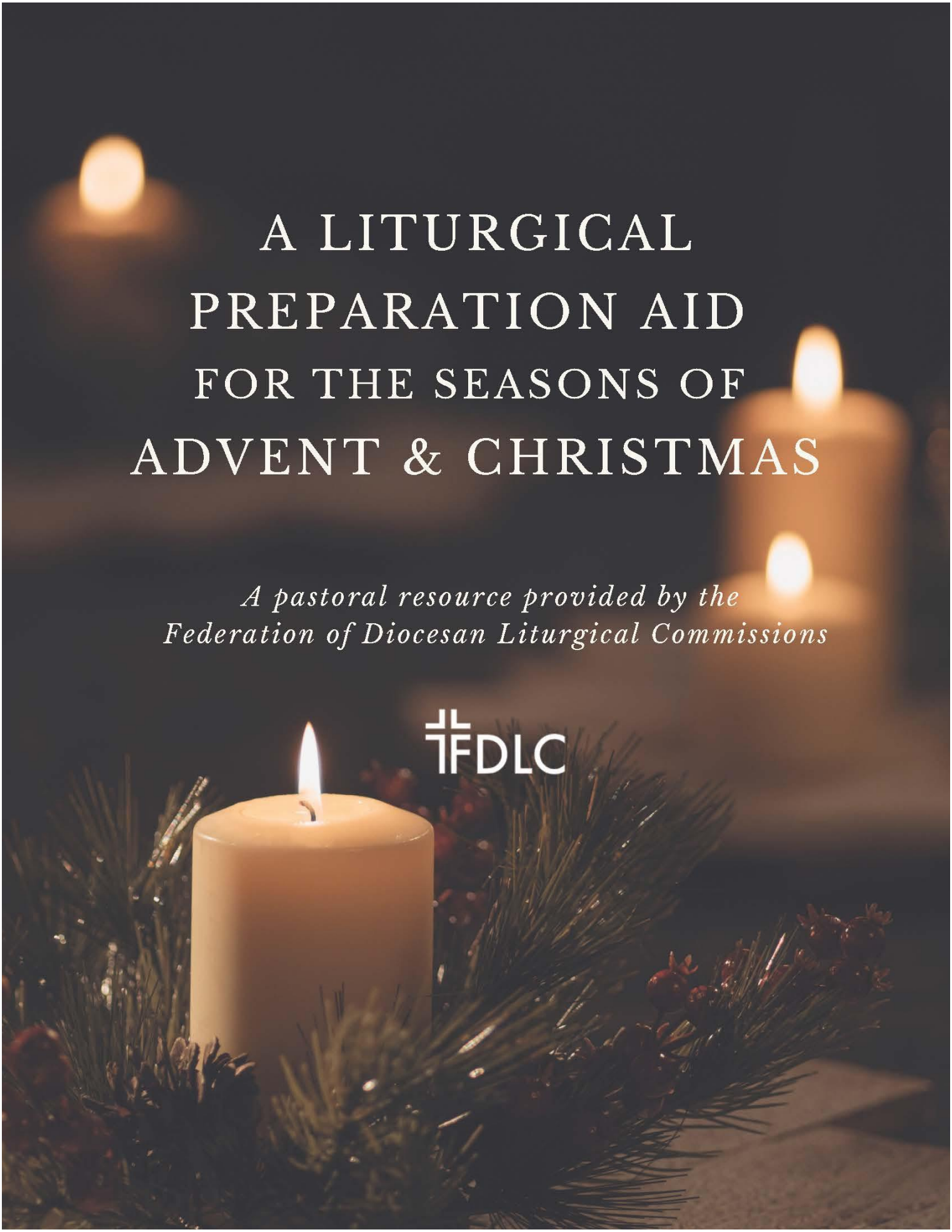
A LITURGICAL PREPARATION AID FOR THE SEASONS OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

A pastoral resource provided by the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions

FDLC



A LITURGY PREPARATION AID FOR THE SEASONS OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2021 - 2022 YEAR C

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For additional information about the seasons of Advent and Christmas, you are invited to view the recorded webinars offered earlier this year by the FDLC.

HISTORY & THEOLOGY OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR
https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/610836423

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/610835252

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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On the Human Family: Excerpts from *Fratelli Tutti*
Pope Francis
October 3, 2020

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In today's world, the sense of belonging to a single human family is fading, and the dream of working together for justice and peace seems an outdated utopia. What reigns instead is a cool, comfortable and globalized indifference, born of deep disillusionment concealed behind a deceptive illusion: thinking that we are all-powerful, while failing to realize that we are all in the same boat. …Isolation and withdrawal into one's own interests are never the way to restore hope and bring about renewal. Rather, it is closeness; it is the culture of encounter. Isolation, no; closeness, yes. Culture clash, no; culture of encounter, yes" *(Fratelli tutti*, 30).

