



A LITURGICAL
PREPARATION AID
FOR THE SEASONS OF
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

*A pastoral resource provided by the
Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions*

 FDLC

A LITURGY PREPARATION AID FOR THE SEASONS OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

2022-2023

YEAR A

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This document uses the current text of the *Rite of Penance* for the dioceses of the United States of America. For more information on the revised *Order of Penance* which may be used as of Ash Wednesday (February 22, 2023), please watch the recent webinar sponsored by the FDLC and the Secretariat for Divine Worship.

<https://fdlc.org/2022/07/may-god-grant-you-pardon-and-peace-webinar-on-the-revised-order-of-penance/>



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LIVING FOR GOD



A PENANCE SERVICE FOR ADVENT 2022

Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution

Introductory Rites

Opening Hymn
Greeting
Introduction
Opening Prayer

Celebration of the Word of God

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel Verse
Gospel
Homily
Examination of Conscience

Rite of Reconciliation

General Confession of Sin
Litany of Repentance
Lord's Prayer
Concluding Prayer
Individual Confessions of Sin and Absolution
Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy
Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving

Concluding Rite

Blessing
Dismissal
Closing Hymn

PREPARATION

- Hospitality Ministers should be recruited to welcome the assembly as they arrive and to distribute worship aids.
- At least two readers should be appointed to proclaim the reading(s), to read the Examination of Conscience, and to lead the Litany of Repentance. They are to be seated in the assembly.
- A musician and cantor(s) should lead the assembly in song. Instrumental music may be played during individual confession. (A list of music suggestions is included herein.)
- A Bible or Lectionary should be readied with the appropriate readings.
- Lighting may be subdued. Candle(s) should be lit at the ambo. The appropriate number of candles should be lit on the Advent Wreath.
- Stations for confessors should be prepared. Priests might stand or sit in isolated areas around the main body of the church to receive penitents. In this way, the communal nature of the rite is maintained. Candles may light these stations.
- For the sake of simplicity, the presider alone or the presider and preacher could participate in the procession. Other priests could be seated in the sanctuary or in a reserved area before the liturgy begins.

*Whenever rites, according to their specific nature,
make provision for communal celebration
involving the presence and active participation of the faithful,
it is to be stressed that this way of celebrating them is to be preferred,
as far as possible, to a celebration that is individual and, so to speak, private.*

*This applies with special force to the celebration of Mass
and the administration of the sacraments,
even though every Mass has of itself a public and social character.*

*Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy, 27
December 4, 1963*

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN

See suggestions herein

GREETING

Presider: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you
from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

All: And with your spirit.

INTRODUCTION

In these or similar words...

Presider: We gather today [tonight] to acknowledge our sinfulness.
We live in a world plagued by terrorism and war.
We live in a society divided by rancorous debate.
Each day, we see the inequalities between the rich and the poor,
and people of various races and cultures.
We are often blinded by our own concerns and ambitions.

Time and again, we have heard the words of Jesus
on how we are to live
on how we are to treat one another
and on how we are to build the kingdom of God.

And yet we fail.

We fall short of his clear commandments.

But through the infinite mercy of God,
we are invited to this moment of grace.

We celebrate this sacrament instituted by Christ:
a sign of his continued presence among us.

Let us examine those things
which prevent us from living as we ought to live.
And let us approach our Father in a spirit of true repentance.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider: My brothers and sisters,
We look forward to celebrating the mystery
of Christ's incarnation.
Let us pray that when he comes again,
he may find us awake and ready to receive him.

Silent prayer

**Almighty and merciful God,
you have brought us together in the name of your Son
to receive your mercy and grace in our time of need.
Open our eyes to see the evil we have done.
Touch our hearts and convert us to yourself.
Where sin has divided and scattered,
may your love make us one again;
where sin has brought weakness,
may your power heal and strengthen;
where sin has brought death,
may your Spirit raise us to new life.**

**Give us a heart to love you,
so that our lives may reflect the image of your Son.
May the world see the glory of Christ
revealed in your Church,
and come to know that he is the One whom you have sent,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.**

All: Amen.

