

BLESSING OF THE CRIB:

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS: (Taken from the Roman Martyrology)

The twenty-fifth day of December; In the five thousand, one hundred and ninety-ninth year of the creation of the world, from the time when God in the beginning created the heaven and the earth; the two thousand, nine hundred and fifty-seventh year after the flood; the two thousand and fifteenth year from the birth of Abraham; the one thousand, five hundred and tenth year from Moses and the going forth of the people of Israel from Egypt; the one thousand and thirty-second year from David's being anointed King; 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; in the sixth age of the world; when the whole world was at peace, JESUS CHRIST, the eternal God and the Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by His most merciful coming, was conceived by the Holy Ghost; and nine months having passed since His conception, was born in Bethlehem of Juda of the Virgin Mary, and was made Man.

THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE FLESH.

LET US PRAY:

Father, we ask You to + bless this Christmas Crib, that all who see the simple image of the Infant JESUS with His Blessed Mother and his loving Foster Father may be inspired with awe and wonder and praise. Let this Christmas truly be for us a source of many graces and blessings. May it be a pause in our lives to rekindle our love for You and for Your Holy Commandments. May the warmth in our hearts which we experience this day linger there throughout the entire year so that our love for each other will be that which You have asked of us.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

"O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL"

O Come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels.

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest.

Refrain: as above

"SILENT NIGHT"

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin mother and Child;
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

"HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING"

Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored:
Christ, the Everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, Our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king."