Technology is constantly advancing, yet "how wonderful it would be if the growth of scientific and technological innovation could come with more equality and social inclusion. How wonderful would it be, even as we discover faraway planets, to rediscover the needs of the brothers and sisters who orbit around us" (31)

True, a worldwide tragedy like the Covid-19 pandemic momentarily revived the sense that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all. Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together. As I said in those days, "the storm has exposed our vulnerability and uncovered those false and superfluous certainties around which we constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities… Amid this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about appearances, has fallen away, revealing once more the ineluctable and blessed awareness that we are part of one another, that we are brothers and sisters of one another"(32).

… The pain, uncertainty and fear, and the realization of our own limitations, brought on by the pandemic have only made it all the more urgent that we rethink our styles of life, our relationships, the organization of our societies and, above all, the meaning of our existence (33).

If everything is connected, it is hard to imagine that this global disaster is unrelated to our way of approaching reality, our claim to be absolute masters of our own lives and of all that exists. I do not want to speak of divine retribution, nor would it be sufficient to say that the harm we do to nature is itself the punishment for our offences. The world is itself crying out in rebellion… (34).

All too quickly, however, we forget the lessons of history, "the teacher of life". Once this health crisis passes, our worst response would be to plunge even more deeply into feverish consumerism and new forms of egotistic self-preservation. God willing, after all this, we will think no longer in terms of "them" and "those", but only "us". If only this may prove not to be just another tragedy of history from which we learned nothing. If only we might keep in mind all those elderly persons who died for lack of respirators, partly as a result of the dismantling, year after year, of healthcare systems. If only this immense sorrow may not prove useless, but enable us to take a step forward towards a new style of life. If only we might rediscover once for all that we need one another, and that in this way our human family can experience a rebirth, with all its faces, all its hands and all its voices, beyond the walls that we have erected (35).

LORD, FORGIVE THE WRONG I HAVE DONE

A PENANCE SERVICE FOR ADVENT 2021

Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution

Introductory Rites

- **Opening Hymn**
- **Greeting**
- **Introduction**
- **Opening Prayer**

Celebration of the Word of God

- **First Reading**
- **Responsorial Psalm**
- **Second Reading**
- **Gospel Verse**
- **Gospel**
- **Homily**
- **Examination of Conscience**

Rite of Reconciliation

- **General Confession of Sin**
- **Litany of Repentance**
- **Lord's Prayer**
- **Concluding Prayer**
- **Individual Confessions of Sin and Absolution**
- **Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy**
- **Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Concluding Rite

- **Blessing**
- **Dismissal**
- **Closing Hymn**

PREPARATION

Hospitality Ministers should be recruited to welcome the assembly as they arrive and to distribute worship aids.

At least two readers should be appointed to proclaim the reading(s), to read the Examination of Conscience, and to lead the Litany of Repentance. They are to be seated in the assembly.

A musician and cantor(s) should lead the assembly in song. Instrumental music may be played during individual confession. (A list of music suggestions are included herein.)

A Bible or Lectionary should be readied with the appropriate readings.

Lighting may be subdued. Candle(s) should be lit at the ambo. The appropriate number of candles may be lit on the Advent Wreath.

Stations for confessors should be prepared. Priests might stand or sit in isolated areas around the main body of the church to receive penitents. In this way, the communal nature of the rite is maintained. Candles may light these stations.

For the sake of simplicity, the presider alone or the presider and preacher could participate in the procession. Other priests could be seated in the sanctuary or in a reserved area before the liturgy begins.

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 we already rejoice
at the mystery of his Nativity,
so that he might find us watchful in prayer
and exultant in his praise…

~ Preface II of Advent
The twofold expectation of Christ

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN *See suggestions herein*

GREETING

Presider: **Grace, mercy, and peace be with you**
from God the Father
and Christ Jesus our Savior.

All: **And with your spirit.**

INTRODUCTION

Presider: *In these or similar words…*

Brothers and sisters,

We are drawn here tonight [today] because we recognize that we are sinners. In our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have failed to do what God expects of us. We come to ask God's forgiveness.

We have sinned against God and against mankind. We rightly ask ourselves how our sins have impacted all our relationships -- with God, with those whom we love, with the entire human family, and with the earth, our common home.

So let us pause our busy lives. Let us hear God's holy word and encounter God in his sacrament of reconciliation.

And may we, his disciples, share his love and mercy with a world in need of it.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider: **My brothers and sisters,**
We look forward to celebrating the mystery
of Christ's coming on the feast of Christmas.
Let us pray that when he comes again,
he may find us awake and ready to receive him.

Silent prayer

Almighty and merciful God,
you have brought us together in the name of your Son
to receive your mercy and grace in our time of need.
Open our eyes to see the evil we have done.
Touch our hearts and convert us to yourself.
Where sin has divided and scattered,
may your love make us one again;
where sin has brought weakness,
may your power heal and strengthen;
where sin has brought death,
may your Spirit raise us to new life.

Give us a heart to love you,
so that our lives may reflect the image of your Son.
May the world see the glory of Christ
revealed in your Church,
and come to know that he is the One whom you have sent,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Stir up your power, O Lord,
and come to our help with mighty strength,
that what our sins may impede
the grace of your mercy may hasten.
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. Amen.

