



**A LITURGY PREPARATION AID  
FOR THE  
SEASONS OF  
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

**YEAR OF GRACE 2020**

**A LITURGY PREPARATION AID  
FOR THE SEASONS OF  
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

**2019 - 2020  
YEAR A**

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# 50<sup>TH</sup> JL TFDLC ANNIVERSARY

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**THE PEOPLE IN DARKNESS  
HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT**



**A PENANCE SERVICE  
FOR ADVENT 2019**

**Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents  
with Individual Confession and Absolution**

**Introductory Rites**

Opening Hymn  
Greeting  
Introduction  
Opening Prayer

**Celebration of the Word of God**

First Reading  
Responsorial Psalm  
Second Reading  
Gospel Verse  
Gospel  
Homily  
Examination of Conscience

**Rite of Reconciliation**

General Confession of Sin  
Litany of Repentance  
Lord's Prayer  
Concluding Prayer  
Individual Confessions of Sin and Absolution  
Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy  
Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Concluding Rite**

Blessing  
Dismissal  
Closing Hymn

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## PREPARATION

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- Hospitality Ministers should be recruited to welcome the assembly as they arrive and to distribute worship aids.
- At least two readers should be appointed to proclaim the reading(s), to read the Examination of Conscience, and to lead the Litany of Repentance. They are to be seated in the assembly.
- A musician and cantor(s) should lead the assembly in song. Instrumental music may be played during individual confession. (A list of music suggestions are included herein.)
- A Bible or Lectionary should be readied with the appropriate readings.
- Lighting may be subdued. Candle(s) should be lit at the ambo. The appropriate number of candles should be lit on the Advent Wreath.
- Stations for confessors should be prepared. Priests might stand or sit in isolated areas around the main body of the church to receive penitents. In this way, the communal nature of the rite is maintained. Candles may light these stations.
- For the sake of simplicity, the presider alone or the presider and preacher could participate in the procession. Other priests could be seated in the sanctuary or in a reserved area before the liturgy begins.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Christ our Lord.

For all the oracles of the prophets foretold him,  
the Virgin Mother longed for him  
with love beyond all telling,  
John the Baptist sang of his coming  
and proclaimed his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that we already rejoice  
at the mystery of his Nativity,  
so that he might find us watchful in prayer  
and exultant in his praise...

~ Preface II of Advent  
The twofold expectation of Christ

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## INTRODUCTORY RITES

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### OPENING HYMN

*See suggestions herein*

### GREETING

**Presider:** Grace, mercy, and peace be with you  
from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

**All:** And with your spirit.

### INTRODUCTION

*In these or similar words...*

**Presider:** We gather today [tonight] in the gloom of winter.  
We live in a world plagued by terrorism and war.  
We live in a society divided by rancorous debate.  
We are often blinded by our own ambitions, pettiness and concerns.  
Indeed, we live in the darkness of our sinfulness.

Yet in the midst of all this,  
we are invited by God to this moment of grace.  
We celebrate a sacrament instituted by Christ.  
It is a sign of his presence among us:  
Christ, whose birth was heralded by a star;  
Christ, the Light of Lights;  
Christ, the Sun of Justice;  
Christ, the Daystar;  
Christ, O Radiant Light;  
Christ, who is the Light of the world.

In this season of Advent, then,  
let us recall our baptism  
in which we were made children of the light.  
Let us examine those things  
which prevent us from living as children of light ought to live.  
And let us approach our Father in a spirit of true repentance.

## OPENING PRAYER

**Presider:** My brothers and sisters,  
We look forward to celebrating the mystery  
of Christ's incarnation.  
Let us pray that when he comes again,  
he may find us awake and ready to receive him.