Stir up your power, O Lord,
and come to our help with mighty strength,
that what our sins may impede
the grace of your mercy may hasten.
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.

Collect
Thursday of the First Week of Advent

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

The following are suggested readings. Alternative readings may be selected. The preacher may wish to use one, two, or three readings. If only one is chosen, it is preferable that it be the gospel.

The readings are printed elsewhere in this booklet, for ease of rehearsal. A Lectionary or Bible should be used during the liturgy.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 54:1-10

The Lord calls you back.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING

Romans 6:2-11

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 2:5

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, the love of God is perfected in him.

GOSPEL

John 15:9-14

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love.

HOMILY

*You must think of yourselves
as being dead to sin
and living for God in Christ Jesus.*

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: OPTION A

A period of time may be allowed for the making of an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence. Alternatively, the presider or other minister might lead the assembly with the questions below. Allow a brief period of silence after each one.

Presider: **Sisters and Brothers,
our Father knows all our failings,
but asks us to call them to mind
so that we may seek out his forgiveness.**

Minister: **What is my attitude about the sacrament of reconciliation? Do I sincerely
want to be set free from sin, turn again to God, and resolve to begin again?**

**Do I pray daily? Do I offer God my difficulties, my joys, my sorrows? Do I
turn to God in times of temptations?**

**Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred? Am I faithful to my communal
prayer? Do I fulfill my commitments as a member of my faith community?**

Do I have a genuine love of my neighbor? Am I kind to strangers?

Do I try to bring light to a world darkened by hatred?

Do I look down on people who are different than I am?

Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?

**In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the
rest of my family? Am I patient? Am I loving? Do I treat my parents with
respect?**

**Am I lazy? Do I dedicate too much time to play or to leisure? Do I work
excessively? Do I neglect my family?**

**In my work and in my relationships, am I honest and just? Have I been
faithful to my promises and contracts?**

**Am I preoccupied with money or worldly goods? Am I too concerned with
possessions? Have I stolen or damaged the property of others?**

**Do I share my resources with those less fortunate? Do I regularly give to
charities?**

**Have I done violence to others? Have I injured anyone with my actions or my
words?**

**Have I tried to grow in grace? Do I read the Word of God and meditate on it?
Do I receive the sacraments? Do I strive to be closer to God each day of my
life?**

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE: OPTION B

The assembly is now invited to make an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence or by using the examination below. Two readers might alternate. Allow a brief period of silence between each question or phrase.

Presider: The following examination of conscience is based upon the Confiteor. Please reflect quietly as each part is read.

I CONFESS TO ALMIGHTY GOD

- Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin and turn again to God?
- Do I seek a deeper relationship with God in this sacrament of reconciliation?

AND TO YOU, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS

- Do I have a genuine love for my family and friends, neighbors and co-workers, or fellow students?
- Have I contributed to the well being and happiness of others at home?
- Am I aware of my global relationship to those suffering and dying in other parts of the world?
- Am I committed to seek peace and promote justice for every person?

THAT I HAVE GREATLY SINNED

- Do I blame others for my wrongdoing or for the misfortune that befalls me?
- Do I accept responsibility for the commitments I have made to others – my spouse? my parents? my children? my parish?
- Do I accept that society's evils are within my power to change?

IN MY THOUGHT AND IN MY WORDS

- Have ever harbored ill thoughts against another person?
- Have my addictions affected my judgment or behavior?
- Have my fears or prejudices prevented me from speaking out on behalf of the poor, the unborn, or people of other races?
- Have my words caused others hurt? Has my silence caused others harm?

