

Monday-Thursday, 13th-23rd December 2021

Week 4 of Advent - Year C

MONDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: A branch shall sprout from the root of Jesse, and the glory of the Lord will fill the whole earth, and all flesh will see the salvation of God.

READING: *Isaiah 7:10-14*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

PSALM: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Come, key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal kingdom: free the prisoners of darkness! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Luke 1:26-38*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you', the angel answered, 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary, 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Angel said to Mary: Behold, you will conceive and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

TUESDAY

Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The Lord and Ruler will be coming soon, and his name will be called Emmanuel, because he will be God-with-us.

READING: *Zephaniah 3:14-18*

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem!

The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear,

do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,

he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

PSALM: Cry out with joy to the Lord, you holy ones; sing a new song to him.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!

God's presence among us, our King, our Judge: save us, Lord our God! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Luke 1:39-45*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Blessed are you who have believed, that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.

WEDNESDAY
Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 1:24-28
A reading from the book of Samuel.

When Hannah had weaned Samuel, she took him up with her together with a three-year old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, 'If you please, my lord. As you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now I make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord.' There she left him, for the Lord.

PSALM: My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour!

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Come, King of all nations, source of your Church's unity and faith: save all people, your own creation! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 46-56
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. 'He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: My soul proclaims The greatness of the Lord, for the Almighty has Done great things for me.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

St Patrick's:
Tues 21st and Wed 22nd AFTER the 9.15 am Mass
And Fri 24th from 9.00am to 10.00am.
No Mass on Fri 24th December at 9.15 am

St Kevin's:
Mon 20th to Thurs 23rd AFTER the 9.15am Mass
and Fri 24th from 9.00am to 10.00am.
No Mass on Fri 24th December at 9.15 am

THURSDAY
Mass of the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: A child shall be born for us, and he will be called God, the Almighty; every tribe of the earth shall be blest in him.

READING: Malachi 3:1-4. 23-24
A reading from the prophet Malachi.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Know that I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before my day comes, that great and terrible day. He shall turn the hearts of fathers towards their children and the hearts of the children towards their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a curse.

PSALM: Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Come, King of all nations, source of your Church's unity an faith: save all people, your own creation! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1:57-66
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son; and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a kindness, they shared her joy. Now on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother spoke up, 'No,' she said, 'he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'But no one in your family has that name,' and made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. The father asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And they were all astonished. At that instant his power of speech returned and he spoke and praised God. All their neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about throughout the hill country of Judaea. All those who heard of it treasured it in their hearts. 'What will this child turn out to be?' they wondered. And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.