*Silent prayer*

**Almighty and merciful God,  
you have brought us together in the name of your Son  
to receive your mercy and grace in our time of need.  
Open our eyes to see the evil we have done.  
Touch our hearts and convert us to yourself.  
Where sin has divided and scattered,  
may your love make us one again;  
where sin has brought weakness,  
may your power heal and strengthen;  
where sin has brought death,  
may your Spirit raise us to new life.**

**Give us a heart to love you,  
so that our lives may reflect the image of your Son.  
May the world see the glory of Christ  
revealed in your Church,  
and come to know that he is the One whom you have sent,  
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.**

**All:** Amen.

Stir up your power, O Lord,  
and come to our help with mighty strength,  
that what our sins may impede  
the grace of your mercy may hasten.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect  
Thursday of the First Week of Advent

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## CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

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*The following are suggested readings. Alternative readings may be selected. The preacher may wish to use one, two, or three readings. If only one is chosen, it is preferable that it be the gospel.*

*The readings are printed elsewhere in this booklet, for ease of rehearsal. A Lectionary or Bible should be used during the liturgy.*

### FIRST READING

#### **Isaiah 58:6-11**

*Then light shall rise for you in the darkness,  
and the gloom shall become for you like midday.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

#### **Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17**

*Give back to me the joy of your salvation.*

*OR*

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

### SECOND READING

#### **1 John 1:5 -- 2:2**

*God is light...in him there is no darkness at all...*

*The blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#### **John 8:12**

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;*

*whoever follows me will have the light of life.*

### GOSPEL

#### **John 9:1-7**

*I am the light of the world.*

### HOMILY



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## **EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: OPTION A**

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*A period of time may be allowed for the making of an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence. Alternatively, the presider or other minister might lead the assembly with the questions below. Allow a brief period of silence after each one.*

**Presider:**                **Sisters and Brothers,  
our Father knows all our failings,  
but asks us to call them to mind  
so that we may seek out his forgiveness.**

**Minister:**                **What is my attitude about the sacrament of reconciliation? Do I sincerely  
want to be set free from sin, turn again to God, and resolve to begin again?**

**Do I pray daily? Do I offer God my difficulties, my joys, my sorrows? Do I  
turn to God in times of temptations?**

**Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred? Am I faithful to my communal  
prayer? Do I fulfill my commitments as a member of my faith community?**

**Do I have a genuine love of my neighbor? Am I kind to strangers?**

**Do I try to bring light to a world darkened by hatred?**

**Do I look down on people who are different than I am?**

**Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?**

**In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the  
rest of my family? Am I patient? Am I loving? Do I treat my parents with  
respect?**

**Am I lazy? Do I dedicate too much time to play or to leisure? Do I work  
excessively? Do I neglect my family?**

**In my work and in my relationships, am I honest and just? Have I been  
faithful to my promises and contracts?**

**Am I preoccupied with money or worldly goods? Am I too concerned with  
possessions? Have I stolen or damaged the property of others?**

**Do I share my resources with those less fortunate? Do I regularly give to  
charities?**

**Have I done violence to others? Have I injured anyone with my actions or my  
words?**

**Have I tried to grow in grace? Do I read the Word of God and meditate on it?  
Do I receive the sacraments? Do I strive to be closer to God each day of my  
life?**

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## **EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: OPTION B**

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*The assembly is now invited to make an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence or by using the examination below. Two readers might alternate. Allow a brief period of silence between each question or phrase.*

**Presider: The following examination of conscience is based upon the Confiteor. Please reflect quietly as each part is read.**

### **I CONFESS TO ALMIGHTY GOD**

- **Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin and turn again to God?**
- **Do I seek a deeper relationship with God in this sacrament of reconciliation?**

### **AND TO YOU, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

- **Do I have a genuine love for my family and friends, neighbors and co-workers, or fellow students?**
- **Have I contributed to the well being and happiness of others at home?**
- **Am I aware of my global relationship to those suffering and dying in other parts of the world?**
- **Am I committed to seek peace and promote justice for every person?**

### **THAT I HAVE GREATLY SINNED**

- **Do I blame others for my wrongdoing or for the misfortune that befalls me?**
- **Do I accept responsibility for the commitments I have made to others – my spouse? my parents? my children? my parish?**
- **Do I accept that society's evils are within my power to change?**