Collect
Thursday of the First Week of Advent

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

The following are suggested readings. Alternative readings may be selected. The preacher may wish to use one, two, or three readings. If only one is chosen, it is preferable that it be the gospel.

The readings are printed elsewhere in this booklet, for ease of rehearsal. A Lectionary or Bible should be used during the liturgy.

FIRST READING	**Joel 2:12-18** ***For gracious and merciful is he,*** ***slow to anger and rich in kindness***
RESPONSORIAL PSALM	**Psalm 32:1-2, 5. 7. 11** ***Lord, forgive the wrong I have done***
SECOND READING	**Romans 12:1-2, 9-18** ***Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction***
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	**Verse: Come, O Lord, do not delay:** **forgive the sins of your people.**
GOSPEL	**Luke 7:36-50** ***Her many sins have been forgiven;*** ***hence she has shown great love***

HOMILY

AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE IN LIGHT OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

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The assembly is now invited to make an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence or by using the examination below. Two readers might alternate. Allow a brief period of silence between each question or phrase.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

- Do I respect the life and dignity of every human person from conception through natural death?
- Do I recognize the face of Christ reflected in all others around me whatever their race, class, age, or abilities?
- Do I work to protect the dignity of others when it is being threatened?
- Am I committed to both protecting human life and to ensuring that every human being is able to live in dignity?

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

- Do I try to make positive contributions in my family and in my community?
- Are my beliefs, attitudes, and choices such that they strengthen or undermine the institution of the family?
- Am I aware of problems facing my local community and involved in efforts to find solutions? Do I stay informed and make my voice heard when needed?
- Do I support the efforts of poor persons to work for change in their neighborhoods and communities? Do my attitudes and interactions empower or disempower others?

Rights and Responsibilities

- Do I recognize and respect the economic, social, political, and cultural rights of others?
- Do I live in material comfort and excess while remaining insensitive to the needs of others whose rights are unfulfilled?
- Do I take seriously my responsibility to ensure that the rights of persons in need are realized?
- Do I urge those in power to implement programs and policies that give priority to the human dignity and rights of all, especially the vulnerable?

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

- Do I give special attention to the needs of the poor and vulnerable in my community and in the world?
- Am I disproportionately concerned for my own good at the expense of others?
- Do I engage in service and advocacy work that protects the dignity of poor and vulnerable persons?

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

- As a worker, do I give my employer a fair day's work for my wages? As an owner, do I treat workers fairly?
- Do I treat all workers with whom I interact with respect, no matter their position or class?

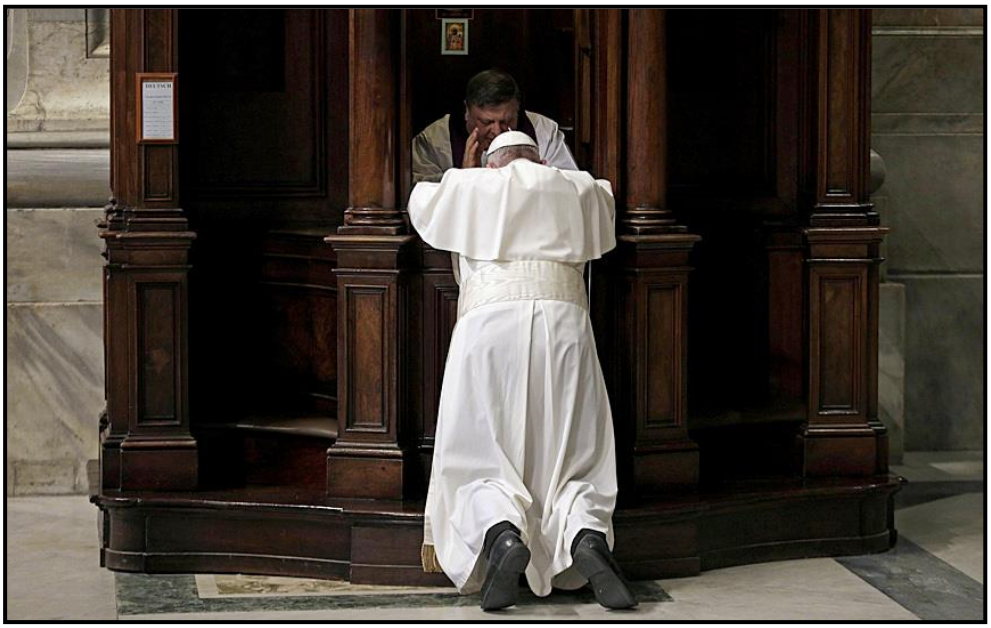
- Do I support the rights of all workers to adequate wages, health insurance, vacation and sick leave? Do I affirm their right to form or join unions or worker associations?
- Do my purchases take into account the hands involved in the production of what I buy? When possible, do I buy products produced by workers whose rights and dignity were respected?

