

MEMORIAL OF THE INCARNATION

Ant. Lo! Mary hath brought forth the Saviour of Whom, when John saw Him, he said, Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world.

V. Thou art fairer than the children of men.

R. *Full of grace are thy lips.*

We beseech Thee, O Lord, pour Thy grace into our hearts; that as we have known the Incarnation of Thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by His cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From Sabine Baring-Gould's

The Golden Gate

Fr. Baring-Gould is most famous for his hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers".

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Edited by Fr. Peter Geromel, OHI Th.M.

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Litany for Christmas

By Rev. Baring-Gould

Author of

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

V. Glory be to God on high;
R. *And on earth peace, good will towards men.*
V. We praise Thee;
R. *We bless Thee.*
V. We worship Thee;
R. *We glorify Thee; we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.*
V. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty;
R. *O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ.*
V. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world;
R. *Have mercy upon us.*
V. Thou that takest away the sins of the world;
R. *Have mercy upon us.*
V. Thou that takest away the sins of the world;
R. *Receive our prayer.*
V. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father;
R. *Have mercy upon us.*

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Blessed Jesus, perfect God and perfect Man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting;
Praise and glory be to Thee.

Blessed Jesus, equal to the Father as touching Thy Godhead, and inferior to the Father as touching Thy Manhood;
Praise and glory be to Thee.
God, of the Substance of the Father, begotten before the world;
Praise and glory be to Thee.
Man, of the Substance of Thy Mother, born in the world;
Praise and glory be to Thee.
Blessed Jesus, Who having the heavens for Thy throne, didst yet choose a poor stable for Thine abode;
Praise and glory be to Thee.
Blessed Jesus, Who being King of kings didst yet condescend to be wrapped in swaddling clothes;
Praise and glory be to Thee.
Blessed Jesu, Whom all the angels of God worship, Who wast adored by the shepherds;
Praise and glory be to Thee.

V. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people;
R. *And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, in the house of His servant David.*

V. As He spake by the mouth of His holy prophets, which have been since the world began;

R. *That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hands of all that hate us.*

V. To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, and to remember His holy Covenant.

R. *To perform the oath which He sware to our forefather Abraham, that He would give us.*

V. That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear.

R. *In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.*

V. Through the tender mercy of our God, whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us.

R. *To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

V. Glory be to the Father, etc.

R. *As it was in the beginning, etc.*

Let us Pray.

Almighty God, Who has given us Thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon Him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin; Grant that we being regenerate, and made Thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by Thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*