### **IN MY THOUGHT AND IN MY WORDS**

- **Have ever harbored ill thoughts against another person?**
- **Have my addictions affected my judgment or behavior?**
- **Have my fears or prejudices prevented me from speaking out on behalf of the poor, the unborn, or people of other races?**
- **Have my words caused others hurt? Has my silence caused others harm?**

### **IN WHAT I HAVE DONE**

- **Do I seek to be the center of attention? Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their needs or freedoms?**
- **Am I focused on my needs to the detriment of the needs of others?**
- **Am I obsessed with having the perfect body, making more money, or having the latest technology?**
- **Do I need to be in control of all people and all situations?**
- **Do I work more than is healthy for my mind or body?**

**AND IN WHAT I HAVE FAILED TO DO**

- Have I neglected by responsibilities to my family?
- Have I neglected my health?
- Have I neglected my prayer life?
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely?

**THROUGH MY FAULT, THROUGH MY FAULT, THROUGH MY MOST GREVIOUS FAULT**

- Do I recognize my own sins?
- Does my ego or my self-righteousness prevent me from seeing my own errors?
- Do I blame broken relationships on others?

**THEREFORE I ASK BLESSED MARY, EVER-VIRGIN AND ALL THE ANGELS AND SAINTS**

- Do I appreciate the great gift of the Eucharist?
- Do I worship with my Community each Sunday?
- Do I reflect often on what God is calling me to do?

**AND YOU MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

- Am I so independent that I refuse to ask for help or let others assist me?
- Do I support and defend other members of my family?
- Do I give others the opportunity to share their gifts and talents?
- Do I treat those who wait on me or who work with me with the dignity they deserve as fellow human beings?

**TO PRAY FOR ME TO THE LORD OUR GOD.**

- Do I promise prayers for people and situations and not follow through?
- Do I remember to pray for others in my parish, especially for those who are preparing to receive the sacraments?
- Do I pray for the living and the dead?



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## RITE OF RECONCILIATION

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### GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

**Presider:** God who is infinitely merciful  
pardons all who are repentant  
and takes away their guilt.  
Confident in his goodness,  
let us ask him to forgive all our sins  
as we confess them with sincerity of heart.

**All:** I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

### LITANY OF REPENTANCE

**Presider:** Let us turn to Christ with confidence and ask his mercy.

**Minister:** You came into the world to seek and save what was lost.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Minister:** You came to give us life, life in its fullness.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Minister:** You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Minister:** Once and for all you died for our sins,  
the innocent one for the guilty.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Minister:** In your mercy free us from the past  
and enable us to begin a new life of holiness.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Minister:** Make us a living sign of love for all to see:  
people reconciled with you and with each other.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Presider:** Now, in obedience to Christ himself,  
let us join in prayer to the Father,  
asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.

**All:** Our Father, ...

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

**Presider:** Almighty and eternal God  
you sent your only-begotten Son  
to reconcile the world to yourself.  
Lift from our hearts the oppressive gloom of sin,  
so that we may celebrate the approaching  
dawn of Christ's birth with fitting joy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

## INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*The presider or other minister might tell the assembly where the confessors will be located. Some brief words regarding the manner of confession should be given. The people may be encouraged to accept one of the penances which are found in the worship aid or the confessors may give a penance suited to the individual. The assembly may be advised to remain in church if there is to be a common ending. Quiet instrumental music might be played during this time.*

## PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

**Confessor:** God the Father of mercies,  
through the death and resurrection of his Son  
has reconciled the world to himself  
and sent the Holy Spirit among us  
for the forgiveness of sins;  
through the ministry of the Church  
may God give you pardon and peace,  
and I absolve you from your sins  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Penitent:** Amen.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his mercy endures forever;

Who alone does great wonders,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Who made the heavens in wisdom,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Who spread out the earth upon the waters,  
for his mercy endures forever;

Who made the great lights.  
for his mercy endures forever;  
The sun to rule over the day,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
The moon and the stars to rule over the night,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Who led his people through the wilderness,  
for his mercy endures forever;

Who freed us from our foes,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Who gives food to all flesh,  
for his mercy endures forever;  
Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
for his mercy endures forever.

