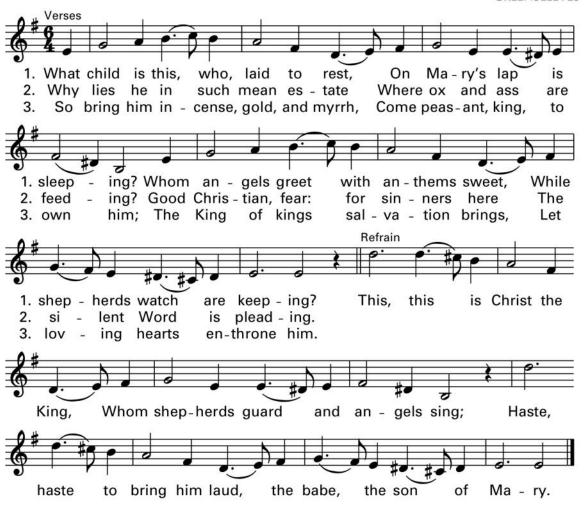
C. Lord, God of grace and truth, Who sent Your Son among us and appointed Him to inherit everything that is, grant that Your people's prayers may bring them ever closer to Your truth and love, revealed in the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

## R/. Amen.

#### OFFERTORY HYMN

## WHAT CHILD IS THIS

**GREENSLEEVES** 



Text: 87 87 with refrain; William C. Dix, 1827-1898. Music: English melody, 16th cent.



#### SIT

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The celebrant elevates the paten with host, saying:

C. Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May it become for us the Bread of Life.

The celebrant pours wine and water into the chalice.

Then takes the chalice and elevates it above the altar, saying:

C. Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation. Through You goodness, we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. May it become our Spiritual Drink.

The celebrant places the chalice on the corporal. Slightly bowing before the altar he says:

C. Lord God, we ask You to receive us and be pleased with the sacrifice we offer You with humble and contrite hearts.

The celebrant blesses the bread and wine with his right hand, saying:

C. Come, Holy Spirit, and bless + this sacrifice which we have prepared for the glory of Your Holy Name.

The celebrant washes his hands, then he returns to the center of the altar and continues:

C. Receive this offering, most Holy Trinity, which we make in memory of the passion, resurrection and ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints.

May they, whose memory we honor on earth, intercede for us in heaven.

Addressing the congregation with hands extended, the celebrant says:

STAND

- C. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
- R/. May the Lord accept this sacrifice from your hands, for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and for the benefit of His holy Church.

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

STAND

C. Heavenly Father, in Your mercy accept our gifts that we offer.

By sharing in this Holy Eucharist may we come to more fully live the love we profess.

We ask this through our Lod, Jesus Christ,

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever.

R/. Amen.

## PREFACE OF HUMBLE SHEPHERDS

C. The Lord be with you. R/. And also with you.

C. Lift up your hearts. R/. We lift them up to the Lord.

C. Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

R/. It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

C. Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give You thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You showed us Your great love

by sending Your only begotten Son to live among us.

Today we honor those humble shepherds,

who were the first to hear and proclaim the glad tidings

of the birth of Jesus announced by the heavenly host.

You strengthen and increase Your Church

by calling men, women and children to witness to the Good News of salvation.

Therefore, with the angels and archangels, with all the saints and the entire church, we lift our hymn of praise to Your glory, repeating unceasingly:

R/. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed + is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## **KNEEL**

#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II**

The celebrant with hands extended, says:

C. We give thanks to You, God our Father, through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, Whom in these last days You have sent us as Savior, Redeemer and Messenger of Your will.

He is Your Word, inseparable from You.

Through Him You have made all things and in Him You were well pleased.

You sent Him from heaven to a virgin's womb.

There He dwelt and was made flesh.

He was revealed as Your Son, born through the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin.

When He suffered, He fulfilled Your will and gained for You a holy people. He stretched out His hands to free from suffering those who believed in You. When He was betrayed to His freely chosen suffering thereby to destroy death, to break the chains of darkness, to crush hell beneath His feet, to give light to the just, to make a covenant and to manifest His resurrection, He took bread; He gave You thanks and said:

The celebrant takes the bread and says:

# TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT: FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.

The celebrant elevates the Sacred Host, then places it on the paten, and genuflects in adoration.

He takes the Chalice and says:

C. In like manner He took the cup and said:

THIS IS MY BLOOD
WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR YOU.
WHENEVER YOU DO THIS,
DO IT IN MEMORY OF ME.

The celebrant elevates the Chalice, then places it on the corporal and genuflects in adoration.

With hands joined he says the following with the Congregation:

All: Calling then His death and resurrection to mind, we offer You the Bread and the Cup.

We thank You for allowing us to come before You and to serve You.

The celebrant extends his hands over the Sacred Body and Blood, saying:

C. We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit upon the offering of Your holy Church to gather all in unity.

Grant to all who partake of these Holy Mysteries the fullness of the Holy Spirit for the strengthening of their faith in the truth. So may we praise and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Holding the Sacred Host above the chalice and elevating them the celebrant says:

C. Through Him may glory and honor be Yours, with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, now and for ever and ever.

R/. Amen.

# COMMUNION RITE The Lord's Prayer

#### **STAND**

The celebrant says the following introduction to the Lord's Prayer:

C. Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

#### With hands extended, the celebrant says:

C. Deliver us, Lord, from every evil and grant us peace in our day. In Your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety, as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The people conclude the prayer by saying the acclamation:

R/. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and for ever.

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

C. The Cup of Blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ?

The celebrant fractures the Sacred Host saying:

- C. The Bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?
- R/. Because there is one Bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one Bread.

