



Rosa Veritas

Advent Sunday Mystical Cosmic Mass

3 December, 2023



Colin McCahon
Light falling through a dark landscape
1972

SOURCE OF ALL BEING

Source of all being, fire of love,
Your glory flames through worlds above.
Centre and light of every sphere,
Yet to each loving heart how near.

Sun of our life, your quickening ray
Sheds on our path the glow of day.
Star of our hope, your softened light
Cheers the long watches of the night.

Source of all life, below, above,
Whose light is truth, whose warmth is love;
Through us your glorious light is shown
We need no lustre of our own.

Grant us your truth to make us free
And hearts that burn with constancy,
Till all your living altars claim
One holy light, one heavenly flame.

RESPONSES

Cel: (Let us) be still, and know.

**All: We still ourselves
and feel your power and your presence.**

Cel: Be still, and know.

**All: We still ourselves
and hear the whispering of your voice.**

Cel: Be still, and know.

**All: We open ourselves to the eternal,
to the manifold colours of the spirit.**

Cel: We are still, and we know ...

THE GNOSIS

... that in the innermost spiritual sanctum
of each human being,
is the real self,
which is of the same essence
as that spiritual reality
we call God,
who is within, beyond,
and behind the universe;
we know
that the nature of this spiritual reality –
which is unknowable to the intellect,
but knowable to the heart –
is love;
we know that perfect justice rules the world,
that the whole creation
will one day reach its divine fulfilment;
we know this
because the world is being reconciled to God
through the Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONSES

Cel: Christ is in you.
All: Our hope and our glory.
Cel: Our bodies are the substance of your being.
All: Deepen in us your spirit, O Christ.
Cel: Our life-spirit is the work of your hands.
All: Deepen in us your spirit, O Christ.
Cel: Our emotions and feelings
are your essence.
All: Deepen in us your spirit, O Christ.
Cel: Fill us with the glory we had
when we dwelt with you.
All: And magnify your spirit in us, O Christ.

WHEN THINGS BEGAN TO HAPPEN

When things began to happen,
Before the birth of time,
The word was with the Father
And shared his holy name;
Without him there was nothing –
All life derives from him;
His light shines in the darkness –
An unextinguished beam.

He came to his creation,
The work of his own hand;
He entered his own country
His kin would not respond:
Yet some gave their allegiance
Of life and heart and mind;
Thus they became his subjects
And he became their friend.

Conceived by heaven's mercy,
This was no human birth;
For they are God's own children
Redeemed from sin and death;
As they beheld his glory,
We too shall see his face,
The Christ, God's son, our saviour,
So full of truth and grace.

THE OFFERING

Cel: ... and offer them on the altar of our lives,
praying that you will fill them
with your glory and majesty.

All raise their bread with the Celebrant, and say ...

**All: This bread is my life
which I give to you
in love and service.**

Cel: Take our bread.
It is set apart for a sacred use
that it may become
the living bread from heaven.

All raise their wine with the Celebrant, and say ...

**All: This wine is my spirit,
dedicated to the divine will of God.**

Cel: Take this wine ...

CALL TO PRAISE

Cel: Christ is in you.
All: Our hope and our glory.
Cel: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them in joy.
Cel: Let us give our thanks
to the God Most High.
All: It is a good and joyful thing to do.

Cel: It is a very good and joyful thing ...
... and all the company of spiritual worlds,
in saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
who was and is and is to come,
heaven and earth are full of your glory;
glory be to you, O God Most High.**

THE CHALICE PRAYER

Father, we raise our whole being to you,
a vessel emptied of self.
Accept, O Lord, this our emptiness,
and so fill us with yourself,
your life, your light, your love,
that these your gracious gifts
may radiate through us,
and overflow the chalice of our heart
into the hearts
of all with whom we come in contact,
revealing unto them
the beauty of your joy and wholeness
and the serenity of your peace,
which nothing can destroy.

THE CONSECRATION

*During the Consecration,
all may bless their bread and wine
together the Celebrant.*

IT IS A MYSTERY

It is a mystery, a mystery of life:
A change of bread and wine
Into a flow divine,
A flow divine of love
Into our spirit move,
A consecration of our life and self in you.

It is a mystery, a mystery of life:
A change of heart and mind
Into a flow divine,
A flow divine of love
Into our spirit move,
A consecration of our life and self in you.