IN WHAT I HAVE DONE

- Do I seek to be the center of attention? Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their needs or freedoms?
- Am I focused on my needs to the detriment of the needs of others?
- Am I obsessed with having the perfect body, making more money, or having the latest technology?
- Do I need to be in control of all people and all situations?
- Do I work more than is healthy for my mind or body?

AND IN WHAT I HAVE FAILED TO DO

- Have I neglected by responsibilities to my family?
- Have I neglected my health?
- Have I neglected my prayer life?
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely?

THROUGH MY FAULT, THROUGH MY FAULT, THROUGH MY MOST GREIVIOUS FAULT

- Do I recognize my own sins?
- Does my ego or my self-righteousness prevent me from seeing my own errors?
- Do I blame broken relationships on others?

THEREFORE I ASK BLESSED MARY, EVER-VIRGIN AND ALL THE ANGELS AND SAINTS

- Do I appreciate the great gift of the Eucharist?
- Do I worship with my Community each Sunday?
- Do I reflect often on what God is calling me to do?

AND YOU MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS

- Am I so independent that I refuse to ask for help or let others assist me?
- Do I support and defend other members of my family?
- Do I give others the opportunity to share their gifts and talents?
- Do I treat those who wait on me or who work with me with the dignity they deserve as fellow human beings?

TO PRAY FOR ME TO THE LORD OUR GOD.

- Do I promise prayers for people and situations and not follow through?
- Do I remember to pray for others in my parish, especially for those who are preparing to receive the sacraments?
- Do I pray for the living and the dead?



RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

Presider: God who is infinitely merciful
pardons all who are repentant
and takes away their guilt.
Confident in his goodness,
let us ask him to forgive all our sins
as we confess them with sincerity of heart.

All: 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.

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider: Let us turn to Christ with confidence and ask his mercy.

Minister: You came into the world to seek and save what was lost.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You came to give us life, life in its fullness.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Once and for all you died for our sins,
the innocent one for the guilty.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: In your mercy free us from the past
and enable us to begin a new life of holiness.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Make us a living sign of love for all to see:
people reconciled with you and with each other.

All: Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Presider: Now, in obedience to Christ himself,
let us join in prayer to the Father,
asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.

All: Our Father, ...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Presider: Almighty and eternal God
you sent your only-begotten Son
to reconcile the world to yourself.
Lift from our hearts the oppressive gloom of sin,
so that we may celebrate the approaching
dawn of Christ's birth with fitting joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The presider or other minister might tell the assembly where the confessors will be located. Some brief words regarding the manner of confession should be given. The people may be encouraged to accept one of the penances which are found in the worship aid or the confessors may give a penance suited to the individual. The assembly may be advised to remain in church if there is to be a common ending. Quiet instrumental music might be played during this time.

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

Confessor: God, the Father of mercies,
through the death and resurrection of his Son
has reconciled the world to himself
and sent the Holy Spirit among us
for the forgiveness of sins;
through the ministry of the Church
may God give you pardon and peace,
and I absolve you from your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠
and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: Amen.

Give thanks to the LORD for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who alone does great wonders,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who made the heavens in wisdom,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who spread out the earth upon the waters,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who made the great lights.
for his mercy endures forever;
The sun to rule over the day,
for his mercy endures forever;
The moon and the stars to rule over the night,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who led his people through the wilderness,
for his mercy endures forever;

Who freed us from our foes,
for his mercy endures forever;
Who gives food to all flesh,
for his mercy endures forever;
Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his mercy endures forever.

Another psalm, hymn, or litany may be prayed in acknowledgment of God's power and compassion. See the enclosed music suggestions or use one of the scripture citations below.