*Another psalm, hymn, or litany may be prayed in acknowledgment of God's power and compassion. See the enclosed music suggestions or use one of the scripture citations below.*

Psalm 28: 6-7

Psalm 32: 1-7, 10-11

Psalm 54

Psalm 66

Psalm 95

Psalm 98: 1-9

Psalm 100: 1-5

Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-18

Psalm 119: 1, 10-16, 18, 33, 105, 169-170, 174-175

Psalm 145: 1-21

Psalm 146: 2-10

Isaiah 12: 1b-6

Isaiah 61: 10-11

Jeremiah 31: 10-14

Daniel 3:52-57

Luke 1:46-55

Ephesians 1:3-10

Revelation 15: 3-4

## CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Presider:** Lord God,  
Creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,  
in your great love for this world  
you gave up your only Son for our salvation.  
His cross has redeemed us,  
his death has given us life,  
his resurrection has raised us to glory.  
Through him we ask you  
to be always present among your family.  
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;  
fill our hearts with faith,  
our days with good works,  
our lives with your love.  
May your truth be on our lips  
and your wisdom in all our actions,  
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

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## CONCLUDING RITE

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### BLESSING

**Presider:** May the Lord guide your hearts in the way of his love  
and fill you with Christ-like patience.

**All:** Amen.

**Presider:** May he give you strength  
to walk in newness of life  
and to please him in all things.

**All:** Amen.

**Presider:** May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

### DISMISSAL

**Presider:** The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Is 58: 6-11

Thus says the LORD:

**This is the fasting that I wish:  
releasing those bound unjustly,  
untying the thongs of the yoke;  
Setting free the oppressed,  
breaking every yoke;  
Sharing your bread with the hungry,  
sheltering the oppressed and the homeless;  
Clothing the naked when you see them,  
and not turning your back on your own.  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your wound shall quickly be healed.  
Your vindication shall go before you,  
and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer,  
you shall cry for help, and he will say: Here I am!  
If you remove from your midst oppression,  
false accusation and malicious speech;  
If you bestow your bread on the hungry  
and satisfy the afflicted;  
Then light shall rise for you in the darkness  
and the gloom shall become for you like midday;  
Then the LORD will guide you always  
and give you plenty even on the parched land.  
He will renew your strength,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring whose water never fails.**

The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51: 3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.

*OR*

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;  
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.  
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt  
and of my sin cleanse me.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.

*OR*

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense,  
and my sin is before me always:  
“Against you only have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight.”

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.

*OR*

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create in me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.  
Cast me not out from your presence,  
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.

*OR*

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.

*OR*

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.



**A reading from the first Letter of Saint John**

**Beloved:**

**This is the message we have heard from Jesus Christ  
and proclaim to you: God is light;  
and in him there is no darkness at all.**

**If we say, "We have fellowship with him,"  
while we continue to walk in darkness,  
we lie and do not act in truth.**

**But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,  
then we have fellowship with one another,  
and the Blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.**

**If we say, "We are without sin," we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.**

**If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just  
and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing.**

