

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Liturgy of the Word
1st Sunday of Advent – December 3rd 2023

Entrance antiphon: *please stand*

(All) **To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.**

To commemorate our baptism, and to begin our celebration, let us bless ourselves with the sign of the cross: (All) **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (All) **And with your spirit.**

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare our hearts to hear the Word of God and to receive his body in Holy Communion:

**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.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. (All) **Amen.**

Collect prayer

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. 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.

(All) **Amen.**

FIRST READING *please be seated.*

From the Book of the prophet Isaiah (63, 16, 64, 1-8)

You, O Lord, are our father; “Our Redeemer from of old” is your name. Why, O Lord, do you make us stray from your ways and harden our heart, so that we do not fear you? Turn back for the sake of your servants, for the sake of the tribes that are your heritage.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself, we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

The Word of the Lord: (All) **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (80)

**R. Restore us, O Lord, let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Stir up your might, and come to save us!

**R. Restore us, O Lord, let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

Turn again, O God of hosts;
look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,
the stock that your right hand planted.

**R. Restore us, O Lord, let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the son of man you have made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.

**R. Restore us, O Lord, let your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

SECOND READING

From the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1, 3-9)

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord: (All) **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(All) **Alleluia. Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.** (Psalm 85, 7)

The Lord be with you.

(All) **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (13,33-37)

(All) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: “Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the

master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.

(All) **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HOMILY

please be seated

PROFESSION OF FAITH:

THE APOSTLES' CREED *please stand*

With the entire Church, let us now proclaim our Faith:

<p>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;</p>	<p>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.</p>
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PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

(Claude) Let us now present our requests to the Lord, for the Church, for the world and for ourselves; let us pray with confidence to the Lord our God:

For the Church, eagerly awaiting the fulfillment of the children of God, we pray to the Lord:

(All) **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the world, longing for its promised salvation, we pray to the Lord:

(All) **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sorrowing and the despairing, the suffering and alienated, the forgotten and the overlooked, we pray to the Lord:

(All) **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our parish and our diocese, working together as we await the Lord's return in glory, we pray to the Lord:

(All) **Lord, hear our prayer.**

(Claude) God, our Father, to your greatness, there is no limit. In your great goodness, look at our desire to collaborate for a more just world and grant us the grace to work tirelessly for your greater glory and the good of all. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

(All) **Amen.**

COMMUNION RITE

As we prepare ourselves to receive the Body of Christ in Holy Communion, and following the teaching and command given by our Saviour, we dare to say,

(All) **Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

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. You who live and reign forever and ever (All) **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

(All) **And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of Peace.

(The Holy Ciborium is brought to the altar)

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.

(All) **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

We shall now receive the Body of Christ, in Holy Communion. Let us recite together the Communion Antiphon:

(All) **The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.** (Psalm 84, 13)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

remain seated

We give you thanks, O Lord, because in the sharing of the Word and the Bread, you have given us the signs of the coming of your Son Jesus into our midst. You who have granted us to walk in your Spirit, do not let our hearts grow heavy: make us watchmen, men and women standing to welcome the One who will return in glory. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. (All): **Amen.**

FINAL PRAYER AND BLESSING

please stand

The Lord be with you.

(All) **And with your spirit.**

(Solemn Blessing – Advent)

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again, sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing.

(All) **Amen.**

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity.

(All) **Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty.

(All) **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, † *the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit*, come down on you and remain with you.

(All) **Amen.**

Let us go, in peace, to love and to serve the Lord.

(All) **Thanks be to God.**