Psalm 28: 6-7

Psalm 32: 1-7, 10-11

Psalm 54

Psalm 66

Psalm 95

Psalm 98: 1-9

Psalm 100: 1-5

Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-18

Psalm 119: 1, 10-16, 18, 33, 105, 169-170, 174-175

Psalm 145: 1-21

Psalm 146: 2-10

Isaiah 12: 1b-6

Isaiah 61: 10-11

Jeremiah 31: 10-14

Daniel 3:52-57

Luke 1:46-55

Ephesians 1:3-10

Revelation 15: 3-4

CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Presider: Lord God,
Creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,
in your great love for this world
you gave up your only Son for our salvation.
His cross has redeemed us,
his death has given us life,
his resurrection has raised us to glory.
Through him we ask you
to be always present among your family.
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;
fill our hearts with faith,
our days with good works,
our lives with your love.
May your truth be on our lips
and your wisdom in all our actions,
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

BLESSING

Presider: May the Lord guide your hearts in the way of his love
and fill you with Christ-like patience.

All: Amen.

Presider: May he give you strength
to walk in newness of life
and to please him in all things.

All: Amen.

Presider: May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

READINGS

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Is 54:1-10

Like a forsaken wife, the Lord has called you back.

Raise a glad cry, you barren one who did not bear,
break forth in jubilant song, you who were not in labor,
For more numerous are the children of the deserted wife
than the children of her who has a husband,
says the LORD.

Enlarge the space for your tent,
spread out your tent cloths unsparingly;
lengthen your ropes and make firm your stakes.
For you shall spread abroad to the right and to the left;
your descendants shall dispossess the nations
and shall people the desolate cities.

Fear not, you shall not be put to shame;
you need not blush, for you shall not be disgraced.
The shame of your youth you shall forget,
the reproach of your widowhood no longer remember.
For he who has become your husband is your Maker;
his name is the LORD of hosts;
Your redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,
called God of all the earth.
The LORD calls you back,
like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,
A wife married in youth and then cast off,
says your God.
For a brief moment I abandoned you,
but with great tenderness I will take you back.
In an outburst of wrath, for a moment
I hid my face from you;
But with enduring love I take pity on you,
says the LORD, your redeemer.

**This is for me like the days of Noah,
when I swore that the waters of Noah
should never again deluge the earth;
So I have sworn not to be angry with you,
or to rebuke you.
Though the mountains leave their place
and the hills be shaken,
My love shall never leave you
nor my covenant of peace be shaken,
says the LORD, who has mercy on you.**

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.**

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

**He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.**

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

**The LORD secures justice
and the rights of all the oppressed.
He has made known his ways to Moses,
and his deeds to the children of Israel.**

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.**

R: The Lord is kind and merciful.



SECOND READING

Romans 6:2-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God.

Brothers and sisters:

How can we who died to sin yet live in it?

**Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?**

**We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.**

**For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.**

**We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.**

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

**If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.**

**We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.**

**As to his death, he died to sin once and for all;
as to his life, he lives for God.**

**Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin
and living for God in Christ Jesus.**

The word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

1 John 2:5

**Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
the love of God is truly perfected in him.**

GOSPEL

John 15:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

**If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father’s commandments
and remain in his love.**

**“I have told you this so that my joy might be in you
and your joy might be complete.**

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.”

**No one has greater love than this,
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.**

You are my friends if you do what I command you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: ALTERNATIVE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Deuteronomy 30:15-20	I have set before you life and prosperity, death and doom.
Isaiah 25:6-10a	The Lord will save us.
Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10	God himself will come to save us.
Isaiah 40:1-11	God consoles his people
Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25	There is no just and saving God but me.
Isaiah 58:6-11	Then light shall rise for you in the darkness...
Isaiah 59:1-4, 9-15	We look for light and, lo, darkness.
Jeremiah 7:21-26	Listen to my voice...I will be your God and you will be my people
Jeremiah 23:5-8	I will raise up a righteous shoot to David...
Ezekiel 36:23-28	I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you.
Hosea 2:16-25	I will make a covenant for you that day
Joel 2: 12-18	For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness
Zephaniah 3:14-18a	The Lord has removed judgment against you...the Lord is in your midst