Dropping the particle of the Host into the Chalice, the celebrant says:

- C. May the union of divinity and humanity in Jesus Christ bring us sanctification and eternal life.
- R/. Amen.

## With hands extended the celebrant says:

- C. Lord Jesus Christ, You said to Your apostles: I leave you peace, My peace I give you. Do not look at our sins, but on the faith of Your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of Your kingdom where You live for ever and ever.
- R/. Amen.
- C. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- R/. And also with you.
- C. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

An appropriate sign of peace is made by all (in church by bowing)

#### **AGNUS DEI**

The celebrant and people say together:

All: Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

#### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

C. Let us pray together:

**KNEEL** 

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit Your death brought life to the world.

By Your holy Body and Blood free me from all my sins and from every evil. Keep me faithful to Your teaching and never let me be parted from You.

The celebrant takes the Sacred Host, saying:

C. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the name of the Lord.

The celebrant and congregation together say once:

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The celebrant says:

C. May the Body of Christ bring me to everlasting life:

The celebrant reverently consumes the Sacred Host. Taking the Chalice, he says:

C. May the Blood of Christ bring me to everlasting life:

The celebrant reverently consumes the Blood of Christ.

#### THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Holding a Host above the ciborium, the celebrant says:

C. This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to the table of the Lord.

**KNEEL or SIT** 

Now, taking the ciborium, the celebrant distributes Holy Communion.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

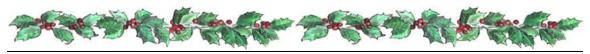
## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

ST. LOUIS 0 lit - tle town of Beth-le-hem, How still we see thee lie! 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath-ered all a - bove, 3. How si-lent-ly, how si-lent-ly, The won-drous gift is giv'n! ho - ly Child of Beth-le-hem! De-scend to us, we pray: A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by: 2. While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love. hu - man hearts The bless-ings So God im-parts to of his heav'n. 4. Cast out our sin and en - ter in; Be born in to - day. us thy dark streets shin - eth The 1. Yet ev - er - last-ing Light: birth! 2. O morn-ing stars, to geth er Pro-claim the ho-ly ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of 3. No sin. 4. We hear the Christ-mas an - gels The great glad tid-ings tell; The hopes and fears of the years Are met all in thee to-night. And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.

Text: 86 86 76 86; Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893. Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908.

come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em-man - u - el!

3. Where meek souls will re-ceive him, still The dear Christ en-ters in.



#### POST COMMUNION HYMN

# INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY



Text: 87 87 88 77. Verses 1 and 2, Polish carol; tr. by Edith M. Reed, 1885–1933; verses 3 and 4 © 2004, Daniel L. Schutte. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: Polish carol.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## C. Let us pray.

Almighty and Eternal God,

through this Holy Communion may Your steadfast love be with us.

Before all others You called the humble shepherds

to give praise, honor and glory to Your Son at the stable in Bethlehem.

We thank You that the poor, the humble and the forgotten in the world are remembered by You.

We ask this through the same Jesus Christ,

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

#### R/. Amen.

#### FINAL BLESSING

C. The Lord be with you.

R/. And also with you.

C. May Almighty God bless you, the Father + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R/. Amen.

C. Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.





#### **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

# GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

GO TELL IT Refrain tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and Go. Go, tell it on the moun-tain That Je-sus Christ where: born. Verses 1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When high a - bove the earth lo, when they had heard it, They all bowed down and prayed; man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born, 4. Down in а low - ly to Refrain Be - hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone ho - ly light. an - gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth. 2. Rang out the 3. They tray - eled to - geth - er To where the Babe was laid. on

Text: 76 76 with refrain; John W. Work, Jr., 1872–1925, alt.; from *American Negro Songs and Spirituals*, 1940, © Mrs. John W. Work III. Music: Spiritual.

sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

4. And God

sent

us



#### Announcements

Requests for all announcements must be received by noon Wednesday each week.

Please contact Justine Fazziola (bvmc.bulletin@gmail.com)

- We appreciate the complementary Liturgical Calendars 2026 by the Lasak & Gigliotti
  Funeral Home, 208 N Allen St, Albany, NY 12206. Calendars are available at the
  Welcome Table in the vestibule.
- 2025 Fiscal Year End—The church books will be closed as of the close of business this Sunday, December 28th. Therefore any contributions/donations you want counted toward your 2025 amount must be in by December 28st. Any contributions received after December 28 will count toward your donations for 2026. Thanks you for your cooperation.
- Families struggle to put food on their tables. Please pick up a non-perishable food item to drop in the food pantry baskets located in the church vestibule and share with others from the bounty with which we have been blessed.
- Thank you' for your continuing support of our parish. You can donate by mail: BVMC Parish, 250 Old Maxwell Rd., Latham NY 12110, or through online giving, <a href="https://www.bvmc.org/giving">https://www.bvmc.org/giving</a> which is secure and easy. If you need assistance, please contact our financial officers, George Urciuoli or Mark Peplowski via email: <a href="mailto:bvmc.church@gmail.com">bvmc.church@gmail.com</a>.

# WE WISH EVERYONE A VERY HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR OF THE LORD 2026!





## Happening at BVMC



## Saturday, January 3

5:00 pm Vigil Mass of Sunday

## Sunday, January 4

9:00 am Holy Mass (also livestream)

Altar Servers: Everett, Parker

Lector: Don Cantor: Don

Greeter: Diane Trustees: Rick, Joanne



#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

January 15 - Monthly Parish Committee Meeting January 18 - Annual Congregational Meeting



bvmcChurch.org



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