

### December 5, 2021: The 2nd Sunday of Advent

# First Reading Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery;

put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name.

For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship.

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you

but God will bring them back to you
borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones.

For God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made low,
and that the age-old depths and gorges
be filled to level ground,
that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God.

The forests and every fragrant kind of tree
have overshadowed Israel at God's command;
for God is leading Israel in joy
by the light of his glory,
with his mercy and justice for company.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

R. (3) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad indeed.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown,
They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.



# December 5, 2021: The 2nd Sunday of Advent (continued)

# Second Reading Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters:

I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now.

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.

God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

And this is my prayer:

that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value.

so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert.

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.

The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."



# December 8, 2020: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### **First Reading**

#### Genesis 3:9-15, 20

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree, the LORD God called to the man and asked him, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard You in the garden; but I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself."

Then He asked, "Who told you that you were naked?

You have eaten, then, from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!"

The man replied, "The woman whom You put here with me she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it."

The LORD God then asked the woman, "Why did you do such a thing?"

The woman answered, "The serpent tricked me into it, so Late it."

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:

"Because you have done this, you shall be banned from all the animals and from all the wild creatures; on your belly shall you crawl, and dirt shall you eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike at your head, while you strike at his heel."

The man called his wife Eve, because she became the mother of all the living.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

R. (1) Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds.

Sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done wondrous deeds; His right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

## R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds.

The LORD has made His salvation known:
in the sight of the nations He has revealed His justice.
He has remembered His kindness and His faithfulness
toward the house of Israel.

## R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God.

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds.



# December 8, 2020: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (continued)

# Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as He chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before Him.

In love He destined us for adoption to Himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of His will, for the praise of the glory of His grace that He granted us in the beloved.

In Him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of His will, so that we might exist for the praise of His glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

### Gospel Reading Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said "Hail full of gracel The Lor

And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the Child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.



# December 12, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

# First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!
Sing joyfully, O Israel!
Be glad and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has removed the judgment against you He has turned away your enemies;

the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear.

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a mighty Savior;

He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in His love,

He will sing joyfully because of you

He will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.

R. (6) Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

God indeed is my Savior;

I am confident and unafraid.

My strength and my courage is the LORD, and He has been my Savior.

With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

### R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim His Name; among the nations make known His deeds, proclaim how exalted is His Name.

### R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Sing praise to the LORD for His glorious achievement; let this be known throughout all the earth.

Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.





# December 12, 2021: The 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

(continued)

# Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters:

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

### Gospel Reading Luke 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"

He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?"

He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed."

Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?"

He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but One mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.



### December 19, 2021: The 4th Sunday of Advent

# First Reading Micah 5:1-4a

Thus says the LORD:
You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel;
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient times.

Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel.

He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic Name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

**Responsorial Psalm** 

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19.

R. (4) Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power,

and come to save us.

R. Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from Heaven, and see; take care of this vine,

and protect what Your right hand has planted the son of man whom You Yourself made strong.

R. Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved.

May Your help be with the man of Your right hand, with the son of man whom You Yourself made strong.

Then we will no more withdraw from You; give us new life, and we will call upon Your Name.

R. Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved.



# December 19, 2021: The 4th Sunday of Advent (continued)

# Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, He said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.
Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God.'"

First He says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in."
These are offered according to the law.
Then He says, :Behold, I come to do your will."
He takes away the first to establish the second.
By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."



# December 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### First Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them.

When he prays, he is heard;

he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard.

Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives.

Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.

#### OR:

#### 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

In those days Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel, since she had asked the LORD for him.

The next time her husband Elkanah was going up with the rest of his household to offer the customary sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfill his vows, Hannah did not go, explaining to her husband, "Once the child is weaned, I will take him to appear before the LORD and to remain there forever; I will offer him as a perpetual nazirite."

Once Samuel was weaned, Hannah brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and presented him at the temple of the LORD in Shiloh. After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull, Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said:

"Pardon, my lord!

As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood near you here, praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."

Hannah left Samuel there.



December 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (continued)

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

R. (cf. 1) Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in His ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

OR:

Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

R. (cf. 5a) Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD.

My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.

Happy they who dwell in Your house! Continually they praise You.

Happy the men whose strength you are! Their hearts are set upon the pilgrimage.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.

O LORD of hosts, hear our prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob! O God, behold our shield,

and look upon the face of Your anointed.

R. Blessed are they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.



### Mass Readings for December 2021

December 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (continued)

#### **Colossians 3:12-21**

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord.

Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them.

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord.
Fathers, do not provoke your children,

so they may not become discouraged.

#### OR:

### Colossians 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

### OR:

#### 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from Him whatever we ask, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him.

And His commandment is this:

we should believe in the Name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as He commanded us. Those who keep His commandments remain in Him, and He in them,

and the way we know that He remains in us is from the Spirit He gave us.



December 26, 2021: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (continued)

### **Gospel Reading**

#### Luke 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when He was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but His parents did not know it.

Thinking that He was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for Him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding Him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for Him.

After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard Him were astounded at His understanding and His answers.

When His parents saw Him, they were astonished, and His mother said to Him,

"Son, why have You done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for You with great anxiety."

And He said to them, "Why were you looking for Me?

Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?"

But they did not understand what He said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them;

and His mother kept all these things in her heart.

And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.