CHTHUS

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C

Think about all the people and the things which make you happy and full of joy!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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.

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...



FIRST READING BARUCH 5:1-9

We can't really 'wear' qualities like honesty, justice or sorrow. Baruch uses this language, however, as a way of helping us to imagine the difference between life with God and life without God. God's people have been living

in exile, banished from their homeland, far from God. Now they are given hope that they will soon be close to God again, wrapped in God's love and forgiveness. God's justice and peace will be seen in the way God's joyful people live.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 125

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were alad.



SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 1:4-6.8-11

We are all becoming more and more like Jesus every day. Even the very first Christians had to practise being loving. Here Paul is sending his love to the community in Philippi, telling them how he is praying for them. Paul knows that they

need help to improve in their knowledge and understanding of God and in their relationships with each other. He also knows that they can be confident that they will become perfect with God's help, just as we will too!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Everyone will be guided by God's light to lives full of joy.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Paul prays with joy for the Christians in Philippi.



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.

DO YOU KNOW?

John the Baptist preaches repentance in today's Gospel. "Repentance" comes from the Greek word "metanoia". This word means a complete change in heart and mind. When we repent we turn our lives around. Advent is a great opportunity to think about how we might turn things round, so that we are even more loving.



The Romans built roads as straight as possible,

in order to travel as quickly as they could. Winding roads make a journey longer. Even before the Romans, the Old Testament prophets knew about this engineering - and John the Baptist uses their imagery. It takes more work to make straight roads, and it might take some effort to get our hearts ready to welcome Jesus, but hard work is usually worthwhile!



GOSPEL LUKE 3:1-6

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Luke.

John the Baptist is an unusual man, even for Jesus' time! He is completely committed to delivering God's message, standing out from the crowd in the way he dresses, eats and lives. We know the truth of John's message because Luke gives us the historical facts and reminds us that Isaiah had

spoken about someone who would announce the Messiah's arrival. John the Baptist is a signpost pointing to Jesus. We are being invited by John to open our hearts and minds to really hear Jesus' message. In the challenges of the wilderness we are invited to meet God. Are we ready?

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest or deacon do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?

in the holes that I need to, so that you can find me quickly. Amen. Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations

Light a candle and sing a verse of an Advent carol with your family

PRAL

Jesus, I want to make

your path to my heart

as easy to travel on as

build the bridges and fill

possible. Help me to

'Prepare a way

for the Lord."



is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

X (Christos) Y (Uios/Son) Σ (Soter/Saviour)



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every night this week.

I (Jesus) ⊕ (Theou/God's)



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who wants to make changes in their lives but is struggling to do so. Please help them to know that with you, anything is possible. Lord, hear my prayer.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION <

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about a time this week when you were sad and then think about all the times you were happy and joyful. Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks

to God.

and people in need.

This is a prayer you

could say privately.

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

What can you give special thanks for today?

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God. You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus for the joy and happiness I feel when I think about how much you love me! Amen.



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C

Say "hello" to Jesus, who is right here with you!

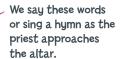


ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

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...



We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



FIRST READING ZEPHANIAH 3:14-18

Life with God is like a festival! God's people are celebrating – God is with them. What better way to celebrate than with music, singing and dancing! They have been having a very difficult time and have felt far away from

God. Now, everything has changed. God has rescued them from their troubles, bringing love and forgiveness. God is right in their midst – and God is with us too, bringing love to our lives. Let's celebrate with shouts of joy!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God's people have

a good reason to celebrate.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 12

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

Life with God will make us truly happy. Paul knows this, and this is his prayer for the people of Philippi. He wants nothing more than for his good friends to be happy in the Lord. Trust in God and know

that God is always very close to us. There is no need to worry, but if we are anxious we just need to talk to God. God will look after our hearts and minds, giving us deep and lasting peace.

and LISTEN. God is with us, lasting happiness.



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.

