

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year B



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year A

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year C

First Reading † Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

‘Comfort, O comfort my people,’
says your God.
‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and cry out to her
that her period of service is ended,
her penalty has been paid;
from the hand of the Lord she has received
double for all her sins.’

A voice crying out,
‘In the desert prepare a way for the Lord.
Make straight across the wastelands
a highway for our God.
Let every ravine be filled in,
every mountain and hill be brought down.
the crooked shall be straight,
the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all humanity shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain, Zion,
herald of good news!
Lift up your voice with power, Jerusalem,
herald of good news!
Lift it up without fear!
Say to the cities of Judah,
‘See, here is your God.’

See the Lord God coming with power,
his arm rules for him,
see, his reward is with him,
his prize goes before him.

He tends his flock like a shepherd,
gathering the lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial # Psalm 84:9-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God has to say;
he speaks of peace for his faithful people,
and those who turn their hearts to him.
His salvation is near for those who fear him,
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Merciful love and faithfulness have met;
righteousness and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth,
and righteousness look down from heaven.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Yes, the Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.
Righteousness will march before him,
and guide his steps on the way.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading # 2 Peter 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

But one thing, beloved, you must never forget, is that with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day. The Lord is not delaying his promises as some conceive delay, but he is being patient with you, not wanting anyone to be lost, but everyone to come to repentance.

The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and melt away, the earth and all that it contains will be revealed.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, what sort of people should you be, in holy conduct and devotion, while you wait for the day of God to come, eager for the coming of that day, on which the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat?

In accordance with his promise let us wait for the new heavens and new earth, where righteousness is at home. So then, my dear friends, while you are waiting for these events, be eager to be found by him in peace, blameless and unsullied.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation # Luke 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † Mark 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the gospel about Jesus the Messiah, Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah:

*Look, I am sending my messenger in front of you
who will prepare your way.*

A voice of one crying in the desert:

*Prepare a way for the Lord
make his paths straight.*

John the Baptist was in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the River Jordan as they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And as he proclaimed he said,

‘After me is coming the one who is more powerful than me, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Monday of the second week of Advent