

Mass at Home

First Sunday of ADVENT 2021

Year C

Link for this week's Mass is <https://youtu.be/LpKLMnaaizE>



Introduction

Welcome to St Paul Apostle Catholic Community on this the first Sunday of Advent. We invite you to turn off your mobiles please.

We may think of Advent as a time of light-hearted celebration as we get ready for Christmas, but today's liturgy invites us to stay awake, alert for the unknown moment when Jesus will call us to himself.

We are encouraged to stand firm and pray constantly for the strength we need to live in the now. We pray that our minds and our hearts will be open to the mystery.

Today, we are also encouraged to pray with the Religious of Australia, in solidarity with all victims of abuse, and acknowledge the harm done to victims and to our whole Church community.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH & LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE

Presider: We gather on this first week of Advent and focus on our Advent wreath. The wreath symbolizes the circle of life and the journey of waiting that begins today. We ask for the Lord's blessing upon this wreath as today we light the candle of Hope. May we be blessed in our waiting and open our hearts to receive the real message of this season of Advent.

All :

God of hope, as we prepare for Christmas, help us to take the time to open our hearts to others and to new opportunities. May we recognise the talents you have given each of us and seek the opportunity to be a light to others; offering a message of hope. Come Lord Jesus Come!

Opening Prayer:

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

First Reading

Jer 33:14-16

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

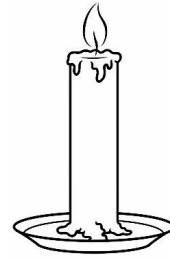
‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’
The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and will.
The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.



Second Reading *1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2*

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus The word of God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’
This is the Word of God

Homily



Prayers of intercession

Presider

My brothers and sister, as we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ, let us bring our needs and those of our world to God.

Reader:

We pray for the Pope and the bishops, that they may proclaim to the world the message of joy and hope that this Advent season brings. Lord hear us

We pray for the leaders of the nations: that they may work with honesty and integrity to bring peace and reconciliation in those parts of our world torn

apart by conflict and division. Lord hear us

For all victims of abuse, especially victims of church abuse. We pray for healing for the victims and transformation in our church.

We pray for all migrants and refugees; for those forced to leave their homes to escape violence, poverty and oppression: that they may find a welcome in the places to which they turn. Lord hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently, and all whom we remember at this time: that they may know the loving embrace of god. Lord hear us

Parish prayer

God, Creator and Life-giver we thank you for the gift of one another in our Parish of St Paul Apostle. Bless us and our families with the power of your Spirit.

Inspired and motivated by St Paul's courage and commitment to the person of Christ, may we continue to be open to change and challenge!

Make us passionate and courageous in our mission of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Presider:

God, in this Advent season we prepare ourselves to celebrate once more the coming of your Son into our lives; we ask you to hear the prayers we offer in the power of the Holy Spirit, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Anima Christi Prayer (Spiritual Communion)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me;

Blood of Christ, inebriate me;

Water from the side of Christ, wash me;

Passion of Christ, strengthen me;

O good Jesus hear me; Within your wounds hide me;

From all harm protect me;

At the hour of my death, call me;

And close to you bid me; So that with your saints,

I may praise you forever and ever. Amen

Prayer after Communion:

May these mysteries, O God, 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. Amen

CONCLUSION

May you know the Lord's presence in your live this week and throughout this Advent season, and may almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