Solidarity

- Does the way I spend my time reflect a genuine concern for others?
- Is solidarity incorporated into my prayer and spirituality?
- Do I lift up vulnerable people throughout the world in my prayer, or is it reserved for only my personal concerns?
- Am I attentive only to my local neighbors or also those across the globe?
- Do I see all members of the human family as my brothers and sisters?

Care for God's Creation

- Do I live out my responsibility to care for God's creation?
- Do I see my care for creation as connected to my concern for poor persons, who are most at risk from environmental problems?
- Do I litter? Live wastefully? Use energy too freely? Are there ways I could reduce consumption in my life?
- Are there ways I could change my daily practices and those of my family, school, workplace, or community to better conserve the earth's resources for future generations?



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RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

Presider: **God who is infinitely merciful**
pardons all who are repentant
and takes away their guilt.
Confident in his goodness,
let us ask him to forgive all our sins
as we confess them with sincerity of heart.

All: **I confess to almighty God**
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider: **Let us turn to Christ with confidence and ask his mercy.**

Minister: **You came into the world to seek and save what was lost.**
All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: **You came to give us life, life in its fullness.**
All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: **You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.**
All: Lord, have mercy**.**

Minister: **Once and for all you died for our sins,**
the innocent one for the guilty.
All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: **In your mercy free us from the past**
and enable us to begin a new life of holiness.
All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: **Make us a living sign of love for all to see:**
people reconciled with you and with each other.
All: Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: **Now, in obedience to Christ himself,**
let us join in prayer to the Father,
asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.

All: **Our Father, ...**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Presider: **Almighty and eternal God**
you sent your only-begotten Son
to reconcile the world to yourself.
Lift from our hearts the oppressive gloom of sin,
so that we may celebrate the approaching
dawn of Christ's birth with fitting joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The presider or other minister might tell the assembly where the confessors will be located. Some brief words regarding the manner of confession should be given. The people may be encouraged to accept one of the penances which are found in the worship aid or the confessors may give a penance suited to the individual. The assembly may be advised to remain in church if there is to be a common ending. Quiet instrumental music might be played during this time.

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

Confessor: **God, the Father of mercies,**
through the death and resurrection of his Son
has reconciled the world to himself
and sent the Holy Spirit among us
for the forgiveness of sins;
through the ministry of the Church
may God give you pardon and peace,
and I absolve you from your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠
and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD'S MERCY **Psalm 136:1-9, 16, 24-26**

Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the LORD of lords,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who alone does great wonders,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who made the heavens in wisdom,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who spread out the earth upon the waters,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who made the great lights.
for his mercy endures forever;
The sun to rule over the day,
for his mercy endures forever;
The moon and the stars to rule over the night,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who led his people through the wilderness,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who freed us from our foes,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who gives food to all flesh,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his mercy endures forever;

Another psalm, hymn, or litany may be prayed in acknowledgment of God's power and compassion. See the enclosed music suggestions or use one of the scripture citations below.

Psalm 28: 6-7

Psalm 32: 1-7, 10-11

Psalm 54

Psalm 66

Psalm 95

Psalm 98: 1-9

Psalm 100: 1-5

Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-18

Psalm 119: 1, 10-16, 18, 33, 105, 169-170, 174-175

Psalm 145: 1-21

Psalm 146: 2-10

Isaiah 12: 1b-6

Isaiah 61: 10-11

Jeremiah 31: 10-14

Daniel 3:52-57

Luke 1:46-55

Ephesians 1:3-10

Revelation 15: 3-4

CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Presider: **Lord God,**
Creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,
in your great love for this world
you gave up your only Son for our salvation.
His cross has redeemed us,
his death has given us life,
his resurrection has raised us to glory.
Through him we ask you
to be always present among your family.
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;
fill our hearts with faith,
our days with good works,
our lives with your love.
May your truth be on our lips
and your wisdom in all our actions,
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITE

BLESSING

Presider: **May the Father bless us**
for we are his children, born to eternal life.
All: **Amen.**

Presider: **May the Son show us his saving power,**
for he died and rose for us.
All: **Amen.**

Presider: **May the Spirit give us his gift of holiness**
and lead us by the right path, for he dwells in our hearts.
All: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: **The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.**
All: **Thanks be to God.**

READINGS

FIRST READING Joel 2:12-18

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel

Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with your whole heart,
with fasting, weeping, and mourning.
Rend your hearts, not your garments,
and return to the LORD, your God,
For he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, rich in kindness,
and relenting in punishment.
Perhaps he will again relent
and leave behind a blessing,
Offerings and libation
for the LORD, your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion!
proclaim a fast,
call an assembly!
Gather the people,
notify the congregation;
Assemble the elders;
gather the children,
and the infants at the breast;
Let the bridegroom quit his room,
and the bride her chamber.
Between the porch and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep,
And say, "Spare, O LORD, your people,
and make not your heritage a reproach,
with the nations ruling over them!
Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?' "

Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land
and took pity on his people

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 32:1-2, 5. 7, 11

R. (cf. 5c) **Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.**

Blessed is the one whose fault is taken away,
whose sin is covered.
Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt,
in whose spirit there is no guile.

