

# Third Sunday of Advent



*“Amen, I say to you, among those born of women  
there has been none greater than John the Baptist”*

(Cycle A)

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Opening Hymn

#### Rejoice, the Lord Is King



1. Re-joyce, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
2. Our Lord and Sav - ior reigns, The God of truth and love; When
3. His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n; The
4. Re - joyce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come And



1. joyce, give thanks and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:
  2. he had purged our stains, He took his seat a - bove:
  3. keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n:
  4. take his ser - vants up To their e - ter - nal home:
- } Lift up your



1-4. heart, lift up your voice! Re - joyce, a - gain I say, re - joyce!

### Greeting

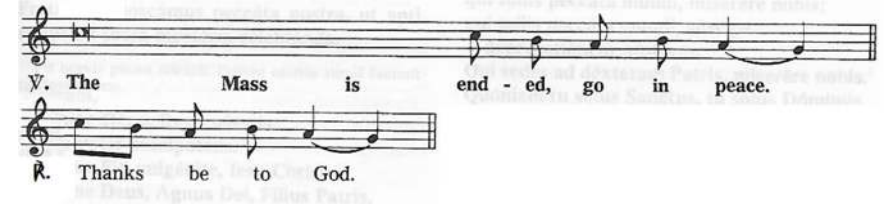
∇. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

∇. The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the Love of God  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**R. And also with you.**

### Dismissal



### Closing Hymn

#### O Come, Divine Messiah



1. O come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; The world in
2. O Christ, whom na - tions sigh for, Whom priest and
3. You come in peace and meek - ness And low - ly



1. si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its
2. proph - et long fore - told, Come, break the cap - tive's
3. will your cra - dle be; All clothed in hu - man



1. tri - umph And sad - ness flee a - way.
2. fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.
3. weak - ness Shall we your God - head see.



Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the



night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O



come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; the world in si - lence waits the day when



hope shall sing its tri - umph and sad - ness flee a - way.

## Prayer after Communion

God of mercy,  
may this eucharist bring us your divine help,  
free us from our sins,  
and prepare us for the birthday of our Savior,  
who is Lord for ever and ever.

**R̄. Amen.**

## CONCLUDING RITES

### Solemn Blessing

Ÿ. The Lord be with you.

**R̄. And also with you.**

Ÿ. Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

You believe that the Son of God once came to us;  
you look for him to come again.  
May his coming bring you the light of his holiness  
and free you with his blessing.

**R̄. Amen.**

Ÿ. May God make you steadfast in faith,  
joyful in hope, and untiring in love  
all the days of your life.

**R̄. Amen.**

Ÿ. You rejoice that our Redeemer came to live with us as man.  
When he comes again in glory,  
may he reward you with endless life.

**R̄. Amen.**

Ÿ. May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

**R̄. Amen.**

## PENITENTIAL RITE (C2 *XI Orbis Factor*)

*Invitation to reflect on our faults and failings.*

Ÿ To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries,  
let us call to mind our faults and failings  
and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy  
for his healing and forgiveness.

*Pause for silent reflection.*

Ÿ Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the  
Father:



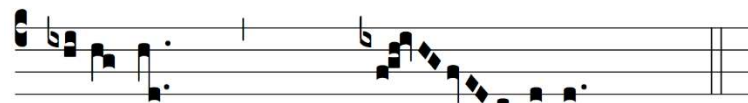
Ký-ri- e \* e- lé- i-son. ij.

Ÿ Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:

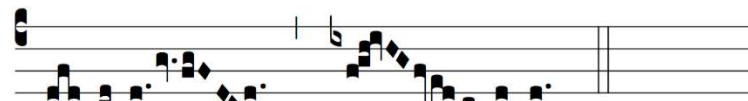


Chris-te e- lé- i-son. ij.

Ÿ Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:



Ký-ri- e \* e- lé- i-son. ij.



Ký- ri- e \* e- lé- i-son.

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

**R̄ Amen.**

*The Gloria is not said during the Sundays of Advent*

## Opening Prayer

Let us pray this Advent for joy and hope in the coming Lord

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
ever faithful to your promises  
and ever close to your Church:  
the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming  
and looks forward with longing  
to his return at the end of time.

Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness  
that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope  
which his presence will bestow,  
for he is Lord for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Reading 1 (*Is 35:1-6a, 10*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The desert and the parched land will exult;  
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.  
They will bloom with abundant flowers,  
and rejoice with joyful song.  
The glory of Lebanon will be given to them,  
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;  
they will see the glory of the LORD,  
the splendor of our God.  
Strengthen the hands that are feeble,  
make firm the knees that are weak,  
say to those whose hearts are frightened:  
Be strong, fear not!  
Here is your God,  
he comes with vindication;  
with divine recompense  
he comes to save you.  
Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,  
the ears of the deaf be cleared;  
then will the lame leap like a stag,  
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

## Communion Meditation

### Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice



1. Wild and lone the proph - et's voice  
2. "Bear the fruit re - pent - ance sows:  
3. With such preach - ing stark and bold



Ech - oes through the des - ert still, Call - ing us to  
Lives of jus - tice, truth, and love. Trust no oth - er  
John pro - claimed sal - va - tion near, And his time - less



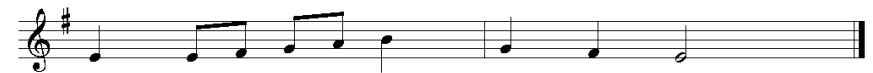
make a choice, Bid - ding us to do God's will:  
claim than those; Set your heart on things a - bove.  
warn - ings hold Words of hope to all who hear.



"Turn from sin and be bap - tized; Cleanse your heart and  
Soon the Lord will come in pow'r, Burn - ing clean the  
So we dare to jour - ney on, Led by faith through



mind and soul. Quit - ting all the sins you prized,  
thresh - ing floor: Then will flames the chaff de - vour;  
ways un - trod, Till we come at last like John



Yield your life to God's con - trol."  
Wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."  
To be - hold the Lamb of God.

## Exchange of Peace

☩. The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**℞. And also with you.**

☩. Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

## Breaking of the Bread

*As the bread is broken, we sing or say:*

XII. s.



**A** -gnus De- i, \* qui tol-lis peccá-ta mundi : mi-se-  
ré-re no-bis. Agnus De- i, \* qui tol-lis peccá-ta mundi :  
mi-se-ré-re no-bis. Agnus De- i, \* qui tol-lis peccá-ta mun-  
di : do-na no-bis pa-cem.

☩. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**℞. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word  
and I shall be healed.**

*To those receiving Communion, the celebrant says:*

☩. The body of Christ.

**℞. Amen.**

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return  
and enter Zion singing,  
crowned with everlasting joy;  
they will meet with joy and gladness,  
sorrow and mourning will flee.

☩. This is the Word of the Lord.

**℞. Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm (*Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.*)



**℞. Lord, come and save us.**

The LORD God keeps faith forever,  
secures justice for the oppressed,  
gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets captives free.

**℞. Lord, come and save us.**

The LORD gives sight to the blind;  
the LORD raises up those who were bowed down.  
The LORD loves the just;  
the LORD protects strangers.

**℞. Lord, come and save us.**

The fatherless and the widow he sustains,  
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.  
The LORD shall reign forever;  
your God, O Zion, through all generations.

**℞. Lord, come and save us.**

## Reading 2 (Jas 5:7-10)

A reading from the letter of James:

Be patient, brothers and sisters,  
until the coming of the Lord.  
See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth,  
being patient with it  
until it receives the early and the late rains.  
You too must be patient.  
Make your hearts firm,  
because the coming of the Lord is at hand.  
Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another,  
that you may not be judged.  
Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates.  
Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters,  
the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Ÿ. This is the Word of the Lord.

**R.** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation (Is 61:1 (cited in Lk 4:18))

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## COMMUNION LITURGY

### The Lord's Prayer

Ÿ. We pray confidently in the words our Savior taught us:

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name;  
thy king - dom come; thy will be done on earth as it  
is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread;  
and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give  
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not  
in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

Ÿ. Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*All:*  
For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the  
glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er.

Ÿ. Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen.

*(Sanctus XVIII Deus Genitor Alme)*



Sanctus, \* Sanctus, Sanctus Dómi-nus De-us  
Sába-oth. Ple-ni sunt cæ-li et terra gló-ri-a  
tu-a. Ho-sánna in excélsis. Bene-díctus qui ve-nit  
in nómi-ne Dómi-ni. Ho-sánna in excél-sis.

