# UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD



Baccalaureate Mass San Antonio, TX December 13, 2024 The ancient Greeks referred to *leitourgia* (liturgy) as a "public work" done for the people. In those times, the wealthy would fund some public effort for the good of the community — perhaps a building or ship in service of the state, or the expenses of actors or singers. These benefactors came to be known as "liturgists" and they recognized that there was a

collaborative principle strongly rooted in the very action of liturgy. Though the "work" was done *for* the people, there was also a collaborative "work *of* the people" required if they were to receive a benefit. As liturgy came to be associated with religious action, this collaborative ethic was retained. It is what the Church continues to teach today.

The Mass is Christ's "public work" done for us. This Sacred Liturgy is an action of "Christ, our redeemer and high priest [who] continues the work of our redemption in, with, and through his Church" — His Body — the members. Even today it requires the efforts and collaboration of others to achieve its purpose (its benefit), for what we put into it is what we get out of it. Simply, liturgy is "the participation of the People of God in "the work of God." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1069)

The Second Vatican Council reminded us of the importance and need for the "full, conscious, active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy." (Sacrosanctum Concilium, # 14) And so, we offer the following thoughts:

**Your participation is important.** All the music and prayers for this morning's liturgy are found in this worship aide. Whether or not we are currently members of a faith community or active in church ministry, today we share the same ministry – that of the assembly of worshippers. It is by far the ministry that calls us most to action in and outside of worship.

We invite you to participate fully in the prayers and music of this morning's liturgy. In the words of the eighteenth-century German critic and dramatist, G.E. Lessing, "One single grateful thought raised to heaven is the most perfect prayer." And, in the words of St. Augustine, "To sing is to pray twice."

We are a diverse group of worshippers today. You may recognize all, some, or possibly none of the music today. But, luckily, most of the music has moments of repetition. One of the unique characteristics of a university is that, by its very nature, it is about learning — affirming what we know, expanding on what we do not, and challenging us to be open to the diversity of thought in the classroom and within campus life. At the very least, consider this an opportunity to experience something new or to use your voice to inspire others. More importantly, consider this your opportunity to give a gift to someone around you. We may never know the deep power of communal prayer (and the music which serves it) on another person — what it can do to lift or calm a spirit, give expression to our emotions, or even bring joy to someone's day.

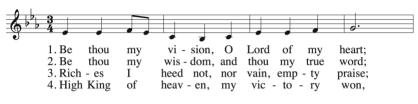
*Finally, there is only one audience today – GOD.* And isn't it for the purpose of praising and thanking God that we have gathered? If God is the author of our worship, God must also be the final reviewer, too. What will we bring God this day? And so, let us bring ourselves into the presence of God, who loves us beyond all measure.

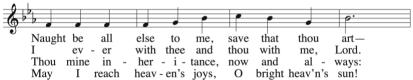
## **INTRODUCTORY RITES**

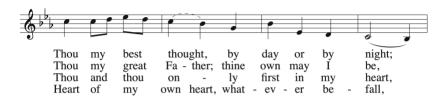
#### Welcome

## Gathering Hymn

Be Thou My Vision - SLANE









Text: Irish hymn, 8th c.; tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931, versification by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935 Tune: SLANE, 10 10 10; Irish melody

## Greeting

Presider: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Presider: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And with your spirit.

## Penitential Act

Presider: Brothers and sisters,

let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves

to celebrate the sacred mysteries

ALL: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned,

inal I have greatly sinnea, in my thoughts and in my words,

in what I have done and what I have failed to do,

Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

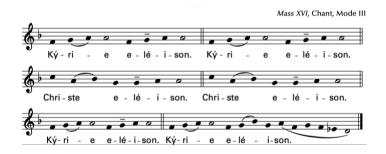
therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Presider: May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins, and bring us to

everlasting life.

ALL: Amen.



## Collect

Presider: ... one God forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Reading

Isaías 48, 17-19

Thus says the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
I, the LORD, your God, teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go.
If you would hearken to my commandments, your prosperity would be like a river, and your vindication like the waves of the sea; Your descendants would be like the sand, and those born of your stock like its grains, Their name never cut off or blotted out from my presence.

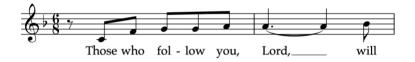
Lector: Palabra de Dios.

ALL: Te alabamos, Señor.

## Responsorial Psalm

PS. 1: "Those Who Follow You, Lord"

- Lena Gokelman





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# **Gospel Acclamation**

# Advent Gospel Acclamation

- ANDREW WRIGHT



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Presider: A reading from the holy Gospel

according to Mark.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Mark 16:15-20

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ.

# Homily



– Lena Gokelman

At the University of the Incarnate Word, we are blessed with students and faculty from countries all over the world. Their presence invites us to recognize God's larger family. Our prayers today ask God's guidance and blessing for our global family and our graduates. We prayerfully respond:



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For the Church/Por la Iglesia: That the coming of our Lord, bring to his Church unity and freedom, leading us with his assistance. We pray to the Lord. TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...