OFFERING OF SELF

O loving Christ,
present in these holy mysteries,
I give myself to you,
for joy and for sorrow,
for sickness and for health,
for success and failure,
in time and in eternity.
I offer to you my body, mind and spirit
to be a holy sacrifice.
Take me and make me
the instrument of your will.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father,
which 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever,
Amen.

O LOVE

O love that knoweth of no fear,
O love that sheds a joyous tear,
O love that makes me whole and free,
Such love shall keep and hallow me.

ARISE TO GREET THE LORD OF LIGHT

Arise to greet the Lord of light
You people of his choice.
In uncreated glory bright,
He bursts upon our inward sight,
And bids the heart rejoice,
And bids the heart rejoice!

continued ...

Towards his light shall kings be drawn
This majesty to see;
And in the brightness of the dawn
Shall see the world in hope reborn,
In justice full and free,
In justice full and free.

The holy light in Judah's skies
Calls sages from afar.
The hope of kings they recognise
Which, in the virgin mother's eyes,
Outshines the guiding star,
Outshines the guiding star.

This majesty for long concealed
From longing human sight,
In Jesus Christ is now revealed,
And God's eternal promise sealed
In love's unending light,
In love's unending light.

— Coming Up —

Advent Meditations

DAILY, MONDAY to SATURDAY

Florida 2.30am EDT | EUR 8.30am CEST | WA 3.30pm
SA 6.00pm | NSW/VIC 6.30pm AEDT | NZ 8.30pm
rosaveritas.org/advent2023

Mystical Cosmic Mass

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 10 December, 2023

Florida 2am | EUR 8am | WA 3pm | SA 5.30pm
NSW/VIC 6pm | NZ 8pm
rosaveritas.org/dec10

Carols by Candlelight

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 17 December, 2023

Florida 2.30am | EUR 8.30am | WA 3.30pm | SA 6.00pm
NSW/VIC 6.30pm | NZ 8.30pm
See preparation details on right.
rosaveritas.org/dec17

Christmas Eve Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24 December, 2023

Florida 5am | EUR 11am | WA 6pm | SA 8.30pm
NSW/VIC 9pm | NZ 11pm
rosaveritas.org/dec24

New Year Agapē & Dedication

Sunday 31 December, 2023

Florida 4am | EUR 10am | WA 5pm | SA 7.30pm
NSW/VIC 8pm | NZ 10pm
rosaveritas.org/dec31

You can sustain the work of Rosa Veritas.
Contribute to the [online offering](#)



Sunday 17 December, 2023

Carols by Candlelight

Third Sunday in Advent

Florida 2.30am | EUR 8.30am | WA 3.30pm | SA 6.00pm
NSW/VIC 6.30pm | NZ 8.30pm

Hosted by Aotearoa and At Large communities.
Tune in early for the pre-service video.

Make Room for the Light in the Darkness

We come together to celebrate the joy, hope and wonder of the birth of Christ and to send this joy, hope and wonder into the atmosphere of the world as our gift.

Bring your voice, your joyous self, your Christmas nibbles and drinks, and don't forget your candle or Christmas lights, and please wear your best Christmas outfit. And you will need the Songsheet - very important!

We will be singing and listening to loved and new Christmas Carols, and will be told stories and shown images that weave this amazing story into our history and into our present.

With thoughtfulness, tenderness and prayer, we will make room for the light in the darkness.

And there will be opportunity to just be together as well.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

The video before the service:

Christmas Decorations

Before the service we will see a video comprising photos of Christmas in your home. These may be of your Christmas Tree or Nativity, but could also be the Christmas decorations in the area where you live and also the Christmas decorations Nature herself is providing.

The video after the service:

How I will spend Christmas

After the service we will share in picture how each of us will be spending Christmas - or how you usually spend Christmas, or how you prefer to spend Christmas. Obviously these will not be photos from this Christmas but of Christmases past. Or ... you might like to prepare and send an image that depicts what you hope will be born anew this Christmas, in you or in the world. We hope this will help us tune into the many ways Christmas is celebrated, how our fraters and sorores will be spending the Christmas days and what they are praying for.

Send in your Christmas photos for one or both videos to atlarge@rosaveritas.org

We need to receive these by **Wednesday 13th December**.