**If we say "We have not sinned," we make him a liar,  
and his word is not in us.**

**My children, I am writing this to you  
so that you may not commit sin.**

**But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous one.**

**He is expiation for our sins,  
and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.**

**The word of the Lord.**

**VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL**

**John 8:12**

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.**

## **GOSPEL**

**John 9:1-7**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth.**

**His disciples asked him,**

**“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents,  
that he was born blind?”**

**Jesus answered,**

**“Neither he nor his parents sinned;  
it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.**

**We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day.**

**Night is coming when no one can work.**

**While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”**

**When he had said this, he spat on the ground**

**and made clay with the saliva,**

**and smeared the clay on his eyes and said to him,**

**“Go wash in the Pool of Siloam”**

**--which means Sent--.**

**So he went and washed, and came back able to see.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



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## RECONCILIATION SERVICE: ALTERNATIVE READINGS

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### **OLD TESTAMENT**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20	I have set before you life and prosperity, death and doom.
Isaiah 25:6-10a	The Lord will save us.
Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10	God himself will come to save us.
Isaiah 40:1-11	God consoles his people
Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25	There is no just and saving God but me.
Isaiah 54: 1-10	The Lord calls you back.
Isaiah 59:1-4, 9-15	We look for light and, lo, darkness.
Jeremiah 7:21-26	Listen to my voice...I will be your God and you will be my people
Jeremiah 23:5-8	I will raise up a righteous shoot to David...
Ezekiel 36:23-28	I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you.
Hosea 2:16-25	I will make a covenant for you that day
Joel 2: 12-18	For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness
Zephaniah 3:14-18a	The Lord has removed judgment against you...the Lord is in your midst

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalms 25	Teach me your ways, O Lord
Psalms 36:2-13	How precious is your unfailing love, O Lord.
Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17	Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19	Lord, make us turn to you and we will be saved.
Psalms 85: 9ab,10, 11-12, 13-14	Our God will come and save us.
Psalms 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8, 10	The Lord is kind and merciful
Psalms 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9	The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.
Psalms 130: 1-8	With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption
Psalms 145:1and9, 10-11, 12-13	The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and of great kindness
Psalms 147:1-6	Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

### **NEW TESTAMENT**

Romans 3: 22-26	Justified by the gift of God, Christ Jesus
Romans 6:2-14	You must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God
Romans 12:1-2, 9-19	Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction...
2 Corinthians 5:17-21	God reconciled the world to himself through Christ
Ephesians 1: 3-14	The Father's plan of salvation
Ephesians 2:1-10	But God who is rich in mercy...brought us to life with Christ
Ephesians 4: 22-32	Forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ
Philippians 1:4-11	Show yourself pure and blameless for the day of Christ
Philippians 4: 6-9	Have no anxiety at all
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2	May the Lord strengthen your hearts for the coming of the Lord Jesus.
James 5:7-10	Make your hearts firm, the coming of the Lord is at hand
1 Peter 1: 14-21	You were ransomed from your futile conduct
1 John 1:5 -2:2	If we acknowledge our sins he is faithful and just

### **GOSPEL**

Matthew 3:1-12	Reform your lives, the reign of God is at hand.
Matthew 9:1-8	[Healing of the paralytic] Have confidence, my son, your sins are forgiven.
Matthew 21:28-32	Man had two sons... John came and sinners believed in him
Luke 7: 18b-23	Go tell John what you have seen and heard
Luke 19: 1-10	The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost
John 1:29-34	Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
John 5:33-36	I have testimony greater than John's
John 8:12-16	I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness.
John 15: 9-14	You will live in my love, if you keep my commandments

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## SAMPLE PENANCES

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- During the next week, spend an hour in prayer for those who are the victims of abuse or neglect. Read Matthew 25: 31-46.
- As a family, prepare a basket of food or toiletries and give it to a family in need.
- Skip a meal at your favorite restaurant. Use the money to purchase a Christmas gift for a person served by a parish organization or local charity.
- Identify a person whom you have offended since your last confession and pray for them each day for a week.
- Think of someone you have been especially uncharitable towards and send a Christmas card with a note of kindness attached to it.
- Work at a soup kitchen or food pantry during Advent for a couple of hours.
- Reflect on the Beatitudes.....find someone who meets one of those needs, such as one who mourns, and send them a note or visit them during Advent.
- Speak a word of affirmation to each member of your household this week. Make an effort to "help carry someone's burden" among your friends or family members.
- Offer to share something you have - or something you're doing - with someone who would appreciate it.
- Take a "prayer time" of ten minutes or so... and ask God if there is something God would like to say to you... and LISTEN.
- Call or write a note to someone who may be lonely or in need of "comfort and joy".
- Gather your family members for a reading of the "Christmas Story" from the Gospel of Matthew or Luke. Discuss what it means to them and to you.
- Include a weekday Mass in your plans during Advent.
- Every morning until Christmas, say a Hail Mary for peace.
- Reach out to a lonely person at school. Invite him or her to sit with you and your friends.
- Prayerfully pray Psalm 51.
- For one whole week, do the dishes or set the table without being asked.
- Give up some leisure time to shovel an elderly neighbor's driveway.