For those who govern us/Por todos nuestros gobernantes: Para que Dios guie los corazones y mentes de los líderes del mundo y de nuestro país, para que promuevan el bien común de acuerdo con la voluntad de Dios.

Roguemos al Señor. TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...

**For those oppressed/Por los oprimidos:** That we may recognize your Spirit in the refugees seeing justice and safety. Help us to show your love and compassion to all who are marginalized or suffer from discrimination. We pray to the Lord. **TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...** 

For the Graduates/Por los graduados: Que se lleven los valores de un aprendizaje para toda la vida y continúen la misión de nuestra universidad, viviendo y amando como el Verbo Encarnado. Roguemos al Señor. TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...

For those dedicated to service and justice/Por los que se dedican a servir a los demás y a luchar por la justicia: For all those who are dedicated to serve others or promote justice in the world, so Jesus finds us awaiting again in the Christmas season. We pray to the Lord.

TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...

For this Christian assembly/Por esta asamblea Cristiana: Para que seamos levadura y testigos en el mundo de que creemos que el Señor Jesús está cerca. Roguemos al Señor. TODOS/ALL: Te rogamos...

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Presentation of the Gifts

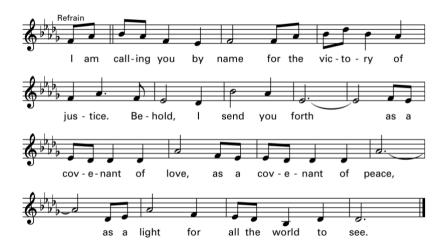
Song of the Servant

— RICKY MANAIO

#### Verse 1

Thus says the Lord: you are my own with whom I am pleased and whom I uphold.

For you shall not shout; you shall not cry, but upon you my Spirit shall lead and guide. (Refrain)



#### Verse 2

Thus says the Lord: you are my voice.

Come and speak in my name to the ones who are deaf and open he eyes of those who are blind.

Come and free those in darkness from all that can bind. (Refrain)

#### Verse 3

Thus says the Lord: you are my hope.
I have taken your hands; you shall not be alone.
My presence shall dwell close to your heart.
You shall never surrender the grace I impart. (Refrain)

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Presider: Pray, brothers and sisters,

that my sacrifice and yours May be acceptable to God,

the almighty Father.

ALL: May the Lord accept

the sacrifice at your hands

for the praise and glory of his name,

for our good and the good of all his holy church.

## Prayer Over the Offerings

Presider: ... one God forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.



## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

# Preface Dialogue

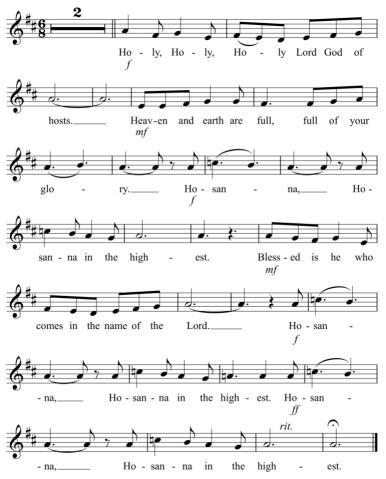
PRESIDER: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And with your spirit.

PRESIDER: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRESIDER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

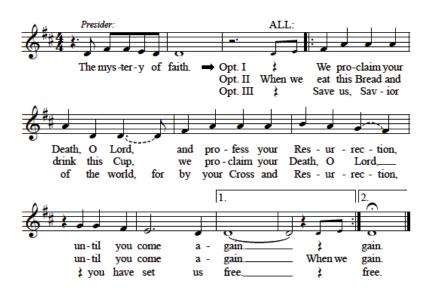
ALL: It is right and just.



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## Amen

## Mass of Renewal

- WILLIAM GOKELMAN/DAVID KAUFFMAN



## The Lord's Prayer (RECITED)

## (All recite:)

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.

#### (Todos:)

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga a nosotros tu reino; hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.

Danos how nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; no noes dejes caer en la tentación, y libranos del mal.

# Sign of Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

ALL: And with your spirit.

## Lamb of God

Misa Santa Fe - Mary Frances Reza



Presider: Behold the Lamb of God,

behold him who takes away

the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

ALL: Lord, I am not worthy

that you should enter under my roof,

but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

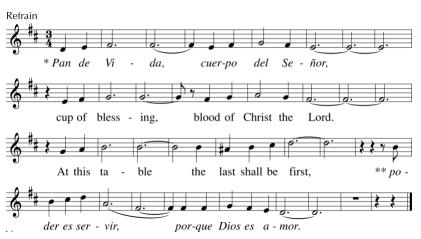
As we prepare to receive the Eucharist, please follow the direction of the hospitality ministers.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has provided guidelines for the reception of the Eucharist which can be found in the back of your worship aid. For all receiving Holy Communion, bow your head as a gesture of reverence before receiving the Eucharist in your hand or on your tongue; then, immediately consume it.

