

SUNDAY, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent

Christ is our Savior: let us give him praise and thanks.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever, Amen. Alleluia!

Hymn **Meter: CM**

The Lord will come and not be slow,
His footsteps cannot err;
Before him righteousness shall go,
His royal harbinger.
Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
Shall bud and blossom then;
And justice, from her heav'nly bower,
Look down on mortal men.
Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,
This wicked earth redress;
For thou art he who shalt by right
The nations all possess.
The nations all whom thou hast made
Shall come, and all shall frame
To bow them low before thee, Lord,
And glorify thy name.
For great thou art, and wonders great
By thy strong hand are done:
Thou in thine everlasting seat
Remainest God alone.

Canticle **Tobit 13:1-6**

Since the days of your fathers you have turned aside/ from my statutes, and have not kept them./ Return to me, and I will return to you,/ says the Lord of hosts. (Mal 3:7)

Although we know that Christ has not in fact left us since the Resurrection, we often experience his absence from a world that has not yet fully owned him and from lives not yet fully free from the hold of sin. During Advent, we pray for his promised return in the fullness of salvation, as the sun, never absent from the universe, returns at dawn after the long hours of night.

Blessed be God who lives forever,
because his kingdom lasts for all ages.
For he scourges and then has mercy;
he casts down to the depths of the netherworld,
and he brings up from the great abyss.
No one can escape his hand.
Praise him, you Israelites, before the Gentiles,
for though he has scattered you among them,
he has shown you his greatness even there.
Exalt him before every living being,
because he is the Lord our God,

our Father and God forever.
He scourged you for your iniquities,
but will again have mercy on you all.
He will gather you from all the Gentiles
among whom you have been scattered.
When you turn back to him with all your heart,
to do what is right before him,
then he will turn back to you,
and no longer hide his face from you.

Glory to the Father...

Word of God **Zechariah 8:3**

Thus says the Lord:/ I will return to Zion,/ and I will dwell within Jerusalem;/ Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city,/ and the mountain of the Lord of hosts,/ the holy mountain.

Glory in his holy name;/ rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord! *(1 Chr 16:10)*

Canticle of Zechariah

How long, O Lord? I cry for help! *(Hb 1:2a)*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

As servants awaiting the Master's return, we pray:

R/ Come, Lord, and save us!

From the emptiness when we do not recognize your presence:

R/

From the silence in which we do not hear your voice:

R/

From the darkness in which we do not see your light:

R/

Personal intentions

Our Father....

Lord Jesus Christ, you are with us always, even to the end of the world, yet we do not always know your presence. Free us from whatever hinders you from taking full possession of our inner house and our outer world by the power of your Spirit, you who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Mass First Sunday of Advent

Reading Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

You, O Lord, are our father;
"Our Redeemer from of old" is your name.
Why, O Lord, do you make us stray from your ways and harden our heart, so that we do not fear you? Turn back for the sake of your servants, for the sake of the tribes that are your heritage.
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous I are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day

of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with a particular task, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

Therefore, keep awake for you do not know when the master of the 1 will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

And what I say to you I say to all:

Keep awake."

Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

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