

## Readings January 1, 2012

### Numbers 6:22-27

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 8

<sup>1</sup> O LORD our Governor, \*

how exalted is your Name in all the world!

<sup>2</sup> Out of the mouths of infants and children \*

your majesty is praised above the heavens.

<sup>3</sup> You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*

to quell the enemy and the avenger.

<sup>4</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*

the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>5</sup> What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*

the son of man that you should seek him out?

<sup>6</sup> You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*

you adorn him with glory and honor;

<sup>7</sup> You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*

you put all things under his feet:

<sup>8</sup> All sheep and oxen, \*

even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>9</sup> The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*

and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

<sup>10</sup> O LORD our Governor, \*

how exalted is your Name in all the world!

## **Philippians 2:5-11**

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **Luke 2:15-21**

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 before he was conceived in the womb.