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 25	Teach me your ways, O Lord
Psalms 36:2-13	How precious is your unfailing love, O Lord.
Psalms 51:3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17	Give back to me the joy of your salvation
Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17	Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19	Lord, make us turn to you and we will be saved.
Psalms 85: 9ab,10, 11-12, 13-14	Our God will come and save us.
Psalms 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9	The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.
Psalms 130: 1-8	With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption
Psalms 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13	The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and of great kindness
Psalms 147:1-6	Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 3: 22-26	Justified by the gift of God, Christ Jesus
Romans 12:1-2, 9-19	Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction...
2 Corinthians 5:17-21	God reconciled the world to himself through Christ
Ephesians 1: 3-14	The Father's plan of salvation
Ephesians 2:1-10	But God who is rich in mercy...brought us to life with Christ
Ephesians 4: 22-32	Forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ
Philippians 1:4-11	Show yourself pure and blameless for the day of Christ
Philippians 4: 6-9	Have no anxiety at all
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2	May the Lord strengthen your hearts for the coming of the Lord Jesus.
James 5:7-10	Make your hearts firm, the coming of the Lord is at hand
1 Peter 1: 14-21	You were ransomed from your futile conduct
1 John 1:5 -2:2	If we acknowledge our sins he is faithful and just

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12	Reform your lives, the reign of God is at hand.
Matthew 9:1-8	[Healing of the paralytic] Have confidence, my son, your sins are forgiven.
Matthew 21:28-32	Man had two sons... John came and sinners believed in him
Luke 7: 18b-23	Go tell John what you have seen and heard
Luke 19: 1-10	The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost
John 1:29-34	Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
John 5:33-36	I have testimony greater than John's
John 8:12-16	I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness.
John 9:1-7	I am the light of the world.

SAMPLE PENANCES

- During the next week, spend an hour in prayer for those who are the victims of abuse or neglect. Read Matthew 25: 31-46.
- As a family, prepare a basket of food or toiletries and give it to a family in need.
- Skip a meal at your favorite restaurant. Use the money to purchase a Christmas gift for a person served by a parish organization or local charity.
- Identify a person whom you have offended since your last confession and pray for them each day for a week.
- Think of someone you have been especially uncharitable towards and send a Christmas card with a note of kindness attached to it.
- Work at a soup kitchen or food pantry during Advent for a couple of hours.
- Reflect on the Beatitudes.....find someone who meets one of those needs, such as one who mourns, and send them a note or visit them during Advent.
- Speak a word of affirmation to each member of your household this week. Make an effort to "help carry someone's burden" among your friends or family members.
- Offer to share something you have - or something you're doing - with someone who would appreciate it.
- Take a "prayer time" of ten minutes or so... and ask God if there is something God would like to say to you... and LISTEN.
- Call or write a note to someone who may be lonely or in need of "comfort and joy".
- Gather your family members for a reading of the "Christmas Story" from the Gospel of Matthew or Luke. Discuss what it means to them and to you.
- Include a weekday Mass in your plans during Advent.
- Every morning until Christmas, say a Hail Mary for peace.
- Reach out to a lonely person at school. Invite him or her to sit with you and your friends.
- Prayerfully pray Psalm 51.
- For one whole week, do the dishes or set the table without being asked.
- Give up some leisure time to shovel an elderly neighbor's driveway.