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## MUSIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE 2019

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### HYMNODY

Amazing Grace	Newton (various)
A Voice Cries Out	Michael Joncas (GIA)
Christians, Let Us Love One Another	Foltz/Nigro (OCP)
Clear the Voice	Hagan (OCP)
Come, Emmanuel	Light/Tate (WLP)
Come, O Long Expected Jesus	Wesley (various)
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come	(various)
Comfort, Comfort, O My People	Winkworth (tr.) (OCP)
Cry out with Joy and Gladness	Paul Tate (WLP, 007381)
Cry out with Joy and Gladness	Rudy Borkowski (WLP, 006272)
Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing	(GIA; Hymns for the Gospel)
Find Us Ready	Tom Booth (GIA)
God's Holy Mountain We Ascend	(WLP)
God is Love	David Haas (GIA)
He Healed the Darkness of My Mind	John 9/Fred Pratt Green (GIA)
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	Kathleen Thomerson (various)
Lead Us to Your Light	Carol Browning (GIA)
Let Desert Wasteland Now Rejoice	Delores Duffer (GIA)
Let Justice Roll Like a River	Marty Haugen (GIA)
Let Us Sing to the Lord/ <i>Cantemos al Señor</i>	Alonso/Mahler (GIA, G-6129 [collection])
My Soul in Stillness Waits	Marty Haugen (GIA)
No Greater Love	Michael Joncas (GIA)
Our Darkness	Taize (GIA)
Praise the Lord, My Soul	Tom Parker (GIA)
Ready the Way	Bob Hurd (OCP)
Sion, Sing	Lucien Deiss (WLP)
The Advent of Our God	Coffin/Chandler (WLP; various hymnals)
The Lord is My Light	Lillian Bouknight (GIA)
The Master Came to Bring Good News	Ralph Finn (GIA; various hymnals)
The People who Walked in Darkness	M. L. Bringle (GIA)
The Reign of God	Delores Duffer (GIA)
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	Faber (various)
Treasures Out of Darkness/ <i>Tesoros Ocultos</i>	Alan Revering (WLP)
Walk in the Reign	Rory Cooney (GIA)
We Are the Light of the World	Matt. 5/ Jean Griefff (GIA)
When John Baptized by River Jordan	(GIA; various hymnals)
When the King Shall Come Again	Christopher Idle (various)
Where Charity and Love Prevail	Benoit (various)
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice	(GIA; Hymns for the Gospel)

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## A LITURGICAL CALENDAR ADVISORY FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

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DAY	DATE	LITURGICAL DAY	RANK*	COMMENTS
Sunday	Dec 1	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A	2	Lect #1, Preface I of Advent
Monday	Dec 2	Monday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect # 175
Tuesday	Dec 3	Saint Francis Xavier, Priest	10	Lect #685 <i>or</i> Lect #176
Wednesday	Dec 4	Wednesday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #177
Thursday	Dec 5	Thursday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #178
Friday	Dec 6	Friday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #179
Saturday	Dec 7	Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #688 <i>or</i> Lect #180
Sunday	Dec 8	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #4, PSS II
Monday	Dec 9	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM <i>Patronal feast day of the USA</i>	3	Lect #689; obligation not transferred; funeral Mass not permitted
Tuesday	Dec 10	Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect #182
Wednesday	Dec 11	Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect # 183
Thursday	Dec 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast-USA)	7	Lect #690 A or Com of BVM
Friday	Dec 13	St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	10	Lect #692 <i>or</i> Lect #185
Saturday	Dec 14	St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #693 <i>or</i> Lect #186
Sunday	Dec 15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #4
Monday	Dec 16	Monday of the Third Week of Advent	13	Lect #187
Tuesday	Dec 17	Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #193 <i>O Antiphons begin</i>
Wednesday	Dec 18	Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #194
Thursday	Dec 19	Thursday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #195
Friday	Dec 20	Friday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #196
Saturday	Dec 21	Saturday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #197
Sunday	Dec 22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #10
Monday	Dec 23	Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #199
Tuesday	Dec 24	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent (morning)	9	Lect #200