R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

I acknowledged my sin to you,
my guilt I covered not.
I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD,"
and you took away the guilt of my sin.

R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

You are my shelter; from distress you will preserve me;
with glad cries of freedom you will ring me round.

R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just;
exult, all you upright of heart.

R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

SECOND READING Romans 12:1-2, 9-18

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God,
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.
Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere;
hate what is evil,
hold on to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
anticipate one another in showing honor.
Do not grow slack in zeal,
be fervent in spirit,
serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope,
endure in affliction,
persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones,
exercise hospitality.
Bless those who persecute you,
bless and do not curse them.
Rejoice with those who rejoice,
weep with those who weep.
Have the same regard for one another;
do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;
do not be wise in your own estimation.
Do not repay anyone evil for evil;
be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.
If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.
Beloved, do not look for revenge
but leave room for the wrath;
for it is written,
Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia
Come, O Lord, do not delay:
forgive the sins of your people.
Alleluia, alleluia

GOSPEL Luke 7:36-50

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A Pharisee invited Jesus to dine with him,
and he entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table.
Now there was a sinful woman in the city
who learned that he was at table in the house of the Pharisee.
Bringing an alabaster flask of ointment,
she stood behind him at his feet weeping
and began to bathe his feet with her tears.
Then she wiped them with her hair,
kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment.
When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this he said to himself,
"If this man were a prophet,
he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him,
that she is a sinner."
Jesus said to him in reply,
"Simon, I have something to say to you."
"Tell me, teacher," he said.
"Two people were in debt to a certain creditor;
one owed five hundred day's wages and the other owed fifty.
Since they were unable to repay the debt, he forgave it for both.
Which of them will love him more?"
Simon said in reply,
"The one, I suppose, whose larger debt was forgiven."
He said to him, "You have judged rightly."

Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon,
"Do you see this woman?
When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet,
but she has bathed them with her tears
and wiped them with her hair.
You did not give me a kiss,
but she has not ceased kissing my feet since the time I entered.
You did not anoint my head with oil,
but she anointed my feet with ointment.
So I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven
because she has shown great love.
But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."
He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."
The others at table said to themselves,
"Who is this who even forgives sins?"
But he said to the woman,
"Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

The Gospel of the Lord.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: ALTERNATIVE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 25:6-10a	The Lord will save us.
Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10	God himself will come to save us.
Isaiah 40:1-11	God consoles his people
Isaiah 45: 6c-8, 18, 21c-25	Let the clouds rain down
Isaiah 54: 1-10	The Lord calls you back.
Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7	O, that you would rend the heavens and come down
Jeremiah 7:21-26	Listen to my voice...I will be your God and you will be my people
Jeremiah 23:5-8	I will raise up a righteous shoot to David...
Hosea 2:16-25	I will make a covenant for you that day
Zephaniah 3:14-18a	The Lord has removed judgment against you…the Lord is in your midst

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25	Teach me your ways, O Lord
Psalm 36:2-13	How precious is your unfailing love, O Lord.
Psalm 51: 3-21	Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17	Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19	Lord, make us turn to you and we shall be saved
Psalm 85: 9ab,10, 11-12, 13-14	Our God will come and save us.
Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5	The Lord is loving and kind: his mercy endures forever.
Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8, 10	The Lord is kind and merciful
Psalm 130: 1-8	With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption
Psalm 145:1and9, 10-11, 12-13	The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and of great kindness
Psalm 147:1-6	Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 3: 22-26	Justified by the gift of God, Christ Jesus
Romans 6:2-14	You must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God
1 Corinthians 1:3-9	God is faithful
2 Corinthians 5:17-21	God reconciled the world to himself through Christ
Ephesians 1: 3-14	The Father's plan of salvation
Ephesians 2:1-10	But God who is rich in mercy…brought us to life with Christ
Ephesians 4: 22-32	Forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ
Philippians 1:4-11	Show yourself pure and blameless for the day of Christ
Philippians 4: 6-9	Have no anxiety at all
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2	May the Lord strengthen your hearts for the coming of the Lord Jesus.
James 5:7-10	Make your hearts firm, the coming of the Lord is at hand
1 Peter 1: 13-23	You have been redeemed...by the precious blood of Christ
1 Peter 1: 14-21	You were ransomed from your futile conduct
1 John 1:5 –2:2	If we acknowledge our sins he is faithful and just

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-6 (or 3:1-12)	Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand.
Matthew 9:1-8	Have confidence, my son, your sins are forgiven.
Matthew 18:12-14	The shepherd seeks one lost sheep
Matthew 21:28-32	Man had two sons… John came and sinners believed in him
Luke 19: 1-10	The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost
John 1:29-34	Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
John 5:33-36	I have testimony greater than John's
John 15: 9-14	You will live in my love, if you keep my commandments

SAMPLE PENANCES

Choose one of the following penances as a way of accepting God's mercy.