MUSIC SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE 2022

HYMNODY

Amazing Grace	Newton (various)
A Voice Cries Out	Michael Joncas (GIA)
Christians, Let Us Love One Another	Foltz/Nigro (OCP)
Clear the Voice	Hagan (OCP)
Come, Emmanuel	Light/Tate (WLP)
Come, O Long Expected Jesus	Wesley (various)
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come	(various)
Comfort, Comfort, O My People	Winkworth (tr.) (OCP)
Cry out with Joy and Gladness	Paul Tate (WLP, 007381)
Cry out with Joy and Gladness	Rudy Borkowski (WLP, 006272)
Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing	(GIA; Hymns for the Gospel)
Find Us Ready	Tom Booth (GIA)
God's Holy Mountain We Ascend	(WLP)
He Healed the Darkness of My Mind	John 9/Fred Pratt Green (GIA)
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light	Kathleen Thomerson (various)
Lead Us to Your Light	Carol Browning (GIA)
Let Desert Wasteland Now Rejoice	Delores Duffer (GIA)
Let Justice Roll Like a River	Marty Haugen (GIA)
Let Us Sing to the Lord/ <i>Cantemos al Señor</i>	Alonso/Mahler (GIA, G-6129 [collection])
My Soul in Stillness Waits	Marty Haugen (GIA)
No Greater Love	Michael Joncas (GIA)
Our Darkness	Taize (GIA)
Praise the Lord, My Soul	Tom Parker (GIA)
Ready the Way	Bob Hurd (OCP)
Sion, Sing	Lucien Deiss (WLP)
The Advent of Our God	Coffin/Chandler (WLP; various hymnals)
The Lord is My Light	Lillian Bouknight (GIA)
The Master Came to Bring Good News	Ralph Finn (GIA; various hymnals)
The People who Walked in Darkness	M. L. Bringle (GIA)
The Reign of God	Delores Duffer (GIA)
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	Faber (various)
Treasures Out of Darkness/ <i>Tesoros Ocultos</i>	Alan Revering (WLP)
Walk in the Reign	Rory Cooney (GIA)
We Are the Light of the World	Matt. 5/ Jean Griefff (GIA)
When John Baptized by River Jordan	(GIA; various hymnals)
When the King Shall Come Again	Christopher Idle (various)
Where Charity and Love Prevail	Benoit (various)
Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice	(GIA; Hymns for the Gospel)

A LITURGICAL CALENDAR ADVISORY FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Sundays, solemnities, feasts and obligatory memorials are presented here. Optional memorials are listed in italics.

DAY	DATE	LITURGICAL DAY	RANK*	COMMENTS
Sunday	Nov 27	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A	2	Lect #1, Preface I of Advent
Monday	Nov 28	Monday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect # 175
Tuesday	Nov 29	Tuesday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #176
Wednesday	Nov 30	Saint Andrew, Apostle	7	Lect #684
Thursday	Dec 1	Thursday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect #178
Friday	Dec 2	Friday of the First Week of Advent	13	Lect # 179
Saturday	Dec 3	Saint Francis Xavier, Priest	10	Lect #685 or Lect #180
Sunday	Dec 4	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #4, PSS II
Monday	Dec 5	Monday of the Second Week of Advent	13	Lect #181
Tuesday	Dec 6	Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent <i>Saint Nicholas, Bishop</i>	13 12	Lect #182 <i>Lect #687</i>
Wednesday	Dec 7	Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #688 or Lect #183
Thursday	Dec 8	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM Patronal feast day of the USA	3	Lect #689; holy day of obligation
Friday	Dec 9	Friday of the Second Week of Advent <i>Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin</i>	13 12	Lect #185 <i>Lect # 689A</i>
Saturday	Dec 10	Saturday of the Third Week of Advent <i>Our Lady of Loreto</i>	13 12	Lect #186 <i>Lect #689B</i>
Sunday	Dec 11	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #7
Monday	Dec 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast-USA)	7	Lect #690 A or Com of BVM
Tuesday	Dec 13	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr	10	Lect #692 or Lect #188
Wednesday	Dec 14	Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church	10	Lect #693 or Lect #189
Thursday	Dec 15	Thursday of the Third Week of Advent	13	Lect #190
Friday	Dec 16	Friday of the Third Week of Advent	13	Lect #191
Saturday	Dec 17	Saturday of the Third Week of Advent	9	Lect #193
Sunday	Dec 18	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	2	Lect #10
Monday	Dec 19	Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #195
Tuesday	Dec 20	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #196
Wednesday	Dec 21	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent <i>Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i>	9 12	Lect #197 <i>Lect #694 or Commons P, D</i>
Thursday	Dec 22	Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #198
Friday	Dec 23	Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent <i>Saint John of Kanty, Priest</i>	9 12	Lect #199 <i>Lect 695 or 737-742</i>
Saturday	Dec 24	Saturday of the Fourth Week of Advent	9	Lect #200 (morning)

