

## Mary, Mother of God

Year A, B, C

January 1

Solemnity

Reading 1

**Citation: Numbers, Chap. 6, Verses 22-27**  
**Numbers 6: 22-27**

### A reading from the Book of Numbers

The LORD said to Moses: (short pause)

"Speak to Aaron and his sons (commanding) (very short pause)  
and tell them:

This is how you shall bless the Israelites. (firm) (short pause)

Say to them: (commanding) (very short pause)

The LORD bless you [gentle voice – all blessing statements]  
and keep you! (very short pause)

The LORD let his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you! (very short pause)

The LORD look upon you kindly  
and give you peace! (short pause)

So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, (commanding) (very short pause)  
and I will bless them." (firm) (separate "will" and "bless")

### The word of the Lord.

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Reading 2

**Citation: Galatians, Chap. 4, verses 4-7**  
**Galatians 4:4-7**

### A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Brothers and sisters:

(Get the Assembly's attention!)

When the fullness of time had come,  
God sent his Son,  
born of a woman,  
born under the law,  
to ransom those under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption  
as sons.

(very short pause)

(very short pause)

(almost parenthetical expression)

(Pause)

As proof that you are sons,  
God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,  
crying out,  
“Abba,  
Father!”

(short pause)

(very short pause)

(raise volume)

(very short pause)

(slightly louder)

(Pause)

So  
you are no longer a slave  
but a son,  
and if a son  
then also an heir,  
through God.

(very short pause)

(short pause)

(very short pause)

(very short pause)

(awe when saying “God”)

**The Word of the Lord.**

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**GOSPEL**

*Citation:* Luke, Chap. 2, Verses 16-21  
Luke 2: 16-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem  
and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the infant lying in the manger.

(very short pause)

When they saw this,  
they made known the message that had been told them  
about this child.

(urgency)

All who heard it were amazed  
by what had been told them by the shepherds.

(very short pause)

And Mary kept all these things,  
reflecting on them in her heart.

(almost as an aside)  
(very short pause)

Then the shepherds returned,  
glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen,  
just as it had been told to them.

(be joyful; overwhelmed)  
(very short pause)

When eight days were completed  
for his circumcision,  
he was named Jesus,  
the name given him by the angel  
before he was conceived in the womb.

(almost parenthetical)  
(very short pause)  
(gradually increase "surprise")  
(voice goes down; very proud)

The Gospel of the Lord.