Sunday 1 January 2023 The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was circumcised

in obedience to the law for our sake

and given the Name that is above every name:

give us grace faithfully to bear his Name,

to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit,

and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world;

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Numbers 6:22-end

A reading from the book of Numbers.

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.' So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

PSALM Psalm 8

R O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!

Your majesty above the heavens is praised out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

You have founded a stronghold against your foes, that you

might still the enemy and the avenger. R

- When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
- the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- What is man, that you should be mindful of him;
- the son of man, that you should seek him out? R

You have made him little lower than the angels

and crown him with glory and honour.

You have given him dominion over the works of your hands and put all things under his feet, R

All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field. The birds of the air, the fish of the sea

and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea. R

SECOND READING Galatians 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

GOSPEL Luke 2:15-21

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. After eight days had passed, it was time to

circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel.

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,

- whose incarnate Son was given the Name of Saviour:
- grant that we who have shared in this sacrament of our salvation
- may live out our years in the power of the Name above all other names,
- Jesus Christ our Lord.



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