*Cf. *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, no. 59

ADVENT

A LITURGICAL YEAR CALENDAR ADVISORY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sundays, solemnities, feasts and obligatory memorials are presented here. Optional memorials are listed in italics.

Sunday	Dec 24/ Dec 25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)	2	Holy day of obligation Funeral Mass not permitted Genuflect at "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate..." Preface I, II or III of Christmas Vigil: Lect #13 Midnight: Lect #14 Dawn: Lect #15 Day: Lect #16
Monday	Dec 26	Saint Stephen, The First Martyr	7	Lect #696
Tuesday	Dec 27	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist	7	Lect #697
Wednesday	Dec 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	7	Lect #698
Thursday	Dec 29	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord <i>Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr</i>	9 12	Lect #202 <i>Lect #699</i>
Friday	Dec 30	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph	5	Lect #17A Only one reading before the gospel Preface I-III of Christmas
Saturday	Dec 31	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord <i>Saint Sylvester I, Pope</i>	9 12	Lect #204 <i>Lect #700</i>
Sunday	Jan 1, 2023	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord	3	Lect #18
Monday	Jan 2	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church	10	Lect #205 or Lect #510
Tuesday	Jan 3	Christmas Weekday <i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	13 12	Lect #206 <i>Lect #983</i>
Wednesday	Jan 4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious USA	10	Lect #207 or Lect #510A
Thursday	Jan 5	Saint John Neumann, Bishop USA	10	Lect #208 or Lect #510B
Friday	Jan 6	Christmas Weekday <i>Saint Andre Bessette, Religious -- USA</i>	13 12	Lect #209 <i>Lect #510C</i>
Saturday	Jan 7	Christmas Weekday <i>Saint Raymond Penyafort, Priest</i>	13 12	Lect #213 <i>Lect #511</i>
Sunday	Jan 8	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	2	Mass texts for Vigil and Day; Lect #20, Proper Preface, Solemn Blessing #4 Funeral Mass not permitted
Monday	Jan 9	The Baptism of the Lord	3	Lect #21-A Only one reading before the gospel Proper Preface



LECTIONARY FOR MASS - YEAR A

First Sunday of Advent (November 27, 2022)

Lectionary #1

First Reading	Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm	Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
Second Reading	Romans 13:11-14a
Gospel	Matthew 24:37-44

Second Sunday of Advent (December 4, 2022)

Lectionary #4

First Reading	Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm	Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Second Reading	Romans 15:4-9
Gospel	Matthew 3:1-12

Solemnity: The Immaculate Conception of the BVM (Thursday, December 8, 2022)

Lectionary #689

First Reading	Genesis 3: 9-15, 20
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4
Second Reading	Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12
Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38

Third Sunday of Advent (December 11, 2022)

Lectionary #7

First Reading	Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
Second Reading	James 5:7-10
Gospel	Matthew 11:2-11

Our Lady of Guadalupe [Feast] (Dec. 12, 2022) Lect # 690 A or Common of BVM 707-712

First Reading	Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Responsorial Psalm	Judith 13: 18bcde, 19
Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47

Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 18, 2022)

Lectionary #10

First Reading	Isaiah 7:10-14
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Second Reading	Romans 1:1-7
Gospel	Matthew 1:18-24

The Nativity of the Lord – Vigil Mass **Lectionary #13, ABC**
First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
Second Reading Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 [or 1:18-25]