LOOK at the reader bringing us peace and



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

DO YOU KNOW?

The word "festival" comes from the Latin word "festum" meaning "a feast". Working people in the past only had time off for religious celebrations when everyone had fun eating and drinking together although Christmas Day only became a public holiday in 1834. God being with us is the best reason to celebrate with a festival!



Singing is great fun!

Singing is also really good for us. It is good for our bodies and good for our minds. It can help us sleep, improves our brain power and even our immune sustem. Singing can even help us to make friends and develop the way we work with other people.

Let's thank God - and sing and shout for joy!



GOSPEL LUKE 3:10-18

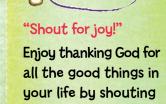
The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Luke.

"How do we live as God asks?", the people ask. Giving very practical examples, John the Baptist explains that God wants everyone to be just and fair. If we have more than we need, we should share with those who have nothing. We must never bully people and be grateful for what we

have. Understanding that John is a man of God, the people begin to think that he is the long-awaited Messiah. But John puts them straight: he is just preparing the way for someone much more special and important. The Christ will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire, not just water.

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest or deacon do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?



PRAL

and dancing for joy! Make your joyful dancing a prayer to God who is always with you.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for the courage to share. Please help us all to be honest about what we need, and work to make sure that the world is a fairer place. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This is a prayer you could say privately.





Sing a happy song every day this week!

is the Greek word for

"fish" and was used

in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made

up from the first letter of five Greek

titles for the Lord:

⊕ (Theou/God's)

 Σ (Soter/Saviour)

I (Jesus)

X (Christos)

Y (Uios/Son)



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about any times this week when you were unhappy and then think about the times when you were contented

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.



made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Watch as the gifts are



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus for the love in my life. Thank you for the peace and joy your love gives me. Amen.



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sundau.

Go in peace.





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logo

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C



Can you see any statues or paintings of Jesus' mother Mary in church?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour. We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

COLLECT

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



FIRST READING MICAH 5:1-4

God promises that the saviour sent to rule over the world will come from Bethlehem. His family has been part of God's story from the very beginning. When this saviour arrives, all God's people will be gathered together. Everything this

Messiah does will be through God's power and will be done in God's name. All the people will be safe with him, just as sheep are safe with their shepherd. Because of him, God's rule will spread over the whole land, bringing peace.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The Messiah will come from Bethlehem, as God has promised.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 79

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

using these words.



SECOND READING HEBREWS 10:5-10

Jesus has come into the world to show us how much God loves us and to show us how to love and worship God. He says, "Here I am!" and willingly does as God wants, sharing love with everyone. We love God

by loving other people. Jesus sacrificed his life and we can sacrifice ourselves by offering our time and energy to others. This is how we can truly worship God; sharing love. With Jesus we say, "Here I am!"

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God is with us, bringing us peace and lasting happiness.



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.

DO YOU KNOW?

Elizabeth's words to Mary in the Gospel are part of the Hail Mary. This prayer, asking Mary to pray for us, begins with the angel Gabriel's greeting.

Can you use the words from the word bank to fill in the gaps? m

Hail,		
full of,		
the is with thee.		
art thou		
among,		
andis the		
fruit of thy womb,		
Mary,		
of God,		
for us sinners now,		
and at the of		
our death.		
Amen.		

Mary pro	A Bless	ed
women	hour	grace
Mother	Holy ble	essed
	Lord	Jesus

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!



GOSPEL LUKE 1:39-45

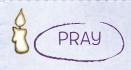
The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Luke.

Mary is so excited! The angel has told her that, not only is she going to have a special baby, her cousin Elizabeth is also expecting a baby! Mary rushes to see Elizabeth and as she calls "hello", Elizabeth's baby jumps for joy. Now it is Elizabeth's turn to be excited! Filled with

the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth exclaims that Mary is the happiest, most blessed, of all women. Elizabeth and her baby know that Mary's special baby is the reason she is blessed. Mary has trusted God's promise and is going to be the mother of God! Now we are all excited!

