

Christmas Schedule of the Catholic Church in Bethlehem 2022-2023

(Basilica of the of the Nativity, Church of Saint Catherine and other Sanctuaries in Bethlehem)

December 15 - 23

Church of Saint Catherine 02 274 2423 14:00 Christmas Novena

December 24 (Friday)

Tomb of Rachel 13:00 His Beatitude Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Patriarch of the Latin Patriarchate

of Jerusalem is welcomed by the Latin parish priests and representatives of

Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour

Manger Square 13:30 Solemn entry of the Patriarch into the Basilica of the Nativity and the

Church of Saint Catherine followed by First Vespers

Church of Saint Catherine 16:00 Daily procession to the Grotto of the Nativity

21:00 The church open (admission tickets required)

23:30 Office of Readings

00:00 Midnight Mass (admission tickets required)

December 25 (Saturday)

Manger Grotto 00:00 Parish Mass in Arabic (admission tickets required)

Church of Saint Catherine 01:30 Procession to the Grotto of the Nativity

Manger Grotto 02:30 Masses every 30 minutes (different languages; tickets not required)

interruption at 5:30 until approximately at 7:00 then resumes until 16:30

Church of Saint Catherine 07:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

10:00 Christmas Mass (Arabic and Latin)

14:00 Pilgrimage to the Greek Orthodox and Franciscan Shepherd's Field

December 26, Feast of the Holy Family

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy Mass; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 07:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

09:00 Parish Mass in Arabic **11:00** Holy Mass in Arabic

17:30 Christmas Carols (Church of Saint Francis)

December 27, Feast of Saint John the Apostle

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy Mass 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 9:00 Holy Mass in Arabic

December 28, Feast of the Holy Innocents

Manger Grotto 04:55; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 7:30 Holy Mass in Arabic (Grotto of the Holy Innocents)

10:00 Solemn Mass in Latin (Grotto of the Holy Innocents) **14:00** Second Vespers in the Grotto of the Holy Innocents

December 29, Octave of Christmas

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy Mass; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation for groups is not possible)

Shepherd's Field 16:30 Holy Mass in Arabic in commemoration of the shepherds

December 30, Octave of Christmas

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy Mass; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation for groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 7:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

December 31, New Year's Eve

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy, Mass; 09:00 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 14:00 Vespers followed by Procession to the Grotto of the Nativity

16:00 Eucharistic Adoration

17:00 Holy Mass of Thanksgiving in Arabic

2023

January 1, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Manger Grotto 4:55 Holy Mass; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 10:00 Solemn Mass in Arabic followed by the Procession to the Milk Grotto

with the icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary

17:00 Parish Mass in Arabic (Church of Saint Francis)

January 2

Church of Saint Catherine 07:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

09:00 Parish Mass in Arabic **11:00** Parish Mass in Arabic

January 3

Church of Saint Catherine 16:30 Holy Mass (Grotto of Saint Joseph)

January 4

Church of Saint Catherine 16:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

January 5, Eve of Epiphany

Manger Grotto 04:55 Holy Mass; 07:30 Holy Mass (Participation of groups is not possible)

Church of Saint Catherine 07:30 Parish Mass in Arabic

Tomb of Rachel 11:00 The Custos of the Holy Land is welcomed by the Latin priests and

representatives of Bethlehem

Church of Saint Catherine 11:30 Solemn Entry of the Custos of the Holy Land into Manger Square, the

Basilica of the Nativity and the Church of Saint Catherine

13:45 First Vespers and Procession to the Grotto of the Nativity

15:30 Office of Readings and Procession to the Grotto of the Nativity

January 6, Epiphany

Manger Grotto 02:30 Masses every 30 minutes with interruption at 01:00 until 02:30

approximately then resume until 08:45

Church of Saint Catherine 08:00 Holy Mass in Arabic

10:00 Solemn Mass in Latin and Arabic

15:30 Second Vespers and Solemn Procession to the Grotto and Veneration of

the Infant Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh