

# THE CATHOLIC MASS SHEET

ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

14th December 2025

## *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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## 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.**

## 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.**

*Sit*

## 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 was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

*All bow*

**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 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.**

*All bow*

## 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.**