\*Cf. *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, no. 59

# ADVENT

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**A LITURGICAL YEAR CALENDAR ADVISORY  
FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

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Tuesday/ Wednesday	Dec 24/ Dec 25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)	2	Holy day of obligation Funeral Mass not permitted Genuflect at "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate..." Preface I, II or III of Christmas Vigil: Lect #13 Midnight: Lect #14 Dawn: Lect #15 Day: Lect #16
Thursday	Dec 26	St. Stephen, The First Martyr	7	Lect #696
Friday	Dec 27	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist	7	Lect #697
Saturday	Dec 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	7	Lect #698
Sunday	Dec 29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH	5	Lect #17A Preface I-III of Christmas
Monday	Dec 30	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	9	Lect #203
Tuesday	Dec 31	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	9	Lect #204
Wednesday	Jan 1, 2020	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord	3	Lect #18 Holy day of obligation
Thursday	Jan 2	St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church	10	Lect #205 or Lect #510
Friday	Jan 3	Christmas Weekday / <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	13	Lect #206 or Lect #983
Saturday	Jan 4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious USA	10	Lect # 207 or Lect #510A
Sunday	Jan 5	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	2	New Mass texts for Vigil and Day; Lect #20, Proper Preface, Solemn Blessing #4 Funeral Mass not permitted
Monday	Jan 6	Christmas Weekday <i>or St. Andre Bessette, Religious -- USA</i>	13	Lect #212 or Lect #510C
Tuesday	Jan 7	Christmas Weekday <i>or Saint Raymond Penyafort, Priest</i>	13	Lect #213 or Lect #511
Wednesday	Jan 8	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #214
Thursday	Jan 9	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #215
Friday	Jan 10	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #216
Saturday	Jan 11	Christmas Weekday	13	Lect #217
Sunday	Jan 12	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	3	Lect #21-A, Proper Preface





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## LECTIONARY FOR MASS - YEAR A

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**First Sunday of Advent (December 1, 2019)****Lectionary #1**

First Reading                    Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm                                Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Second Reading                Romans 13:11-14a  
Gospel                                Matthew 24:37-44

**Second Sunday of Advent (December 8, 2019)****Lectionary #4**

First Reading                    Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm                                Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17  
Second Reading                Romans 15:4-9  
Gospel                                Matthew 3:1-12

**Solemnity: The Immaculate Conception of the BVM  
(Monday, December 9, 2019)****Lectionary #689**

First Reading                    Genesis 3: 9-15, 20  
Responsorial Psalm             Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4  
Second Reading                Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12  
Gospel                                Luke 1: 26-38

**Our Lady of Guadalupe [Feast] (Dec. 12, 2019) Lect # 690 A or Common of BVM 707-712**

First Reading                    Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab  
Responsorial Psalm             Judith 13: 18bcde, 19  
Gospel                                Luke 1: 26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47

**Third Sunday of Advent (December 15, 2019)****Lectionary #7**

First Reading                    Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10  
Responsorial Psalm             Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10  
Second Reading                James 5:7-10  
Gospel                                Matthew 11:2-11

**Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22, 2019)****Lectionary #10**

First Reading                    Isaiah 7:10-14  
Responsorial Psalm             Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Second Reading                Romans 1:1-7  
Gospel                                Matthew 1:18-24

**The Nativity of the Lord – Vigil Mass**

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
Second Reading Acts 13:16-17, 22-25  
Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 [or 1:18-25]

**Lectionary #13, ABC****The Nativity of the Lord - Mass at Midnight**

First Reading Isaiah 9:1-6  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13  
Second Reading Titus 2:11-14  
Gospel Luke 2:1-14

**Lectionary #14, ABC****The Nativity of the Lord – Mass at Dawn**

First Reading Isaiah 62: 11-12  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 97: 1, 6, 11-12  
Second Reading Titus 3:4-7  
Gospel Luke 2:15-20

