

STAND

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Cf. Ps 24: 1-3  
To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Hark! a herald voice is calling;  
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
waken, children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,  
let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb so long expected,  
comes with pardon down from heaven;  
let us meet him with repentance,  
pray that we may be forgiven.

So when next he comes with glory,  
wrapping all the earth in fear,  
may he then as our Defender  
on the clouds of heav'n appear.

**Priest:** In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**And with your spirit.**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Brethren (Brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner: Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You bring light to those in darkness: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**The absolution by the Priest follows:**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins

and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



3rd December 2023

COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIT

**FIRST READING** 63:16-17;64:1.3-8

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;

we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy

clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name

or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our

sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;

we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Ps79:2-3.15-16.18-19.R.v.4*

- (R) God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**
- O shepherd of Israel, hear us. shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help. **(R)**
  - God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R)**
  - May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R)**

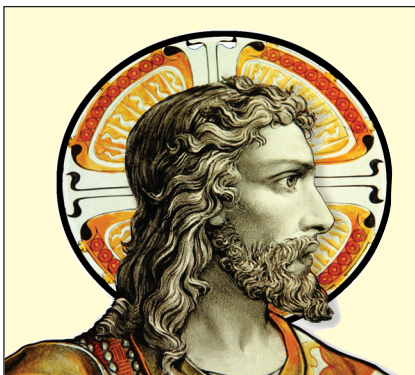
**SECOND READING** *1:3-9*  
**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**STAND**

**ACCLAMATION** *Ps84:8*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.**  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** *13:33-37*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



Jesus said to his disciples: "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the door keeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cock-crow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**STAND**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (All bow during the next three lines) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**SIT**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*Raising the host, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:*

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*Raising the chalice, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Bowing the priest says quietly:*

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

*Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:*

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.



**STAND**

*Facing the people the priest says:*

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II**

*PREFACE I of Advent*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your Spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**KNEEL**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

*The Priest joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:*

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

**DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

**The mystery of faith**

**We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your Resurrection until you come again**

*Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:*

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world,

and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope, and N. our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles and with all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

*The Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:*

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION RITE****STAND**

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you  
always.

**And with your Spirit.**

*The priest may add these or similar words.*

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*The priest places a small piece of the host in  
the chalice saying quietly:*

May this mingling of the body and  
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

*Meanwhile the people sing or say:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world  
grant us peace.**



*The priest says quietly:*

May the receiving of your Body and  
Blood,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
not bring me to judgement and  
condemnation,  
but through your loving mercy  
be for me protection in mind and body,  
and a healing remedy.

*Raising the host the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of  
the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper  
of the Lamb.

*And together with the people he says once:*

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest reverently consumes the Body of  
Christ.*

*Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:*  
May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it  
to each of the communicants, saying:*

The Body of Christ.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Ps 84: 13*  
**The Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its  
increase.**

### COMMUNION HYMN

*R: Wait for the Lord, his day is near.  
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take  
heart!*

**Prepare the way for the Lord.  
Make a straight path for him. R.**

**The glory of the Lord  
shall be revealed. R.**

**All the earth will see the Lord. R.**

**Rejoice in the Lord always:  
he is at hand. R.**

**Seek first the kingdom of God,  
seek and you shall find. R.**

**Joy and gladness for all  
who seek the Lord. R.**

**Prepare the way of the Lord. R.**

### PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

My Jesus, present in my soul,  
I thank you for the way in which you  
gradually prepared the minds of men  
and women for your coming.  
Help me to stay awake,  
to watch and pray at all times,  
so that I may have the strength to  
survive all the trials of life.  
Confirm my heart in holiness  
so that at your coming  
I may be blameless in the sight of God  
the Father, and so stand with  
confidence, holding my head high,  
because my redemption, my  
liberation, is near.



### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,  
in which we have participated,  
profit us, we pray, for even now, as  
we walk amid passing things,  
you teach us by them to love the  
things of heaven  
and hold fast to what endures.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITES



The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

#### *Solemn Blessing – Advent*

May the almighty and merciful God,  
by whose grace you have placed  
your faith  
in the First Coming of his Only  
Begotten Son  
and yearn for his coming again  
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's  
Advent  
and enrich you with his blessing.

**Amen**

As you run the race of this present life,  
may he make you firm in faith,  
joyful in hope and active in charity.

**Amen**

So that you, rejoicing now with devotion  
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,  
you may be endowed with the rich  
reward of eternal life  
when he comes again in majesty.

**Amen**

And may the blessing of almighty God  
the Father, and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, come down on  
you and remain with you forever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Arise, Jerusalem, city of God our  
Saviour,  
For now the time has come to robe  
yourself in splendour.  
Come forth, dressed in fine gold,  
your crown shining like sunbeams,  
put on your cloak of peace,  
gather the poor beneath its folds.**

*R. Put on your cloak of peace,  
Gather the poor beneath its folds.*

**Arise, Jerusalem, come all you men  
and women,  
The promised time has come.  
Here God has made his dwelling.  
And you, children of light,  
must leave all that is darkness.  
Arise, your light has come.  
Shout your cry of gladness.**

*R. Arise your light has come.  
Shout out your song of gladness.*