

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

GREETING

In the name of the Father Amen.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us
to one another and to the Father:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin
and division:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with
your Father:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us....
Amen.

*(The Gloria is omitted awaiting its
Christmas Proclamation.)*

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.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD**FIRST READING Jeremiah 33:14-16**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

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.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 24:4-5. 8-9,10,14

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

1. 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. [R]
2. 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. [R]

3. 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. [R]

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2.

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

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 the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Luke 21:25-28.34-36**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

All bow for following three lines:

and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and
was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with 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.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father
and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray brothers and sisters,.....

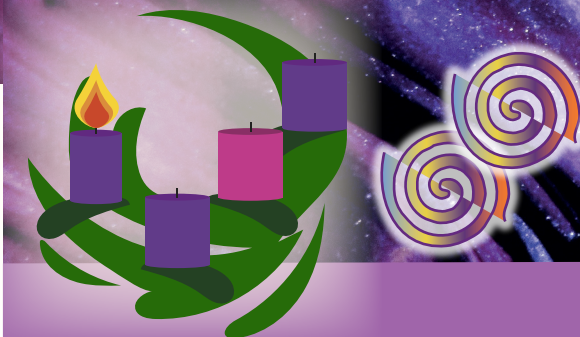
**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your
hands for the praise and glory of his
name, for our good and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings
we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate
devoutly here below
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

**SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you
come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our
earth shall yield its increase.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,
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.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The circle of evergreen leaves
stands for God
who is without beginning
and without end.
The purple ribbon
and three purple candles
stand for penance and sorrow for sin.
The red candle stands for joy of living in
God's way of love.
Today the first purple candle is lit as we
begin our preparations for the coming of
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

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.
Amen.

Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1st December 2024

Advent calls on us, as we await the birth of Jesus
to be a light for all who hunger for justice, peace and truth.



Stay awake



As we take our first steps into Advent, the message is to stay
awake! In today's Gospel we meet Jesus towards the end of his
ministry, instructing the disciples to be aware of the signs of the
times and to stay 'alert'. It is a message designed to keep his
followers on their toes.

It can be easy for us to fall into a comfortable rut, not really engaging with the
wider world. And when we do look up, we notice "the worries of this life": in the
natural world, in troubled countries, in our church, even our own families. But what
would happen if we were to truly wake up? We can think of many people who are
awake to the problems in society. One person who embodies this spirit is climate
activist Greta Thunberg. Her 'School Strike for Climate' began in 2018 with her
sitting alone outside the Swedish Parliament, and has grown into a worldwide
movement of young people calling for action to address climate change. People
like this are 'awake' to the world around them – their eyes are open, they see
the injustices and they have acted. They are forging a brighter future. Countless
others are reaching out, speaking against injustice, working to heal wounds in the
natural world, in communities and families. We can't afford to sleepwalk through
life when the Gospel challenges us to be bearers of hope and good news. This
Advent, we are called to be awake. As we begin this journey, think of a time when
you felt truly 'awake' to events around you. Can you become more awake to the
Gospel alive and active in the world?

Awakening to the realities of the world or even of our own lives can be a painful
experience. As Greta says, hope is found in action, in small steps. What small
step can you take this week?

Jane Mellett

*Extract from The Deep End – A Journey through the Sunday Gospels in the Year of Luke by Triona
Doherty & Jane Mellett, Messenger Publications, Dublin 2021.*

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey

A shop owner dreamt that Jesus was coming to his shop next day. The man got
up very early to get everything ready. The first customer was a travelling woman
looking for help for her children; next a man in bad humour complaining about
everything; last, teenagers who came to look at things. The shopkeeper was
disappointed. That night in a dream Jesus came back and said 'I came to your
shop three times today. I was hidden in the travelling woman, the cranky man
and teenagers'.