- **During the next week, spend an hour in prayer for those who are the victims of abuse or neglect. Read Matthew 25:31-46.**
- **As a family, prepare a basket of food or toiletries and give it to a family in need.**
- **Skip a meal at your favorite restaurant. Use the money to purchase a Christmas gift for a person served by a parish organization or local charity.**
- **Identify a person whom you have offended since your last confession and pray for them each day for a week.**
- **Think of someone you have been especially uncharitable towards and send a Christmas card with a note of kindness attached to it.**
- **Work at a soup kitchen or food pantry during Advent for a couple of hours.**
- **Reflect on the Beatitudes.....find someone who meets one of those needs, such as one who mourns, and send them a note or visit them during Advent.**
- **Speak a word of affirmation to each member of your household this week. Make an effort to lift a burden from one of your friends or family members.**
- **Offer to share something you have - or something you're doing - with someone who would appreciate it.**
- **Make time for prayer (ten minutes or so) and ask God if there is something He would like to say to you... and LISTEN.**
- **Call or write a note to someone who may be lonely or in need of "comfort and joy".**
- **Gather your family members for a reading of the "Christmas Story" from the Gospel of Matthew or Luke. Discuss what it means to them and to you.**
- **Include a weekday Mass in your plans during Advent.**
- **Every morning until Christmas, say a Hail Mary for peace.**
- **Reach out to a lonely person at school. Invite him or her to sit with you and your friends.**
- **Prayerfully pray Psalm 51.**
- **For one whole week, do the dishes or set the table without being asked.**
- **Give up some leisure time to shovel an elderly neighbor's driveway.**

MUSIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE 2021

HYMNS

A Voice Cries Out	Michael Joncas	OCP
All You Who Are Thirsty	Michael Connelly	RS644
Amazing Grace	John Newton	various
Christians, Let Us Love One Another	Foltz/Nigro	OCP
Clear the Voice	Hagan/Walker	OCP
Come to the Water	Grayson Brown	OCP
Come to Us, Emmanuel	Light/Tate	GIA
Come, Emmanuel	Light/Tate	WLP
Come, O Long Expected Jesus	Wesley/Witt	various
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come	Henry Alford	various
Comfort, Comfort, O My People	Olearius/Goudimel	various
Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing	Jones. Dudley-Smith	Hope
Find Us Ready	Tom Booth	GIA
Gift of God	Marty Haugen	GIA
God's Holy Mountain We Ascend	Omar Westendorf	WLP
Help Me, Lord	Jerry Galipeau	WLP
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	Kathleen Thomerson	various
I Will Be Your God	Gerard Chiusano	OCP
Lead Us to Your Light	Carol Browning	GIA
Let Desert Wasteland Now Rejoice	Delores Duffer	GIA
Let Justice Roll Like a River	Marty Haugen	GIA
Lift Up the Trumpet	Eurydice Osterman	GIA
Maranatha, Come	Francis P. O'Brien	GIA
My Soul in Stillness Waits	Marty Haugen	GIA
O Beauty, Ever Ancient	Roc O'Connor	OCP
On Jordan's Bank	Coffin/Wittwe	OCP, various
Our Darkness	Taize	GIA
Our Father, We Have Wandered	Kevin Nichols/ICEL	OCP
Patience, People	John Foley	OCP
Praise the Lord, My Soul	Tom Parker	GIA
Ready the Way	Bob Hurd	OCP
Seek the Lord	Roc O'Connor	various
Sion, Sing	Lucien Deiss	WLP
The Advent of Our God	Coffin/Mercer	WLP
The King of Love My Shepherd Is	Henry W. Baker	various
The Master Came to Bring Good News	Ralph Finn	GIA; various
The Reign of God	Delores Dufner	GIA
The Trumpet in the Morning	Rory Cooney	GIA
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	Frederick Faber	various
This is My Will	Henry James	GIA; various
Though the Mountains May Fall	Dan Schutte	OCP
Treasures Out of Darkness/*Tesoros Ocultos*	Alan Revering	WLP
Tree of Life	Aaron Thompson	WLP
Turn to Me	John Foley	OCP

Wait on the Lord	Willis Barnett	GIA
Wait While the Seed is Planted	Delores Dufner	GIA
Walk in the Reign	Rory Cooney	GIA
We Are God's Work of Art	Marty Haugen	GIA
When Jesus Passed Through Jericho	Herman Stuempfle	GIA, various
When John Baptized by Jordan's River	Timothy Dudley-Smith	OCP, various
When the King Shall Come Again	Christopher Idle	GIA, various
Where Charity and Love Prevail	Benoit	various
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice	Carl P. Daw	Hope, GIA

OTHER SPANISH-LANGUAGE HYMNS

Abranse los Cielos	*tradicional*	OCP, various
Amanecerá el Señor	Mariano Fuertes	San Pablo, OCP
Oh Ven, Oh Ven, Emmanuel	tr. Johnson/Martinez	OCP
Preparen el Camino	Carlos Rosas	OCP
Tiempo de Esperanza	Emilio Vicente Matéu	OCP
Toda la Tierra	Rogelio Zelada/Rodriguez	OCP

