

Monday-Saturday, 29th-4th December 2021

Week 1 of Advent - Year C

MONDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Hear the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Saviour will come; you need no longer fear.

READING: *Isaiah 2:1-5*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

PSALM: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

Come and save us, Lord our God' let us see your face, and we shall be saved. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 8:5-11*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

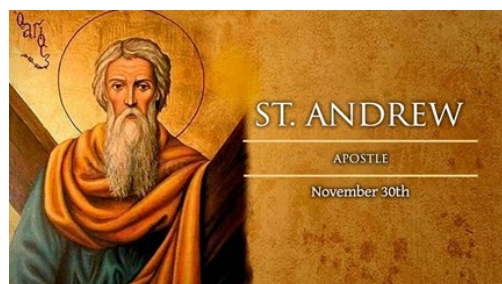
When Jesus went into Capernaum a centurion came up and pleaded with him. 'Sir,' he said 'my servant is lying at home paralysed, and in great pain.' 'I will come myself and cure him' said Jesus. The centurion replied, 'Sir, I am not worthy to have you under my roof; just give the word and my servant will be cured. For I am under authority myself, and have soldiers under me; and I say to one man: Go, and he goes; to another: Come here, and he comes; to my servant: Do this, and he does it.' When Jesus

heard this he was astonished and said to those following him, 'I tell you solemnly, nowhere in Israel have I found faith like this. And I tell you that many will come from the east and west to take their places with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob at the feast in the kingdom of heaven.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before you with a blameless heart.

TUESDAY

Feast of St Andrew



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Beside the Sea of Galilee, the Lord saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and he said to them: Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.

The Glory to God in the highest is said.

FIRST READING: *Romans 10:9-18*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But they will not ask his help unless they believe in him, and they will not believe in him unless they have heard of him, and they will not hear of him unless they get a preacher, and they will never have a preacher

unless one is sent, but as scripture says: The footsteps of those who bring good news are a welcome sound. Not everyone, of course, listens to the Good News. As Isaiah says: Lord, how many believed what we proclaimed? So faith comes from what is preached, and what is preached comes from the word of Christ.

Let me put this question: is it possible that they did not hear? Indeed they did; in the words of the psalm, their voice has gone out through all the earth, and their message to the ends of the world.

PSALM: Their message goes out through all the earth.

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:18-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Andrew told his brother Simon: We have found the Messiah, the Christ, and he brought him to Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The Lord will come and he will not delay. He will illumine what is hidden in darkness and reveal himself to all the nations.

READING: Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning

veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord God will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

PSALM: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord is coming to save his people; happy Are Those prepared to meet him. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:29-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus reached the shores of the Sea of Galilee, and he went up into the hills. He sat there, and large crowds came to him bringing the lame, the crippled, the blind, the dumb and many others; these they put down at his feet, and he cured them. The crowds were astonished to see the dumb speaking, the cripples whole again, the lame walking and the blind with their sight, and they praised the God of Israel.

But Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I feel sorry for all these people; they have been with me for three days now and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them off hungry, they might collapse on the way.' The disciples said to him, 'Where could we get enough bread in this deserted place to feed such a crowd?' Jesus said to them, 'How many loaves have you?' 'Seven' they said 'and a few small fish.' Then he instructed the crowd to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven loaves and the fish, and he gave thanks and broke them and handed them to the disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected what was left of the scraps, seven baskets full.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, our Lord will Come with power and will enlighten the eyes of his servants.

THURSDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: You, O Lord, are close, and all your ways are truth. From of old I have known of your decrees, for you are eternal.

READING: *Isaiah 26:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

That day, this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city; to guard us he has set wall and rampart about us. Open the gates! Let the upright nation come in, she, the faithful one whose mind is steadfast, who keeps the peace, because she trusts in you. Trust in the Lord for ever, for the Lord is the everlasting Rock; he has brought low those who lived high up in the steep citadel; he brings it down, brings it down to the ground, flings it down in the dust: the feet of the lowly, the footsteps of the poor trample on it.

PSALM: Blessed is he who comes in the name Of the Lord.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 7:21. 24-27*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'It is not those who say to me, "Lord, Lord", who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven.

'Therefore, everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on rock. Rain came down, floods rose, gales blew and hurled themselves against that house, and it did not fall: it was founded on rock. But everyone who listens to these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a stupid man who built his house on sand. Rain came down, floods rose, gales blew and struck that house, and it fell; and what a fall it had!'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let us live justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of the glory of our great God.

FRIDAY

*Memorial of St Francis Xavier
(Alternate Readings used)*



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of your name to my kin.

READING: *1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands.

Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the Gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the Gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

PSALM: Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Mark 16:15-20*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and he said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their

hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: What I say to you in the darkness speak in the light, says the Lord, what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.

SATURDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Come and show us your face, O Lord, who are seated upon the Cherubim, and we will be saved.

READING: Isaiah 30:19-21. 23-26
A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: People of Zion, you will live in Jerusalem and weep no more. He will be gracious to you when he hears your cry; when he hears he will answer. When the Lord has given you the bread of suffering and the water of distress, he who is your teacher will hide no longer, and you will see your teacher with your own eyes. Whether you turn to right or left, your ears will hear these words behind you, 'This is the way, follow it.' He will send rain for the seed you sow in the ground, and the bread that the ground provides will be rich and nourishing. Your cattle will graze, that day, in wide pastures. Oxen and donkeys that till the ground will eat a salted fodder, winnowed with shovel and fork. On every lofty mountain, on every high hill there will be streams and watercourses, on the day of the great slaughter when the strongholds fall. Then moonlight will be bright as sunlight and sunlight itself be seven times brighter – like the light of seven days in one – on the day the Lord dresses the wound of his people and heals the bruises his blows have left.

PSALM: Happy are all who long for the coming of the Lord.

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord will judge us by his law; he is our King and Saviour. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35-10:1. 6–8
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus made a tour through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness.

And when he saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows: 'Go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, I am coming soon and my recompense is with me, says the Lord, to bestow a reward according to the deeds of each.



Advent Reflection:

As we approach Christmas, it's important that we spiritually prepare ourselves. You are invited to take part in the advent preparation program on each Thursday at 7.00 pm for four weeks, which commenced on Thursday 25th November.

Friday 3rd December -7.00pm: St. Kevin's Church
Friday 10th December -7.00pm: Rovira House
Friday 17th December -7.00pm: St. Kevin's Church

Christmas Hampers for the Housebound and Sick

The Ministry Team to the housebound and sick are planning to distribute small hampers for Christmas. We are planning hampers to be of value around \$25-30.

We are asking parishioners to be generous and assist in providing items which could be used in the hampers. Suggested items are non-perishable food items (for example canned ham), shortbread, toiletries, socks, writing paper etc. Please mark the items for either female or male and place in the containers which you will see at the bottom of the "Giving Christmas Tree" which is near the lectern in St Patrick's Church.

We would appreciate it if these items can be left no later than Sunday 12th December to enable distribution.

Please also indicate on the clipboard if there are any housebound/sick people whom you may know of and whom we are not aware of at this stage. If you would like to assist with the distribution of the hampers in the week Sunday 12th to Saturday 18th December, please fill in your name and contact details on the lists provided on the note boards in the foyers of both churches, St Patrick's and St Kevin's.

Thank you!
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Ministry to the Housebound and Sick