

December 25, 2011

Media Alert

Christians throughout the World Welcome the Light of the World; The Gift of Salvation in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior

WHO: Bishop John Noonan and Catholics throughout Central Florida

WHAT: Celebration of Christmas Mass at midnight, the birth of Jesus, our Savior and Lord

WHEN: Sunday, December 25, 2011 at 12:00 a.m.

WHERE: St. James Cathedral in downtown Orlando (215 North Orange Avenue)

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Video/B-Roll of the Christmas Mass is now available for media to download via an FTP site. The video is 16x9 and h.264 is the encoding profile. Instructions are provided below:

Host: <ftp://0056b79.netsolhost.com>
username: impactclient
password: [viscom@760](#)

Folder path: backup; client; DioceseofOrlando

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

More than 800,000 Catholics throughout the nine counties of the Diocese of Orlando celebrate the birth of Jesus, along with Christians throughout the world.

During the Mass at midnight on December 25 at St. James Cathedral, Bishop John Noonan was the celebrant. Father John McCormick, rector of St. James Cathedral concelebrated.

The 50-person St. James Cathedral Choir and Ensemble began a Prelude Christmas concert at 11:00 p.m. As Bishop Noonan processed down the aisle toward the altar, he paused in front of the manger scene and blessed it. The Gloria connotes the image of the angels as they praise God from on high.

Typical attendance for Mass during the Christmas season is standing room only.

During the Mass, Catholics celebrate the birth of Jesus. The readings focus on the darkness which is scattered for God's grace has been revealed in the birth of the Messiah. The Gospel is the story of the shepherds who learn about the birth and spread the Good News.

To read Bishop Noonan's Christmas Mass homily, click http://www.orlandodiocese.org/images/stories/featured/Christmas_Mass_2011_Homily.pdf.