LITANIES

Gather Us in Mercy, Lord	Huck/trad chant	GIA
Gift of God	Marty Haugen	GIA
Litany of the Word	Bernadette Farrell	OCP
Letania de Adviento	Jaime Cortez	OCP

PROCLAMATIONS OF PRAISE

Cry Out with Joy and Gladness	Paul Tate	WLP, 007381
Cry Out with Joy and Gladness	Rudy Borkowski	WLP, 006272
I Turn to You	Joe Mattingly	WLP, 003679
I Turn to You, Lord	Craig and Kristen Colson	OCP, 20267 Z2
I Turn to You, O Lord	Jeremy Young	GIA, G-2896
Isaiah 12	Robert Batastini	GIA, G-2443
Let Us Sing to the Lord/ *Cantemos al Señor*	Alonso/Mahler	GIA, G-6129
Psalm 32	Isele, Westminster	*Psalms & Canticles for Singing*
Those Who Seek Your Face	Christopher Walker	OCP, 7150

A LITURGICAL CALENDAR ADVISORY FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

DAY	DATE	LITURGICAL DAY	RANK	COMMENTS
Sunday	Nov 28	First Sunday of Advent – Year C	2	Lect #3, Preface I of Advent [Blessing of Wreath BB Ch. 47]
Monday	Nov 29	Monday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #175
Tuesday	Nov 30	Saint Andrew, Apostle	7	Lect #684
Wednesday	Dec 1	Wednesday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #177
Thursday	Dec 2	Thursday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #178
Friday	Dec 3	Saint Francis Xavier, Priest	10	Lect #685
Saturday	Dec 4	Saturday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #180
Sunday	Dec 5	Second Sunday of Advent	2	Lect #6
Monday	Dec 6	Monday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect #181
Tuesday	Dec 7	Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #688
Wednesday	Dec 8	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM *Patronal feast of the United States of America*	3	Lect #689; holy day of obligation, Funeral Mass not permitted
Thursday	Dec 9	Thursday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect #184
Friday	Dec 10	Friday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect #185
Saturday	Dec 11	Saturday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect # 186
Sunday	Dec 12	Third Sunday of Advent	2	Lect #9
Monday	Dec 13	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	10	Lect # 692
Tuesday	Dec 14	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #693
Wednesday	Dec 15	Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent	13	Lect #189
Thursday	Dec 16	Thursday of the Third Week of Advent	2	Lect #9
Friday	Dec 17	Friday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #193 Preface II of Advent *O Antiphons begin*
Saturday	Dec 18	Saturday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #194
Sunday	Dec 19	Fourth Sunday of Advent	2	Lect #12
Monday	Dec 20	Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #196
Tuesday	Dec 21	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect # 197
Wednesday	Dec 22	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #198
Thursday	Dec 23	Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #199
Friday	Dec 24	Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent (Morning)	9	Lect #200

*Cf. *General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, no. 59

ADVENT

A LITURGICAL YEAR CALENDAR ADVISORY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Friday/ Saturday	Dec 24/ Dec 25	The Nativity of the Lord/ Christmas	2	Holy day of obligation Funeral Mass not permitted Genuflect at "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man." Preface I, II or III of Christmas Vigil: Lect #13 Midnight: Lect #14 Dawn: Lect #15 Day: Lect #16
Sunday	Dec 26	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph	5	Lect #17 Preface I-III of Christmas
Monday	Dec 27	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist	7	Lect #697
Tuesday	Dec 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	7	Lect #698
Wednesday	Dec 29	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	9	Lect #202
Thursday	Dec 30	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	9	Lect #203
Friday	Dec 31	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	9	Lect #204
Saturday	Jan 1, 2022	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord	3	Lect #18; Not a holy day of obligation this year
Sunday	Jan 2	The Epiphany of the Lord	2	Lect #20
Monday	Jan 3	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #212
Tuesday	Jan 4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious (USA)	10	Lect #510A
Wednesday	Jan 5	Saint John Neumann, Bishop (USA)	10	Lect #510B
Thursday	Jan 6	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #215
Friday	Jan 7	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #216
Saturday	Jan 8	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #217
Sunday	Jan 9	The Baptism of the Lord	5	Lect #21 C, Proper Preface

LECTIONARY FOR MASS – YEAR C

First Sunday of Advent (November 28, 2021) **Lectionary #3**

First Reading	Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm	Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2
Gospel	Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Second Sunday of Advent (December 5, 2021) **Lectionary #6**

First Reading	Baruch 5:1-9
Psalm	Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)
Second Reading	Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel	Luke 3:1-6

Solemnity: The Immaculate Conception of the BVM (Wednesday, December 8, 2021) **Lectionary #689**

First Reading	Genesis 3: 9-15, 20
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4 (1a)
Second Reading	Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12
Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38

Third Sunday of Advent (December 12, 2021) **Lectionary #9**

First Reading	Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Responsorial Psalm	Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)
Second Reading	Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel	Luke 3:10-18

Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 19, 2021) **Lectionary #12**

First Reading	Micah 5:1-4a
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)
Second Reading	Hebrews 10:5-10
Gospel	Luke 1:39-45

