



# Liturgy of the Word

*Readings for  
December 03<sup>rd</sup> & 04<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

## First Reading

*It will do justice to the poor.*

### Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (11, 1-10)

On that day a renewal of the trunk of Jesse will spring, a stem will blossom from its root. Upon him shall lie the spirit of the Lord, the spirit of wisdom and intelligence, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of piety and the fear of God. He will not judge by appearances, nor will he sentence by hearing; he will defend the helpless fairly and give sentence to the poor equitably; he will hurt the violent with the whip of his mouth, with the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked. Justice will be your cord, faithfulness will tighten your waist. The wolf will dwell with the lamb, the panther will be thrown with the kid, the heifer and the lion will be sucking together and a young boy will feed them. The cow will graze with the bear and its young will live together. The lion will eat straw with the ox. The child will play over the hole of the viper; the creature will put his hand in the snake's hiding place. It will not harm or havoc all my holy mountain, for as the waters fill the sea, so is the country filled with the knowledge of the Lord. That day the root of Jesse will be raised as the flag of the peoples, all nations will seek it and its dwelling place will be glorious."

**Word of God. *We praise you, Lord.***



## Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 71

### **R. Come, Lord, King of Justice and Peace.**

\* Communicate, Lord, to the king your judgment and your righteousness, to him who is the son of kings; So your servant will come to the defense of your poor and rule your people justly. **R.**

\* Justice will flourish in his day and peace will reign, era after age. From sea to sea his kingdom will extend and from one end of the earth to the other. **R.**

\* He will deliver the weak from the powerful and help him who is without protection; He will take pity on the helpless and poor and save the life of the wretched. **R**

\* May you bless the Lord eternally and as much as the sun, live his name. May it be the blessing of the whole world and may the nations cheer it joyfully. **R**

## Second Reading

*Christ saved all men.*

### Reading a of the Letter of the Apostle Paul to the Romans (15, 4-9)

Brothers: Everything that has been written in the past in the holy books was written for our instruction, so that, through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures, we may maintain hope. May God, the source of all patience and comfort, grant you to live in perfect harmony with one another, in accordance with the spirit of Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and one voice you may praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept one another as Christ welcomed you, to the glory of God. By this I mean that Christ placed himself at the service of the Jewish people, to demonstrate God's faithfulness, fulfilling the promises made to the patriarchs, and that by his mercy the pagans praise God, according to what Scripture says: For that I will praise you and sing hymns to your name.

**Word of God. *We praise you, Lord.***

## Holy Gospel

*Become, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.*

### Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (3, 1-12)

*Glory to you, Lord*

John the Baptist Prepares the Way - In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with[b] water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

**Word of God. *Glory to you Lord Jesus.***