

THE CATHOLIC MASS SHEET

3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

14th December 2025

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon or a hymn

Stand

Phil 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the Priest says:
In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Priest greets everyone present.
The people respond: And with your spirit.
The Mass of the day may be introduced.

Penitential Act

The Priest invites the people to repentance using one of the Penitential Acts.

Have mercy on us, O Lord.
For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
And grant us your salvation.

The Priest says the absolution. All reply:
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Collect

O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray,
to attain the joys of so great a salvation
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.
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.

Sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, 'Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Sion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 146(145):6c-7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R.cf. Isaiah 35:4

R. Come, Lord, and save us.
or: Alleluia.

It is the LORD who preserves fidelity for ever, who does justice to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the LORD who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the LORD who opens the eyes of the blind, the LORD who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the LORD who loves the just, the LORD who protects the stranger. **R.**

The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The LORD will reign for ever, your God, O Sion, from age to age. **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of Saint James.

James 5:7-10

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Acclamation before the Gospel

Stand

Alleluia, alleluia. Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to proclaim good news to
the poor.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

And Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 'What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare

your way before you." 'Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Sit

The Nicene Creed

Stand

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,
and by the Holy Spirit

All bow

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.

Or:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the *All bow*
Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response example: Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

After the concluding prayer all say: Amen. *Sit*

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The offerings are brought to the altar.
A hymn may be sung. If the Priest says the two
prayers of offering aloud, the response both
times is:

Blessed be God for ever.

The people rise as the Priest says:

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

The people reply:

**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

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your
saving work.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 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.

*The Priest continues with the Preface and
concludes with the people, singing or saying aloud:*

**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.**

Kneel

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until the
Priest says:*

The mystery of faith.
*And the people continue, acclaiming one of the
following:*

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

Or:

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

Or:

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

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer
saying alone:*

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

The people acclaim: Amen.

The Communion Rite

Stand

The Priest invites all to join in the Lord's Prayer:
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

The Priest continues alone:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

The Priest says:

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

The Deacon, or the Priest, adds:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Priest takes the host and breaks it.

Meanwhile the people say or sing:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Kneel

The Priest shows the host to the people and says:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

*The Priest or other minister says to each
communicant:*

The Body [Blood] of Christ.

Each communicant answers: Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Is 35:4

**Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do
not fear.**

**Behold, our God will come, and he will
save us.**

Prayer after Communion

Stand

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of
our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Announcements may be made.

Then:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son,  and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Then the Deacon, or the Priest, says:

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

Or:

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. *Or:*

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. *Or:*

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.



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