

"The Nativity"

by C.S. Lewis

Among the oxen (like an ox I'm slow)
I see a glory in the stable grow
Which, with the ox's dullness might at length
Give me an ox's strength.

Among the asses (stubborn I as they)
I see my Saviour where I looked for hay;
So may my beast like folly learn at least
The patience of a beast.

Among the sheep (I like a sheep have strayed)
I watch the manger where my Lord is laid;
Oh that my baaing nature would win thence
Some woolly innocence!



C.S. Lewis in his poem, *The Nativity*, focuses on the animals of the crèche, but instead of giving them human qualities, he reflects on both the negative and positive character traits of each animal and how those traits are manifested in his own life.

As we contemplate the miracle of Christ's birth this Christmas season, let us like C.S. Lewis, in humility, seek after the strength, patience and innocence symbolized in the animals of the Christmas story that can only come when we confess our sins, receive forgiveness from the Lord and allow Him to give us the most important gifts of Christmas.

*"The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox..."*

*In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;
the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious."*

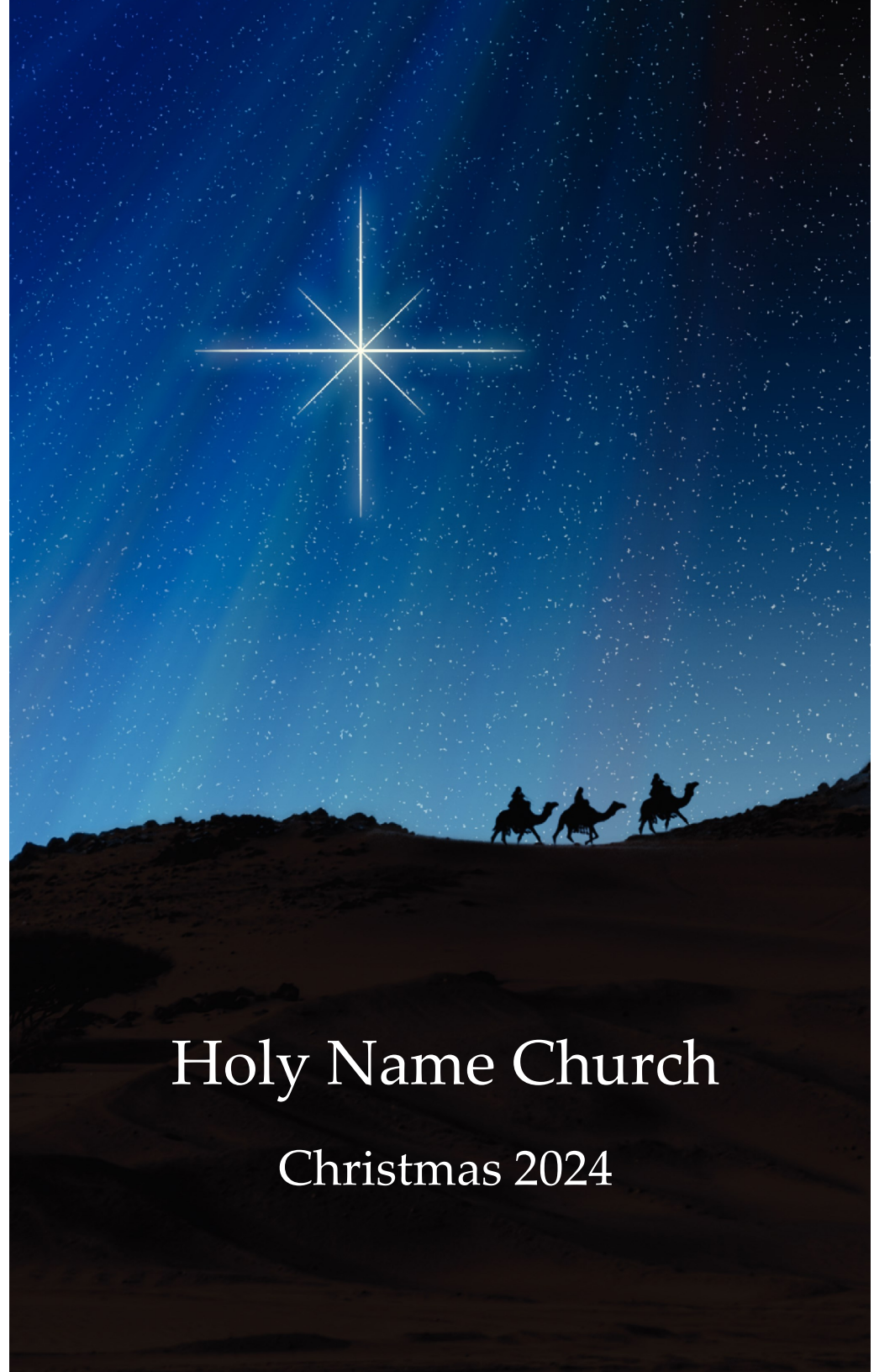
ISAIAH 11:7, 10 (NIV)