## Eucharistic Prayer (II)

*The celebrant prays the Eucharistic Prayer. After the consecration, the celebrant sings:*


Ÿ. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death, ris - ing you re -  
stored our life. Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry.

*The celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.*

Ÿ. Through him, with him and in him  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father  
Forever and ever.



A - men, A - men, A - men.

## Gospel (Mt 11:2-11)

Ÿ. The Lord be with you.

Ṛ. And also with you.

Ÿ. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*The celebrant and the people mark a cross on their foreheads (mind), their lips (speech) and over their hearts, asking the Lord to open them to his Word.*

Ṛ. Glory to you Lord.

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.*

Amen, I say to you,  
among those born of women  
there has been none greater than John the Baptist;  
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

☩. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

℞. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

## Homily

## Preface and *Sanctus* (Advent I)



☩. The Lord be with you. ℞. And al - so with you. ☩. Lift up your hearts.



℞. We lift them up to the Lord. ☩. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



℞. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### *The celebrant recites or sings the Preface:*

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

When he humbled himself to come among us as a man,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago  
and opened for us the way to salvation.

Now we watch for the day,  
hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours  
when Christ our Lord will come again in his glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven  
we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### Offering of the Gifts

Ÿ. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**Ŕ. Blessed be God for ever.**

Ÿ. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

**Ŕ. Blessed be God for ever.**

### Prayer over the Gifts

Ÿ. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**Ŕ. 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 Church.**

Lord,  
may the gift we offer in faith and love  
be a continual sacrifice in your honor  
and truly become our eucharist and our salvation.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

**Ŕ. Amen.**

## Nicene Creed

XVII. s.

**C** Redo in unum De- um, Patrem omni-pot-éntem,  
factó-rem caeli et terrae, vi-si-bí-li- um ó-mni- um, et in-  
vi-si-bí- li- um. Et in unum Dómi-num Ie- sum Christum,  
Fí- li- um De- i u-ni-gé-ni-tum. Et ex Patre na- tum ante  
ó-mni- a saé- cu- la. De- um de De- o, lumen de lúmi- ne,  
De- um ve- rum de De- o ve- ro. Gé- ni- tum, non fa- ctum, con-  
substanti- á-lem Patri : per quem ó-mni- a fa- cta sunt. Qui  
propter nos hómi- nes, et propter nostram sa- lú- tem descén-  
dit de cae- lis. Et incarná- tus est de Spí- ri- tu Sancto ex  
Ma- rí- a Vírgi- ne : Et homo factus est. Cru- ci- fí- xus  
ét- i- am pro no- bis : sub Pónti- o Pi- lá- to passus, et se- púl-



tus est. Et re-surré-xit térti- a di- e, se-cúndum Scri-  
 ptú- ras. Et ascéndit in cae- lum: se-det ad déxte- ram Pa-  
 tris. Et í-te-rum ventú-rus est cum gló-ri- a, iu-di-cá-re  
 vi-vos et mórtu- os: cu-ius regni non e-rit fi-nis. Et in  
 Spí- ri- tum Sanctum, Dómi-num, et vi-vi- fi-cántem: qui ex  
 Patre Fi- li- óque pro- cé- dit. Qui cum Patre et Fi- li- o  
 simul ad-o- rá- tur, et conglo- ri- fi- cá- tur: qui lo- cú- tus est  
 per Prophé- tas. Et unam sanctam cathó- li- cam et a- po-  
 stó- li- cam Ecclé- si- am. Confi- te- or unum ba- ptis- ma  
 in remissi- ó- nem pec- ca- tó- rum. Et exspé- cto re- surre-  
 cti- ó- nem mortu- ó- rum. Et vi- tam ventú- ri saé- cu- li.  
 A- men.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father.  
 Through him all things were made.  
 For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
*All bow at these two lines*  
 by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.  
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
 he suffered, died, and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
 With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
 He has spoken through the Prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### General Intercessions

*The celebrant invites the congregation to pray and offers several prayer intentions. Each concludes, "We pray to the Lord."*



Ma - ra - na - tha! Come, O Christ the Lord.