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest or deacon do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?



"Here I am!"

Quietly make these words from our second reading into your prayer. Offer your heart to God. Offer your time and your energy to God. Offer yourself to God today.





Volunteer willingly to help out at home and at school, to make this busy time easier for the people around you.

is the Greek word for

"fish" and was used in the catacombs

as a sign for early Christians. It is made

up from the first

⊕ (Theou/God's)

 Σ (Soter/Saviour)

I (Jesus)

X (Christos)

Y (Uios/Son)

letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who has ever hoped to have a baby. Help us all to enjoy and welcome love in our lives, wherever we find it. Lord, hear my prayer. reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This is a prayer you could say privately.

Listen to the



OFFERTORY PROCESSION <

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about any times this week when you were bored and then think about the times when you were excited and joyful. Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you for blessing my life with love, Jesus. Help me to recognise you in the love of my family and friends. Amen.



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.





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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Year C

Thank God for all the lovely people who live with you and love you.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger. the altar.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches

ΙΧΘΥΣ

DO YOU KNOW?

Some of our ideas about

COLLECT O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



FIRST READING 1 SAMUEL 1:20-22. 24-28

Hannah had longed for a baby. Hannah promises God that if she has a baby, she will give the child back to God. God hears her prayer - Hannah and her husband are blessed with a new baby! Hannah knows that her

son Samuel is special gift from God. When Samuel is old enough, Hannah takes him to the Temple where he will be a helper for Eli, the priest. Hannah keeps the promise she made because she is so thankful for Samuel.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Hannah takes Samuel to the Temple.

what happened at Jesus' birth are not in the Gospel stories. The Bible does not say that Mary rode on a donkey or that there are three wise men! These details are not important, however. The important fact is that Jesus, the light of the world, has come to live with us! Jesus' birth story tells us how much God loves us!

THINK

Christmas is a time when

we enjoy being with our families. If we are lucky

we might even see our

grandparents, aunties,

uncles and cousins. But

perfect, and we might

fall out with each other.

Remember, Jesus knows

what it's like to live with a family - and that it's

not always easy! Let's ask

Jesus to help us to be

each other.

patient and loving with

our families are not

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 83

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.



SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-2. 21-24

God loves each one of us very much. Think about just how much a mum or dad loves their child. God loves us even more than that! We already know that we are God's children, but we know

that in the future we will understand God's love for us even better than we do now. We need never be afraid to talk to God about whatever is on our mind. God is always with us, helping and loving us.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Each of us is one of God's children!



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!



GOSPEL LUKE 2:41-52

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Luke.

O my goodness! Imagine how frightened Mary and Joseph are. Having celebrated at the Passover in Jerusalem, they have been travelling for a whole day before that they realise Jesus is missing. It's not until three days later that they find Jesus, in the Temple with the teachers, listening and asking questions. Jesus doesn't

seem to understand just how worried Mary and Joseph have been. Mary and Joseph don't understand what Jesus means when he says he needed to be in his Father's house. Despite their misunderstandings, they all go home together to Nazareth. In this loving family Jesus grows up to be wise and good.

STAND to LISTEN to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest or deacon do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This is a prayer you could sau privately.

Watch as the gifts are

priest washes his hands

made ready and the

and prepares for the

Eucharistic Prayer.

Find a way to do

something thoughtful and helpful for the people you live with every day this week.





PRAL

"Think of the love that the

Father has lavished on us."

Sit quietly with God.

much God loves you.

- hugely, generously,

extravagantly and

massivelu!

Just think about how

Not just a bit, but lavishly



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for all families; those who live together and those who live in different places. Help us to be kind to each other. Lord, hear my prayer.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about any times this week when you were impatient with someone and then think about a time when you were kind and helpful.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for bringing light and love into the world and into my life. Thank you for the hope I have because of you. Amen.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sundau.







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