

# TODAY'S MASS

5th December 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent (C)

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Is 30:19,30

**O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.**

## THE COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God,  
may no earthly undertaking hinder those  
who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom  
gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Baruch

5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,  
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,  
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,  
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:  
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,  
since the name God gives you for ever will be,

'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights

and turn your eyes to the east:

see your sons reassembled from west and east

at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has  
remembered them.

Though they left you on foot,

with enemies for an escort,

now God brings them back to you

like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening

of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,

the filling of the valleys to make the ground level

so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade

for Israel at the command of God;

for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory

with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Ps. 125. R.v 3

**R) What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage  
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **(R)**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **(R)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **(R)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears  
carrying seed for the sowing:

they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **(R)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

1:4-6. 8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how  
you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first  
heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One  
who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when  
the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss  
you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that  
your love for each other may increase more and more and never  
stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception  
so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you  
to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of  
Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus  
Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lk 3:4.6

**Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,  
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius  
Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his  
brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis,  
Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and  
Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the  
wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,  
as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,

every mountain and hill be laid low,

winding ways will be straightened

and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings,

and, since we have no merits to plead our cause,

come, we pray, to our rescue

with the protection of your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bar 5:5;4:36

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,

we humbly beseech you, O Lord,

that, through our partaking in this mystery,

you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth

and hold firm to the things of heaven.

Through Christ our Lord.