C.S. Lewis, *Poems*, edited by Walter Hooper (New York: Harcourt Inc., 1992), p. 122.
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Holy Name Parish staff would like to wish you a very Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year. We thank you for your involvement in the Parish and we are humbled to serve you.

- Fr. Luciano, Marilyn & Marlene

Merry Christmas



Holy Name Church

Christmas 2024

Holy Name Church

2223-34th Street SW | Calgary, AB T3E 2W2 | Telephone 403-249-7764
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parish.holyname@shaw.ca

Pastor: Fr. Luciano Cortopassi

Sacrament Coordinator: Marilyn Kotylak

Administrative Assistant: Marlene Paley

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Weekday Mass

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 AM, Wednesday 7:00 PM

30 minutes Adoration follow Wednesday & Friday Mass

The Wonder of Christmas

The wonder of Christmas is that the promised coming of the Messiah of the Lord was fulfilled in a surprising way that surpassed the hopes and dreams of the people of old. On the first Christmas night, angels announced Christ's birth to the shepherds. But instead of saying that Jesus was the Messiah of the Lord, they said that He is "Messiah and Lord" (Luke 2.11). God, in other words, did not simply send someone to represent Him. He came Himself!

Because the child born is Lord, Christmas means more than welcoming the child. It means welcoming the one who will preach the Sermon on the Mount, instruct us by parables, give us the sacraments, and establish His Church. All of these Christmas presents are to be opened and used!

Christmas is about God who created the human family, and then decided to become a member of that family. Christmas is not when Jesus began; it is when Jesus began existing as one of us, and thereby joined all of us to Himself. He joins to His Divinity all who share human nature: the weak and strong, the small and big, the born and unborn.

Therefore, welcoming the child demands welcoming all whom this child came to redeem, all who are united to God in him. It means welcoming the poor and destitute, the stranger and the alienated, the disabled and the unborn. Christmas is universal, and is about the exaltation of the human person.

Holy Name Church Sacraments

- Baptism : register online or contact the Parish Office
- First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation - register for the 2025-2026 online or contact Marilyn at sacraments.holyname@shaw.ca
- Marriage: allow 6 months to complete the wedding file; contact the Parish Office for further information

Holy Mass Intentions

December 24-29, 2024

Tuesday	December 24	4:30 PM	RIP	Ken Beckie
	December 24	7 PM	RIP	John & Nan Coulter
	December 24	10 PM	RIP	Fr. Luciano and the Cortopassi Family
Wednesday	December 25	10 AM	RIP	Frank & Cecilia Curry and John & Bobbie Currie
Saturday	December 28	5 PM	RIP	Maria Nilsson
Sunday	December 29	9 AM	RIP	Dennis Tegenkamp
	December 29	11 AM	RIP	Pat & Paul Phoenix
	December 29	5 PM	RIP	Krystyna Bartczak

Living Nativity 2024

A huge thank-you is extended to everyone who made our second Living Nativity a great success!

If you have photos of the Living Nativity to share, please send to parish.holyname@shaw.ca.



**May the joy, peace and hope of the nativity stay with you always.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**



Faith Gifts

www.holynamegiftshop.ca
faithgifts.holyname@shaw.ca

Shop online or come see the store during parish office hours (9:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm)



We have a great selection of religious gifts and books!

May your home and heart be filled with warmth and peace this Christmas!