



November 27th

First Sunday of Advent

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray: All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

(Prophet Jeremiah reminds his fellow-countrymen that God will still be faithful to His promise even though they have been unfaithful to Him. He assures them that God will send the Promised One, the Messiah.)

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah (33:14-16)

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring forth for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness’.”

This is the Word of the Lord

PSALM (24)

Response: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

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./

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./

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

(St Paul prays that the Lord may deepen the love the Thessalonians have for one another, and thus prepares them for the Second Coming of Christ.)

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians (3:12–4:2)

Brethren, may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all men, as we do to you; so that he may establish your hearts unblamable in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Finally, brethren, we beseech and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God, just as you are doing, you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord

ACCLAMATION (Ps 84:8)

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

GOSPEL

(St Luke gives here our Lord's prophecy concerning the end of the world and how we should prepare ourselves to meet it. The disciples are urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke (21:25-28,34-36)

Jesus said to his disciples: "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." "But take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare; for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth. But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

This is the Gospel of the Lord