



EUCHALETTE



3 December 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

Year B

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR OF THE CLERGY & CONSECRATED PERSONS

NATIONAL AIDS SUNDAY

Rediscovering Our Need to Be Saved

Today we begin a new liturgical year: the series of seasons and weeks during which we will reflect on and re-live the saving events of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us wish one another a happy and holy liturgical year! We also celebrate the Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons, and we remember them in this Mass.

This First Sunday of Advent reminds us not only of the need to be saved, but also of our duty to be always ready to welcome the Lord. He already came as a frail Child when he was born in Bethlehem. But we have to remember that he constantly comes to us as our Savior and in our neighbor. He is about to come to us in this Eucharistic celebration in order to help us make sense of all that happens to us and around us. Let us open our hearts to welcome the Lord.

Today, the first Sunday of December, is also National AIDS Sunday. The Church has been at the frontlines of the battle against AIDS, helping and supported by many NGOs alongside the government. But we must all do our share to stop the alarming rise in HIV/AIDS cases that threaten the very foundation of our society: the family. As we try to learn more about this deadly disease and reach out to those who are at risk, let us also remember in this Eucharist the persons living with HIV/AIDS and the ones who are caring for them.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

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.

Greeting

P –The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
All –**And with your spirit!**

Penitential Act

P –Coming together as God's family on this first Sunday of Advent, with confidence let us

ask the Lord's forgiveness, for he is full of gentleness and compassion. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you invite us to be vigilant, but we often behave as if you should never come. Lord, have mercy!

All –**Lord, have mercy!**

P –Lord Jesus, you knock at the door of our hearts, asking to be admitted, but we sometimes turn a deaf ear. Christ, have mercy!

All –**Christ, have mercy!**

P –Lord Jesus, you invite us to be attentive to the needs of our neighbor, but we pretend not to see. Lord, have mercy!

All –**Lord, have mercy!**

P –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All –**Amen!**

Collect (Opening Prayer)

P –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, one God, for ever and ever.

All –**Amen!**

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading *Is 63:16-17.19; 64:2-7*

This passage is a "community lamentation and supplication" common among the exiles in Babylon who felt abandoned

by God. But even at the bottom of their misery, one strong conviction nourishes their hope: God is their father. Eventually, He will show them His mercy and power.

R – A proclamation from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him.

Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

The Word of the Lord!
All – Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm Ps 80

R – Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved!

R. M. Velez



* **O shepherd of Israel, hear-ken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.** **R.**

* **Once again, O Lord of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted, the son of man whom you yourself made strong.** **R.**

* **May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you. Give us new life, and we will call upon your name.** **R.**

2nd Reading 1 Cor 1:3-9

The opening section of the First Letter of Paul to the Christians of Corinth overflows with the Apostle's sincere gratitude for what the Lord has done for them. These same words apply also to us today.

R – A proclamation from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus. That in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord!
All – Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation Ps 85:8

All – Alleluia! Alleluia!
Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:33-37

Readiness to welcome the Lord is needed not only in reference to the end of the world but also every moment of our life, for He may come at any time. He comes in a special manner this Advent to bring us the abundance of his blessings.

P – The Lord be with you!

All – And with your spirit!

P – A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All – Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus said to his disciples: **“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.**

It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord!
All – Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene Creed)

All – 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, (bow)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. * 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!

Prayer of the Faithful

P –As we start this Advent season, let us approach the Lord with confident hope and a sincere desire to welcome him in our lives. Together let us pray:

All—Come, Lord Jesus, and bring us your salvation!

