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CHRISTMAS AT ST ALPHONSE 2020

CAROLS FOR MASS

24 DECEMBER - 3 JANUARY

PLEASE TAKE A COPY HOME WITH YOU AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO EACH MASS.

Christmas and New Year Masses in English at St Alphonse:

Christmas Eve: 4pm Vigil Mass for families; 8.30pm.

Christmas Day: 11.30am and 5pm.

26th December: 7.30pm (Vigil Mass for Feast of the Holy Family).

27th December: Feast of the Holy Family - 11.30am and 6.30pm.

Friday 1 January: Feast of Holy Mother of God - 11.30am.

Saturday 2 January: 7.30pm (Vigil Mass for Feast of the Epiphany)

Sunday 3 January: Feast of the Epiphany - 11.30am & 6.30pm

Message for Christmas:

The heart of Christmas is celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ into our world. For many people this year Christmas could be very difficult as it might well be the first Christmas without a loved one or the first without being able to gather as family. The one thing that unites us all wherever we may be is the true gift of Christmas which is Emmanuel, God with us! May God bless you all this Christmas with the peace and joy and love of Jesus in your home and in your heart and throughout the world. Know that 'God is truly with us'!

With best wishes and blessings, Fr. Michael J. Cusack, C.Ss.R.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

By Pope Francis

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love;
to you we turn with trust.
Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic churches.
Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again experience
violence, rejection and division;
may all who have been hurt or scandalised
find ready comfort and healing.
Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us once more mindful
of the sanctity of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.
Amen.



O Holy Family of Nazareth,
I give you my heart and soul. Assist me in my
last agony and may I breathe out my soul in
peace with you. Amen.

1. O little town of Bethlehem

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep,
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light,
The hopes and fears of all the years,
Are met in thee tonight.
2. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous Gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will

receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

3. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sins and enter in,
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!



2. It came upon the midnight clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.
2. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not heard

The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

3. For lo!, the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when the new heaven
and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace their king,
and all the world repeat the song
which now the angels sing.



3. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

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 Saviour reigns!
Let all their 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,



4. Once in royal David's city

1. Once in royal Davids city,
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby,
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3. And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly mother
In whose gentle arms He lay.
Christian children all should be
Mild, obedient, good as he



5. O come, all ye faithful

1. 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:

*O come, let us adore him, (x3)
Christ the Lord.*

2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy
morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

6. In the bleak midwinter

1. In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
2. Angels and archangels
may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,

in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

3. What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him:
give my heart.



7. Silent Night

1. 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
2. Silent night, holy night!
shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Saviour is born,
Christ, the Saviour is born

3. Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth

8. Angels we have heard on high

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o're the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo x2

2. Shepherds why this Jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song



3. Come to Bethlehem to see
him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

9. Hark the herald angels sing

1. 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 the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel

Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

3. Hail the heav'n-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 man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

10. Away in a manger

1. Away in a manger,
no crib for His bed
the little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head
the stars in the bright sky
looked down where He lay
the little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay
2. The cattle are lowing
the baby awakes
The little Lord Jesus
no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus

look down from the sky
and stay by my side,
'til morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask thee to stay
close by me forever
and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care
and take us to heaven
to live with thee there.



11. What child is this

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.
2. Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and donkeys are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears shall pierce him through,

the cross he bore for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe, the Son of Mary.

12. The little drummer boy

1. Come they told me
Pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see
Pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring
Pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King
Pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum
So to honour Him
Pa rum pum pum pum
When we come
2. Little baby
Pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too
Pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring
Pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King

Pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you
Pa rum pum pum pum
On my drum

3. Mary nodded
Pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time
Pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him
Pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him
Pa rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum,
rum pum pum pum
Then he smiled at me
Pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum



13. O Holy Night

1. O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til He appears and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!
2. Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here come the Wise Men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger

In all our trials born to be our friend
He knows our need, to our weakness
is no stranger
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend

*Fall on your knees;
O hear the Angel voices!
O night divine,
O night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!*

14. The first Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay:
In fields where they lay keeping their
sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so
deep.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell
Born is the King of Israel.*

2. They lookéd up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far:
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night.
3. And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from the country
far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

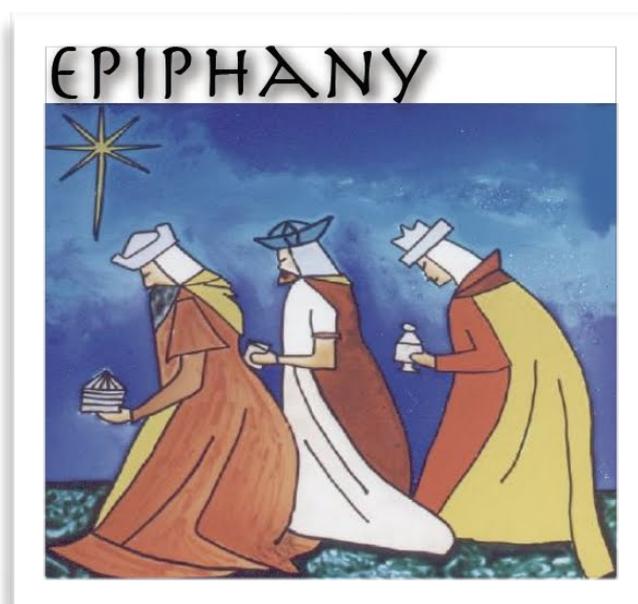
15. We three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

*O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light*

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign
3. Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God most high

4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes of life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb
5. Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia
Earth to heav'n replies
Guide us to Thy perfect light



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Parish Office - Please contact the office for all enquiries including baptisms, weddings, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Office hours are 08:00 - 12:00 Mon - Fri.

Weekend Masses: 7.30 pm Saturdays (vigil), Sundays 11.30am and 6.30pm. We are now limited to 100 worshippers at Mass. Please arrive early or try to attend one of the evening Masses rather than the 11.30 Mass. Please wear a mask and disinfectant gel will be available. You will be shown to a seat by one of the welcomers. Thank you for your support and understanding. Fr Michael.

Livestreaming of Mass: The Sunday 11.30 Mass is live-streamed via our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/stalphonsexembourg/

Weekday Masses: The Wednesday 6.15pm Mass at St Alphonse is celebrated every week in English by Fr Michael.

7.30am Weekday Masses at St Alphonse are cancelled till further notice.

IOP - special call for sponsorships: The charity is in great need of our support due to Covid-19. There is an increasing number of children/young people who need financial help in order to go to school. Education is the surest way to end the cycle of poverty in this region of Africa - Please help by becoming a sponsor to a child in Tanzania for just €20 euro a month - perhaps you'd like to give a sponsorship as a gift for Christmas or you can make a one off donation of your choosing to IOP Luxembourg asbl - LU27 0019 3955 9582 3000. Thank you for your support.

Children's Liturgy takes place via Zoom before Sunday Mass at 10.30am. Children must be enrolled and parents will be sent the Zoom invitation. Please contact the parish office to register.

The parish office will be closed between 23 December and 3 January.