**Lectionary #15, ABC****The Nativity of the Lord – Mass During the Day**

First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6  
Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-6  
Gospel John 1: 1-18 [or John 1: 1-5, 9-14]

**Lectionary #16 ABC****The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
(Sunday, December 29, 2019)**

First Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Second Reading Colossians 3:12-21 [or 3:12-17]  
Gospel Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

**Lectionary # 17 A****Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1, 2020)  
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord**

First Reading Numbers 6:22-27  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8  
Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7  
Gospel Luke 2:16-21

**Lectionary #18, ABC****The Epiphany of the Lord (January 5, 2020)**

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

**Lectionary #20 ABC****The Baptism of the Lord (Monday, January 12, 2020)**

First Reading Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7  
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10  
Second Reading Acts 10:34-38  
Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

**Lectionary #21 A**

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## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

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The announcement of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord from the *Roman Martyrology* draws upon Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Christ. It begins with creation and relates the birth of the Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history. The particular events contained in the announcement help pastorally to situate the birth of Jesus in salvation history.

This text, *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*, may be chanted or recited, most appropriately on December 24 during the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours. It may also be chanted or recited before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night. It may not replace any part of the Mass.

The proclamation may also be sung or proclaimed in the Liturgy of the Hours on Christmas Eve. If it is used at Morning or Evening Prayer, it follows the introduction of the hour and precedes the hymn. When it is proclaimed in the Office of Readings, it precedes the *Te Deum*.

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## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (THE CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION)

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*From the Roman Martyrology - see Roman Missal, third edition (pages 1450 – 1452, USCCB edition)  
The underlines are provided here to assist the minister who will chant it.*



**The Twenty-fifth Day of December,**  
**when ages beyond number had run their course from the**  
**creation of the world**  
**when God in the beginning created heaven and earth**  
**and formed man in his own likeness;**  
**when century upon century had passed**  
**since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood,**  
**as a sign of covenant and peace;**  
**in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith**  
**came out of the Ur of the Chaldees;**  
**in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses**  
**in the Exodus from Egypt;**  
**around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;**  
**in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;**  
**in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad**  
**in the year seven hundred and fifty-two**  
**since the foundation of the City of Rome;**  
**in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus;**  
**the world being at peace,**



**JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,**  
**desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence**  
**was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
**and when nine months had passed since his conception,**  
**was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah and was made man:**



**The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.**

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## **PROCLAMATION OF THE DATE OF EASTER**

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*On the Solemnity of the Epiphany, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with the ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year.  
For chant notation, please see the Roman Missal, Appendix, pages 1448-1449 (USCCB edition).*

### **THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVABLE FEASTS**

**Know, dear brethren, (brothers and sisters),  
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
so by leave of God's mercy  
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,  
who is our Savior.**

**On the twenty-sixth day of February  
will fall Ash Wednesday,  
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.**

**On the twelfth day of April  
you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,  
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**On the twenty-first [twenty-fourth] day of May  
will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**On the thirty-first day of May,  
the feast of Pentecost.**

**On the fourteenth day of June,  
the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.**

**On the twenty-ninth day of November,  
the First Sunday of Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.**



## ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions was founded in 1969 by the then Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in order to assist with the implementation of the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* and the revised liturgical books. For over fifty years, our mission has remained the same. The members of our Federation continue to serve bishops, clergy, and parish liturgists in our roles as directors of Offices of Worship and as members of diocesan liturgical commissions.

We hope this free resource will be of benefit to you and to your parish. Other publications -- including books, pamphlets, and downloadable bulletin inserts -- are available at [www.fdlc.org](http://www.fdlc.org).

We also provide opportunities for liturgical formation. For example, we have conducted nationwide workshops on the revised *Rite of Celebrating Matrimony*, on the *Misal Romano, tercero edición*, and on the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*.

Associate Members are entitled to online resources, discounts on publications, and discounts to national meetings. For more information on Associate Membership, please visit [www.fdlc.org/membership](http://www.fdlc.org/membership).

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