C –For the entire Christian community: May it be a shining example to the rest of mankind with its constant readiness to do God's will. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For the Holy Father, our Bishops, priests and all consecrated persons: May they find in us the consolation they expect as they do their best to lead us closer to God. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those who find it hard to give time to spiritual matters: May they set their priorities right by giving God the first place in their lives. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those who are terminally ill and the dying: May this Advent season help them to prepare for their decisive meeting with the Divine Judge. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those who have not yet been reached by the light of the Gospel: May they soon welcome Jesus as their Savior. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For persons living with HIV/AIDS: May they find hope in Jesus, in spite of their illness, and be treated with Christ-like love and compassion by the people

around them. Let us pray! **R.**

C –For those who risk contracting HIV because their lifestyles go against the teachings of Christ: May they realize that God's commandments are meant not to stifle them but to protect them and give them a life that is truly free from the enslavement of sin and deceptive pleasures. Let us pray! **R.**

C –Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. (*Pause*)

Let us pray! **R.**

P –Lord, make us experience the healing strength of your presence. May we serve you with joyful hearts throughout this Advent season. You who live and reign for ever and ever.

All—Amen!



Preparation of the Gifts

P –Pray, brethren . . .

All—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

P –Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!

Advent Preface I

P –The Lord be with you!

All—And with your spirit!

P –Lift up your hearts!

All—We lift them up to the Lord!

P –Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

All—It is right and just!

P –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 he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design

you formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

All—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!

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith!

All—Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.



All—Our Father . . .

P –Deliver us, Lord . . .

All—For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All—Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (2x)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion

P –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.

Communion Antiphon

(*To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.*)

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Prayer after Communion

P – May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures.

Through Christ our Lord.

All – Amen!



P – The Lord be with you.

All – And with your spirit!

P – Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing. (*Pause*) May the Lord make you ever more aware of the need of His saving presence in your life.

All – Amen!

P – May He protect you from all evil all the days of this Advent.

All – Amen!

P – May He keep you ever ready to welcome Him at any time

with faith and love.

All – Amen!

P – May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All – Amen!

P – Go in peace and be instruments of God’s love for all.

All – Thanks be to God!



2018 – The Year of the Clergy and Consecrated Persons

Our bishops have dedicated the sixth stage in the nine-year preparation for the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines to the CLERGY and CONSECRATED PERSONS. This wise choice gives the members of these two very important components of the Church a unique opportunity to reflect on their duty to be “servant leaders in the manner of the Good Shepherd, live the spirit of the evangelical counsels, and be authentic prophets of the Good News of Jesus and of the Kingdom” (*CBCP Pastoral Exhortation “Live Christ, Share Christ”*).

But this observance is important not only for the members of the clergy and of the institutes/associations of consecrated life but also for all Catholics, because it gives us all an opportunity to appreciate and show gratitude for the services of leadership, guidance and inspiration which these two “elite groups” have rendered (and still render) to the entire Church.

From the very beginning of the Church and up to the present, a great many Church leaders have distinguished themselves by the holiness

of their lives and the fulfillment of their task of serving the people of God. They have done so by organizing and guiding the lay faithful, defending the integrity of the faith, and pursuing the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Such was (and is) their duty, for they knew (and know) that they must lead by example, and be the first to put into practice what they preach. Authority and power have been given them not for their own advantage, but to serve the people in imitation of Jesus, “the Servant-in-Chief.”

All consecrated persons, for their part, must be a constant reminder to the entire Christian community of the primacy of the spiritual realities over material ones. They must be living witnesses, in words and deeds, of the great value of chastity, fraternal charity, prayer, humility and obedience to God’s will. Their communities should be clear signs of the presence of the Kingdom in our midst, and a proof that living according to the Gospel is not just a “nice theory” but an undeniable reality, despite occasional shortcomings and setbacks.

Make this Our Gift to our Blessed Mother:
A Million Hearts Consecrated to Jesus through Mary
From her beloved people of the Philippines,
Bayang sumisinta kay Maria

For those who have taken a Self-Retreat for 33 days
(November 5 to December 7)
with Fr. Michael Gaitley’s
33 Days to Morning Glory

We will end with a **TOTAL (TOTUS TUUS)**
CONSECRATION

to the IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
on **December 8, 2017,**

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

* If you have not read the book yet, you may start your own self-retreat on December 31, 2017 and make your Consecration on February 2, 2018. Invite your family/organization/school/parish to do it with you. **33 Days to Morning Glory** is now available at **only P180!** Contact Word & Life (#894-5401/02). Or download the ebook from ShopMercy.org or Google Play Store.



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