

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT < B

December 23, 2023

Intercessions: For the Church

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant *N.* our Pope and *N.* our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.

For the Living

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

For the Dead

To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

Concluding Doxology

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

Communion Rite

STAND

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Priest:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant us 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 Savior, Jesus Christ.

People:

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

Sign Of Peace

Priest : 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.

People : **Amen**

Priest : The peace of the Lord be with you always

People : **And with your Spirit**

Priest : Let us offer each other the sign of peace

Breaking of the Bread

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.

Reception of Communion

KNEEL

Priest : 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.

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

Priest : The body of Christ.

Answer : **Amen**

Priest : The blood of Christ.

Answer : **Amen**

Communion

Prayer after Communion [Worthy Celebration]

STAND

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **R/ Amen.**

General Announcements

SIT

Blessing

STAND

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. **R/ Amen.**

So that, 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. **R/ 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 for ever. **R/ Amen.**

Go in peace and live in the joy of knowing that the Lord is near. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

MC: Greeting

Entrance song

STAND

Introduction by the Celebrant

ENTRANCE ANT. *Cf. Is 45:8*

[The Advent Plea]

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

Penitential Act

Too often we fail to say to the Lord that we will do as pleases him.

Let us ask forgiveness for our sins:

(pause)

Word of God, born of Mary,
be our God with us.

Come and save us:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Son of God, source of life,
be our God with us.

Come and save us:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Son of the house of David
and yet coming for all nations,
be our God with us.

Come and save us:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Have mercy on us, Lord,
and undo by your merciful forgiveness
all the evil we have done.

Lead us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest is not said

C:Collect *[From Suffering to Glory]*

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R/ Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

SIT

First Reading 2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16

[A King Forever]

David wishes to build a temple to house the tables of the Law, but God speaks to him, promising to exalt and secure the House of David forever. The Lord will bring peace.

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel

When King David was settled in his palace, and the Lord had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?'"

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. And I will make you famous like great ones of the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 89

[An Eternal Covenant]

R./ Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

The promises of the Lord I will sing forever; through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, "My kindness is established forever"; in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness. **(R.)**

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant: forever will I confirm your posterity and establish your throne for all generations." **(R.)**

"He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the rock, my savior.' Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm." **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 16:25-27

[Faith and Obedience]

God has revealed his plan of salvation through the coming of his Son, Jesus Christ. It is made known to all people that they may believe and obey.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Lk 1:38 [The Lord's Handmaid]

R/Alleluia, alleluia.

STAND

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word.

R/ Alleluia, alleluia.



"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

Gospel Lk 1:26-38 [Mary's Consent]

Gabriel speaks to Mary, announcing that she who is a virgin shall conceive through the Holy Spirit and give birth to a son. Mary agrees to God's request.

R/ The Lord be with you.

R/ And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R/ Glory to you, O Lord

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

SIT

I believe in God

STAND

General Intercessions

The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall name him Emmanuel. With longing for the coming of Christ, we offer our prayers to the Father:

(Pause)

For the Church: that she may draw light and strength from the faith of Mary and Joseph. And that her doors may be wide-open to all peoples, for them to find hope, peace, joy and love in the house of God. Let us pray: **Lord, be our light and life.**

For legislators and leaders of nations: may the Lord grant them wisdom to prioritize and to uphold the human dignity and justice in this times of global economic and political uncertainty. Let us pray:

Lord, be our light and life.

For our Parish community: that we may live according to God's word; and our words and deeds may bring God's love, peace, and consolation to many. Let us pray: **Lord, be our light and life.**

For an increase of vocations to the priesthood and to consecrated life: that young men and women may respond unconditionally and generously to the invitation of Jesus.

Let us pray: **Lord, be our light and life.**

Lord Jesus, You are the head of the Church, we humbly seek Your providence of the St. Peter Canisius International Catholic Parish, for the grace to welcome the presence of Jesus, through the motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and to be the Light to the nations. Let us pray:

Lord, be our light and life.

We pray for those intentions offered for the Mass and for our personal intentions...

(Pause)

Let us pray: **Lord, be our light and life.**

Loving Father, make us turn to you. Let us see your face and we shall be saved, for Jesus is our Lord, now and for ever. **R/ Amen.**

SL: Offertory hymn

SIT

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Bread

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.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Preparation of the Wine

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.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation To Prayer

STAND

Priest : Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People : **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 [Power of the Spirit]

STAND

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Through Christ our Lord.

R/ Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

STAND

Introductory Dialogue

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

Preface II of Advent

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 all the oracles of the prophets foretold him, the Virgin Mother longed for him with love beyond all telling, John the Baptist sang of his coming and proclaimed his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that already we rejoice at the mystery of his Nativity, so that he may find us watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise.

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....

Eucharistic Prayer No. 3

KNEEL

Praise to the Father

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and

working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you: by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration that they may become the Body and ✽ Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

The Lord's Supper

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread 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, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, and gave the chalice 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.

Memorial Acclamation

Priest : The mystery of faith.

All : When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

The Memorial Prayer

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and, recognizing the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

In Communion with the Saints

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect, especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs, with Saint *N.*: *Patron Saint* and with all the Saints, on whose constant intercession in your presence we rely for unailing help.