

crees, for you are eternal.

First Reading

Isaiah 41:13-20: I, the Holy One of Israel, am your redeemer.

Response to the Psalm

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Gospel Acclamation

Come to us with your peace that we may rejoice in your presence with sincerity of heart.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:11-15: A greater than John the Baptist has never been seen.

Communion Antiphon

Let us live justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of the glory of our great God.

FRIDAY

Advent Weekday *or* Our Lady of Loreto

[OPTIONAL COMMEMORATION]

Entrance Antiphon

Behold, the Lord will come descending with splendour to visit his people with peace, and he will bestow on them eternal life.

First Reading

Isaiah 48:17-19: If only you had been alert to my commandments.

Response to the Psalm

Anyone who follows you, Lord, will have the light of life.

Gospel Acclamation

See, the king, the Lord of the world, will come. He will free us from the yoke of our bondage.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:16-19: They heed neither John nor the Son of Man.

Communion Antiphon

We await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our mortal bodies, to conform with his glorified body.

SATURDAY

Advent Weekday *or* Saint Damasus the First, Pope [OPTIONAL COMMEMORATION]

Saint Damasus I: born in Spain, he became Pope in 366 and encouraged devotion to the Roman martyrs, writing splendid verses to adorn their resting places. He died in 384.

Entrance Antiphon

Come and show us your face, O Lord, who are seated upon the Cherubim, and we will be saved.

First Reading

Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4.9-11: Elijah will come again.

Response to the Psalm

God of hosts, bring us back, let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

The day of the Lord is near; Look, he comes to save us!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 17:10-13: Elijah has come already and they did not recognise him.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, I am coming soon and my recompense is with me, says the Lord, to bestow a reward according to the deeds of each.

THE MARIAN ANTHEM (Alma Redemptoris Mater)

Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, assist your people who have fallen—yet strive to rise again. To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before. You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.



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WEEKDAY MASS SHEET

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

6th–11th December 2021



THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

'In the first part of Advent there are readings from Isaiah, distributed in accord with the sequence of the book itself and including salient texts that are also read on the Sundays.' (GIL 94) The Gospels are then chosen to show how Our Lord was the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecies: each day the Gospel narrative illustrates the fulfilment of the First Reading in Christ. 'From Thursday of the Second Week the readings of the gospel about John the Baptist begin. The first reading is either a continuation of Isaiah or a text chosen in view of the gospel.' (GIL 94)

OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS (December)

Catechists: Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

MONDAY

Advent Weekday *or* Saint Nicholas, Bishop [OPTIONAL COMMEMORATION]

Saint Nicholas: bishop of Myra, in what is now Turkey; he died in the fourth century - in Eastern Europe, "Saint Nicholas" distributes presents to children on this day, in remembrance of his charity and care as a bishop.

Entrance Antiphon

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Saviour will come, you need no longer fear.

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10: God himself is coming to save you.

Response to the Psalm

Look, our God is coming to save us.

Gospel Acclamation

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 5:17-26: We have seen strange things today.

Communion Antiphon

Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before you with a blameless heart.

TUESDAY

Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church [FEAST]

Saint Ambrose: born around 340, he was a surprising choice to be Bishop of Milan in 374; renowned for his charity and his eloquence, especially against the Arians, it is said that Saint Augustine returned to his faith after hearing Ambrose preach. A great writer of hymns for the liturgy, some of which survive to this day. He died in 397

Entrance Antiphon

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11: God consoles his people.

Response to the Psalm

Here is our God coming with power.

Gospel Acclamation

Come Lord! Do not delay. Forgive the sins of your people.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:12-14: God does not want the little ones to be lost.

Communion Antiphon

He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield fruit in due season.

WEDNESDAY

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY [SOLEMNITY]

Entrance Antiphon

I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bride adorned with her jewels.

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 3:9-15:20: I will make you enemies of each other; your offspring and her offspring.

Response to the Psalm

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-6.11-12: Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38: You are to conceive and bear a son.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary, for from you arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

THURSDAY

Advent Weekday *or* Saint Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin [OPTIONAL COMMEMORATION]

Saint Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin: The "seer" of Guadalupe, an Aztec who was granted a vision of the Virgin Mary in 1531, later building a church in her honour. He died in 1548 and was canonised in the Basilica of Guadalupe on May 6, 1990, by Pope Saint John Paul II during his second apostolic journey to Mexico.

Entrance Antiphon

You, O Lord, are close, and all your ways are truth. From of old I have known of your de-