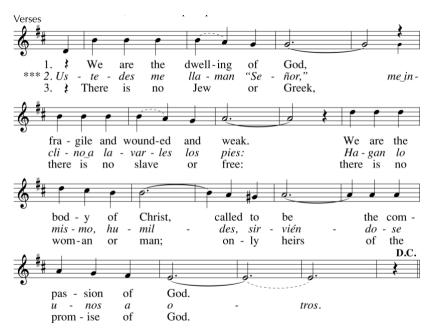
Whether or not you are receiving Holy Communion today, let us continue our prayers and our work for a more peaceful and just society.

# Communion Hymn

Pan de Vida — BOB HURD

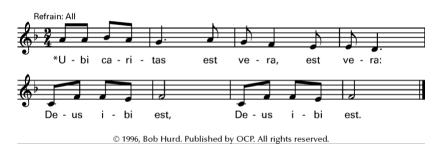


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Text: John 13:1-15, Galatians 3:28-29; Bob Hurd, b.1950, and Pia Moriarty, © 1988, Bob Hurd and Pia Moriarty Tune: Bob Hurd, b.1950, © 1988; acc. by Craig Kingsbury, b.1952 Published by OCP Publications

#### Ubi Caritas - BOB HURD



Verse 1
The Love of Christ joins us together. Let us rejoice in him, and in our love and care for all now love God in return. (Refrain)

## Verse 2 Reunidos y alimentados, ya libres del rencor, vivamos nuestra comunión en Cristo, Salvador. (Refrain)

[Translation: In true communion let us gather. May all divisions cease and in their place be Christ the Lord, our risen Prince of Peace.]

#### Verse 3

May we who gather at this table to share the bread of life become a sacrament of love, your healing touch, O Christ. (*Refrain*)

#### Verse 4

Y para los necesitados de amor y de bondad seamos la esperanza, justicia y paz. (Refrain)

[Translation: For those in need make us your mercy, for those oppressed, your might. Make us, your Church, a holy sign of justice and new life.]

#### Verse 5

May we one day behold your glory and see you face to face, rejoicing with the saints of God to sing eternal praise. (*Refrain*)



# Blessing of the Graduates

May God Bless and Keep You

- CHRISTOPHER WALKER



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# **Concluding Rites**

## Final Blessing and Dismissal

Presider: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And with your spirit.

Presider: May almighty God bless you,

the Father, Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Presider: "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life"

(or a similar option is used)

ALL: Thanks be to God

## Recessional

Hymn to the Incarnate Word

- SR. INFANT JESUS

#### Verse 1

Come join your prayerful voices and sing with sweet accord.

A hymn of love and worship, "Praised be the Incarnate Word!"

Thus may we sing forever at God's eternal throne,
this hymn of love triumphant, "Praised be the Incarnate Word!"

#### Verse 2

Receive, Oh sweet Child Jesus the love we offer thee.
Our hearts, our souls, our lives, may yours forever be.
Let ev'ry thought, word, action, in fervent hearts be stirred, with zeal for thy great glory, Oh great Incarnate Word.

#### Verse 3

Oh Jesus, Word Incarnate, accept our homage meet.
Our daily consecration we lay at thy dear feet.
We've chosen thee for model our King and Loving Lord,
Oh keep us loyal ever, to thee, great Incarnate Word.

## Soon and Very Soon - ANDRÉ CROUCH



### GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

On November 14, 1996, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the following guidelines on the reception of Communion. These guidelines replace the guidelines approved by the Administrative Committee of the NCCB in November 1986. The guidelines, which are to be included in missalettes and other participation aids published in the United States, seek to remind all those who may attend Catholic liturgies of the present discipline of the Church with regard to the sharing of Eucharistic Communion.

#### FOR CATHOLICS

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to re-ceive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

#### FOR OUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (Jn 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the one-ness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 §4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 §3)

#### FOR THOSE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

#### FOR NON-CHRISTIANS

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

@1996, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Blessings to all our Graduates. Know that you always have a home here at the University of the Incarnate Word. For more information on our events visit.

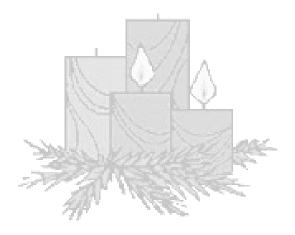
www.uiw.edu/ministry



Celebrate Christmas Eve Mass here at the Chapel of the Incarnate Word on December 24th at 5:30 PM.

Pre-service music will begin at 5 PM.

All are welcome!



This publication is available in alternate format by request. To request an alternate format, please contact University Mission & Ministry, 829-3128

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