



30 November 2025

1st Sunday of Advent

Year A

Let Us Put on the Armor of Light!

As we begin a new liturgical year with the season of Advent, we wish one another a spiritually fruitful New Year! The new liturgical year is an opportunity for us to rediscover the richness of this well-planned series of liturgical events and celebrations, intended for our sanctification.

As we start our remote preparation for Christmas, St. Paul exhorts us to get rid of the “deeds of darkness” and to clothe ourselves with the splendor of Christ’s grace. This should motivate all Christians to begin this holy season with a clear plan of action and the determination to carry it out faithfully.

Today’s First and Second readings offer an encouraging road-map for a fruitful observance of this year of hope and commitment that is aligned with the exhortations of the Apostle Paul.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

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.

(Cf. Ps 25 (24):1-3)

Greeting

P –The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
All—**And with your spirit.**

Penitential Act

P –Coming together as God’s family on this first Sunday of Advent, with confidence let us ask the Lord’s forgiveness, for He is full of gentleness and compassion. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you invite us to be vigilant, but we often behave as if you will never come. Lord, have mercy.

All—**Lord, have mercy.**

P –Lord Jesus, you knock at the door of our hearts, asking to be admitted, but we often turn a deaf ear. Christ, have mercy.

All—**Christ, have mercy.**

P –Lord Jesus, you invite us to be attentive to the needs

of our neighbor, but many times we pretend not to see. Lord, have mercy.

All—**Lord, have mercy.**

P –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All—**Amen.**

Collect (Opening Prayer)

P –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.

All—**Amen.**

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LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading *Is 2:1-5*
Advent is like a pilgrimage to the house of the Lord. Today, the prophet Isaiah invites us to undertake such a pilgrimage that we may learn from the Lord His way of peace and fruitful collaboration, two gifts that we need so badly nowadays.

R —A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples.

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.
All—Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
R —*Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

R. M. Velez

* I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the Lord." And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

* Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. **R.**

* According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David. **R.**

* Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper! May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings. **R.**

* Because of my brothers and friends I will say, "Peace be within you!" Because of the house of the Lord, our God, I will pray for your good. **R.**

2nd Reading *Rom 13:11-14*
Advent is an invitation to leave behind the darkness of sin. Encouraged by the words of the apostle Paul, we should move confidently into the brightness of God's grace and service.

R —A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed, the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

The Word of the Lord.
All—Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *Ps 85:8*
All—Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel *Mt 24:37-44*
Today's Gospel passage refers to the coming in power of Christ as Judge of all, and the need for all of us to stay awake and be ready to welcome Him at all times.
P —The Lord be with you.
All—And with your spirit.

P —A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
All—Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.
All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily
Profession of Faith
(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

All—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

GLOSSARY: • **House of Jacob:** This phrase means the same as "House of Israel." It is commonly used in the Bible to indicate the Israelites/Jews. They were called that way because they are descendants of Israel/Jacob, the grandchild of Abraham.

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, (*bow*)* **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

P –As we begin this new liturgical year, let us entrust all our intentions and needs to our loving God for He alone knows what is beneficial to us. With confidence, let us pray:

All–Lord, graciously hear us.

C –For the Church, the community of all believers: may She rediscover the richness of the Eucharist and find in it greater unity and strength. Let us pray.**R.**

C –For the Holy Father, our bishops, priests, and all religious: may they be ever more an inspiration to all on how to be always ready to welcome Jesus in our hearts. Let us pray. **R.**

C –For all parents and educators: may they teach their children and students how to see Jesus present in their neighbor

and welcome Him in them. Let us pray. **R.**

C –For all of us and the rest of our community: in this Advent may we attain a clear improvement in our spiritual lives. Let us pray. **R.**

P –Lord God, we thank You for the gift of this new liturgical year. May we be able to avail of every opportunity to draw ever closer to You, who live and reign for ever and ever.

All–Amen.



Preparation of the Gifts

P –Pray, brethren . . .

All–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

P –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.

All–Amen.

Preface of Advent I

P –The Lord be with you.

All–And with your spirit.

P –Lift up your hearts.

All–We lift them up to the Lord.

P –Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All–It is right and just.

P –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:

All–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.

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith.

All–Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.



All–Our Father . . .

P –Deliver us, Lord . . .

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

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All–Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (2×)

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

Communion

P –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.

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

Communion Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Ps 85 (84): 13

Prayer after Communion

P –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.

All–Amen.



P –The Lord be with you.

All–And with your spirit.

P –May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–Amen.

P –Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All–Thanks be to God.

A NOTE ON THE LITURGICAL YEAR

• Jess P. Balon

The “liturgical year” is the period of time whose main events and features are determined by the Church’s official worship, or “liturgy.” During this year Her main concern is the commemoration and re-living of God’s interventions in human history to bring mankind to salvation. Such series of divine interventions had its climax in the Incarnation of God’s only begotten Son, Our Lord, JESUS CHRIST and will find its completion in his Second Coming as Judge of all.

The Church commemorates those events yearly in Her liturgical worship, which She offers to God the Father, in union with Her Head, Jesus Christ, under the guidance and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Just as Jesus is the center of Salvation history, so is He also the center of the liturgical year, whose main events are recalled during the “Liturgy of the Word” by proclaiming to the congregation of believers passages from the Sacred Scriptures which have been selected for their instruction and guidance. These series of events follow a historical sequence that is based on the major events in the life of Jesus Christ, from His birth to His ascension into heaven and the sending of the Holy Spirit on the Church,

and the final coming of Jesus as judge & King of the Universe.

Thus, for a practical purpose, the “liturgical year” is divided into “seasons” whose “cores” are:

- the birth of Jesus (Christmas season);
- His death, resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit (Holy Week and Easter season); and
- His apostolic life (Ordinary Time).

The Christmas season is preceded by a period of preparation that is called “Advent”; while the Holy Week is preceded by a period of preparation called “Lent.”

The most important event in the liturgical year is EASTER, which is the commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. All other liturgical seasons and events are either a preparation for it, or a living out of its fruits of salvation.

But the commemoration of the past events of salvation history, and especially the life of Jesus, is not simply a “calling them to mind.” They are also re-lived and made present and effective in the celebration of the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist.

This Advent at a Glance

SUNDAY	FIRST READING <i>Promise of Salvation</i>	RESPONSORIAL PSALM <i>Our Reaction</i>	SECOND READING <i>What We Should Do This Advent</i>	GOSPEL <i>Fulfillment of God’s Promise and Our Cooperation</i>
First	God will make Jerusalem a source of instruction and righteousness.	“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”	* Cast off the deeds of darkness * Put on the armor of light	* Be vigilant! * God will come any time.
Second	The Messiah will bring justice and peace.	Yearning for God’s gifts of justice and peace	* Live in harmony * Accept one another	* The reign of God is at hand! * Reform your lives!
Third	The Lord will work wonders for the afflicted.	Plea: “Lord, come and save us.”	* Wait with patience for the Lord’s coming.	* Jesus Christ fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah. * We acknowledge him as the Messiah.
Fourth	The Messiah/Emmanuel will be a descendant of David and will be born of a virgin.	We welcome the Messiah: “Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory!”	Proclaim that Jesus Christ: * is a descendant of David; and * Son of God.	* The Messiah is to be born of the Virgin Mary. * Cooperate with God in carrying out His plan of salvation in Christ.



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