The Nativity of the Lord - Mass at Midnight **Lectionary #14, ABC**
First Reading Isaiah 9:1-6
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13
Second Reading Titus 2:11-14
Gospel Luke 2:1-14

The Nativity of the Lord – Mass at Dawn **Lectionary #15, ABC**
First Reading Isaiah 62: 11-12
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 97: 1, 6, 11-12
Second Reading Titus 3:4-7
Gospel Luke 2:15-20

The Nativity of the Lord – Mass During the Day **Lectionary #16 ABC**
First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Second Reading Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel John 1: 1-18 [or John 1: 1-5, 9-14]

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph **Lectionary # 17 A**
(Friday, December 30, 2022)
First Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 OR Colossians 3:12-21 [or 3:12-17]
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
Gospel Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1, 2023) **Lectionary #18, ABC**
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
First Reading Numbers 6:22-27
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel Luke 2:16-21

The Epiphany of the Lord (January 8, 2023) **Lectionary #20 ABC**
First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

The Baptism of the Lord (Monday, January 9, 2023) **Lectionary #21 A**
First Reading Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 OR Acts 10:34-38
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10
Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

The announcement of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord from the *Roman Martyrology* draws upon Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Christ. It begins with creation and relates the birth of the Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history. The particular events contained in the announcement help pastorally to situate the birth of Jesus in the context of salvation history.

This text, *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*, may be chanted or recited, most appropriately on December 24 during the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours. It may also be chanted or recited before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night. It may not replace any part of the Mass.

The proclamation may also be sung or proclaimed in the Liturgy of the Hours on Christmas Eve. If it is used at Morning or Evening Prayer, it follows the introduction of the hour and precedes the hymn. When it is proclaimed in the Office of Readings, it precedes the *Te Deum*.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (THE CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION)

*From the Roman Martyrology - see Roman Missal, third edition (pages 1450 – 1452, USCCB edition)
The underlines are provided here to assist the minister who will chant it.*



The Twenty-fifth Day of December,
when ages beyond number had run their course from the
creation of the world
when God in the beginning created heaven and earth
and formed man in his own likeness;
when century upon century had passed
since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood,
as a sign of covenant and peace;
in the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith,
came out of the Ur of the Chaldees;
in the thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses
in the Exodus from Egypt;
around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;
in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad
in the year seven hundred and fifty-two
since the foundation of the City of Rome;
in the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus;
the world being at peace,



JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,
desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence
was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and when nine months had passed since his conception,
was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah and was made man:



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.



PROCLAMATION OF THE DATE OF EASTER

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with the ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to this formula. For chant notation, please see the Roman Missal, Appendix, pages 1448-1449 (USCCB edition).

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVABLE FEASTS

**Know, dear brethren, (brothers and sisters),
that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,
so by leave of God's mercy
we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection,
who is our Savior.**

**On the twenty-second day of February
will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.**

**On the ninth day of April
you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,
the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**On the twenty-first [eighteenth] day of May
will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**On the twenty-eighth day of May,
the feast of Pentecost.**

**On the eleventh day of June,
the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.**

**On the third day of December,
the First Sunday of Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.



ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS

The Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions was founded in 1969 by the then Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in order to assist with the implementation of the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* and the revised liturgical books. For over fifty-three years, our mission has remained the same. The members of our Federation continue to serve bishops, clergy, and parish liturgists in our roles as directors of Offices of Worship and as members of diocesan liturgical commissions.

We hope this free resource will be of benefit to you and to your parish. Other publications -- including books, pamphlets, and downloadable bulletin inserts -- are available at www.fdlc.org.

We also provide opportunities for liturgical formation. For example, we have conducted nationwide workshops on the revised *Rite of Celebrating Matrimony*, on the *Misal Romano, tercera edición*. Our free webinar series have focused on the Liturgical Books, the Liturgical Year, the *Order of Penance*, and on the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*. Please visit: <https://fdlc.org/ociawebinars/>

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