The Nativity of the Lord – At the Vigil Mass **Lectionary #13, ABC**

First Reading	Isaiah 62:1-5
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 89: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)
Second Reading	Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25
Gospel	Matthew 1: 1-25 [or 1: 18-25]

The Nativity of the Lord - Mass at Midnight **Lectionary #14, ABC**

First Reading	Isaiah 9: 1-6
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Luke 2:11)
Second Reading	Titus 2: 11-14
Gospel	Luke 2: 1-14

The Nativity of the Lord – Mass at Dawn **Lectionary #15, ABC**

First Reading	Isaiah 62: 11-12
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 97: 1, 6, 11-12
Second Reading	Titus 3: 4-7
Gospel	Luke 2: 15-20

The Nativity of the Lord – Mass During the Day **Lectionary #16 ABC**

First Reading	Isaiah 52: 7-10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)
Second Reading	Hebrews 1: 1-6
Gospel	John 1: 1-18 [or John 1: 1-5, 9-14]

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (December 26, 2021) **Lectionary # 17C**

First Reading	1 Samuel 1:30-22, 24-28 *or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (cf. 5a) *or Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5*
Second Reading	1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 *or Colossians 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17*
Gospel	Luke 2:41-52

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Saturday, January 1, 2022) **Lectionary #18, ABC**
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord

First Reading	Numbers 6: 22-27
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)
Second Reading	Galatians 4: 4-7
Gospel	Luke 2: 16-21

The Epiphany of the Lord (January 2, 2022) **Lectionary #20 ABC**

First Reading	Isaiah 60: 1-6
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Second Reading	Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6
Gospel	Matthew 2: 1-12

The Baptism of the Lord (January 9, 2022) **Lectionary #21 C**

First Reading	Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 *or Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7*
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1) *or Ps 29:1-2,3-4, 3, 9-10*
Second Reading	Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 *or Acts 10:34-38*
Gospel	Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

"The announcement of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord from the *Roman Martyrology* draws upon Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Christ. It begins with creation and relates the birth of the Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history. The particular events contained in this announcement help pastorally to situate the birth of Jesus in the context of salvation history" (The Roman Missal, Appendix I).

"This text, *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,* may be chanted or recited, most appropriately on December 24, during the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours [following the introductory verse and preceding the hymn]. It may also be chanted or recited before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night. It may not replace any part of the Mass" (*ibid*.).

It may be sung or recited at the ambo by a deacon, cantor, or reader. -- RT

After the greeting, the presider may introduce the Mass and the proclamation in these or similar words:

Presider: **Throughout the season of Advent,**
the Church reflected on God's promises,
so often spoken by the prophets,
to send a Savior to the people of Israel who would be Emmanuel,
that is, God with us.
In the fullness of time, those promises were fulfilled.
With hearts full of joy,
let us listen to the proclamation of our Savior's birth.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
(THE CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION)

From the Roman Martyrology - see Roman Missal, third edition (page 1450-1452, USCCB edition)

This proclamation is chanted or recited on December 24 during the Liturgy of the Hours or before the beginning of Midnight Mass. It may not replace any part of the Mass. The underlines are provided here to assist the minister who will chant it.

The Twenty-fifth Day of December,
when ages beyond number had run their course
from the creation of the world,
when God in the beginning created heaven and earth,

and formed man in his own likeness;
when century upon century had passed
since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood,
as a sign of covenant and peace;

in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith,
came out of the Ur of the Chaldees;
in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led
by Moses
in the Exodus from Egypt;

around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;
in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad
in the year seven hundred and fifty-two
since the foundation of the City of Rome;
in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,
the world being at peace,

JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,
desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence,
was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and when nine months had passed since his conception,
was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

to be sung on the Solemnity of the Epiphany
After the singing of the Gospel, the deacon or cantor may chant the following.
For chant notation, please see *The Roman Missal*, Appendix, page 1448-1449 (USCCB edition).

Know, dear brethren, (brothers and sisters),
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,
who is our Savior.

On the second day of March
will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the seventeenth day of April
you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the twenty-ninth day of May (twenty-sixth day of May),
will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ,

On the fifth day of June,
the feast of Pentecost.

On the nineteenth day of June,
the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the twenty-seventh day of November,
the First Sunday of Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions was founded in 1969 by the then Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in order to assist with the implementation of the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* and the revised liturgical books. Our mission remains the same. The members of our Federation continue to serve bishops, clergy, and parish liturgists in our roles as directors of Offices of Worship and members of diocesan liturgical commissions.

We hope this free resource will be of benefit to you and to your parish. Other publications -- including books, pamphlets, and downloadable bulletin inserts -- are available at www.fdlc.org.

We also provide opportunities for liturgical formation. In recent months, these have included free online webinars on the Liturgical Books and on the Liturgical Year. In 2022, we will offer a variety of formation opportunities on the newly-translated *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

Associate Members are entitled to online resources, discounts on publications, and discounts to national meetings. For more information on Associate Membership, please visit www.fdlc.org/membership.

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