A LITURGY PREPARATION AID
FOR THE SEASONS OF
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

2019 - 2020
YEAR A

 CONTENTS

Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents
with Individual Confession and Absolution 4
Readings 16
Alternate Readings 20
Sample Penances 21
Music Suggestions 22

A Calendar Advisory for the Season of Advent 23
A Calendar Advisory for the Season of Christmas 24
The Lectionary for Mass – Year A 25
The Proclamation of the Birth of Christ
(to be sung at Midnight Mass) 27

Proclamation of the Date of Easter
(to be sung on the Solemnity of the Epiphany) 29

About the FDLC 30
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Prepared by
Rita A. Thiron, M.A.
on behalf of the
Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions
415 Michigan Avenue NE, Suite 70
Washington, DC  20017

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass for use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition
Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Proclamation of the Birth of Christ, Proclamation of the Date of Epiphany, O Antiphons
Used with permission. All rights reserved.

International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL);
excerpts from the English translation of Rite of Penance © 1974, ICEL;
excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, ICEL. All rights reserved.

Cover images:
John the Baptist by Luca Giordano, 1695
Adoration of the Shepherds, Gerard van Honthorst, 1622

Internal artwork by Steve Erspamer, Clip Art for Year A, B, C
© Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1992, 1993, 1994, respectively. All rights reserved.
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 are 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.

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 all the oracles of the prophets foretold him, the Virgin Mother longed for him with love beyond all telling, John the Baptist sang of his coming and proclaimed his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that we already rejoice at the mystery of his Nativity, so that he might find us watchful in prayer and exultant in his praise...

~ Preface II of Advent
The twofold expectation of Christ
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] in the gloom of winter.
We live in a world plagued by terrorism and war.
We live in a society divided by rancorous debate.
We are often blinded by our own ambitions, pettiness and concerns.
Indeed, we live in the darkness of our sinfulness.

Yet in the midst of all this,
we are invited by God to this moment of grace.
We celebrate a sacrament instituted by Christ.
It is a sign of his presence among us:
  Christ, whose birth was heralded by a star;
  Christ, the Light of Lights;
  Christ, the Sun of Justice;
  Christ, the Daystar;
  Christ, O Radiant Light;
  Christ, who is the Light of the world.

In this season of Advent, then,
let us recall our baptism
in which we were made children of the light.
Let us examine those things
which prevent us from living as children of light 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,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect
Thursday of the First Week of Advent
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 58:6-11
Then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM    Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17
Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING    1 John 1:5 -- 2:2
God is light...in him there is no darkness at all...
The blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION    John 8:12
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL    John 9:1-7
I am the light of the world.

HOMILY
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 GREVIOUS 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.
PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD’S MERCY

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 145: 1-21
Psalm 32: 1-7, 10-11
Psalm 146: 2-10
Psalm 54
Isaiah 12: 1b-6
Psalm 66
Isaiah 61: 10-11
Psalm 95
Jeremiah 31: 10-14
Psalm 98: 1-9
Daniel 3:52-57
Psalm 100: 1-5
Luke 1:46-55
Psalm 103: 1-4, 8-18
Ephesians 1:3-10
Psalm 119: 1, 10-16, 18, 33, 105, 169-170, 174-175
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.
A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Is 58: 6-11

Thus says the LORD:

This is the fasting that I wish:
  releasing those bound unjustly,
  untying the thongs of the yoke;
Setting free the oppressed,
  breaking every yoke;
Sharing your bread with the hungry,
  sheltering the oppressed and the homeless;
Clothing the naked when you see them,
  and not turning your back on your own.
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
  and your wound shall quickly be healed.
Your vindication shall go before you,
  and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer,
  you shall cry for help, and he will say: Here I am!
If you remove from your midst oppression,
  false accusation and malicious speech;
If you bestow your bread on the hungry
  and satisfy the afflicted;
Then light shall rise for you in the darkness
  and the gloom shall become for you like midday;
Then the LORD will guide you always
  and give you plenty even on the parched land.
He will renew your strength,
  and you shall be like a watered garden,
  like a spring whose water never fails.

The word of the Lord.
Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 51: 3-4, 5-6a, 12-13, 14 and 17

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.
Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
“Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight.”

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create in me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R: Give back to me the joy of your salvation.
OR
R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:
This is the message we have heard from Jesus Christ
and proclaim to you: God is light;
and in him there is no darkness at all.
If we say, “We have fellowship with him,”
while we continue to walk in darkness,
we lie and do not act in truth.
But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,
then we have fellowship with one another,
and the Blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.
If we say, “We are without sin,” we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just
and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing.
If we say “We have not sinned,” we make him a liar,
and his word is not in us.

My children, I am writing this to you
so that you may not commit sin.
But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous one.
He is expiation for our sins,
and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.

The word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him,
   “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?
Jesus answered,
   “Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.
We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day.
Night is coming when no one can work.
While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”
When he had said this, he spat on the ground
   and made clay with the saliva,
   and smeared the clay on his eyes and said to him,
   “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam”
   --which means Sent--.
So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

The Gospel of the Lord.
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 54:1-10  The Lord calls you back.
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
Psalm 25  Teach me your ways, O Lord
Psalm 36:2-13  How precious is your unfailing love, O Lord.
Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17  Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  Lord, make us turn to you and we will be saved.
Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14  Our God will come and save us.
Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10  The Lord is kind and merciful
Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9  The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.
Psalm 130:1-6  Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.
Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13  The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and of great kindness
Psalm 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 6:2-14  You must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God
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 1:5-22  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 15:9-14  You will live in my love, if you keep my commandments
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.
### HYMNODY

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Liturgical Day</th>
<th>Rank*</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lect #1, Preface I of Advent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>Monday of the First Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect # 175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Saint Francis Xavier, Priest</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lect #685  or Lect #176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 4</td>
<td>Wednesday of the First Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect #177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>Thursday of the First Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect #178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Friday of the First Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect #179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dec 7</td>
<td>Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lect #688  or Lect #180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 8</td>
<td>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lect #4, PSS II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Dec 9</td>
<td>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM Patronal feast day of the USA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lect #689; obligation not transferred; funeral Mass not permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td>Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect #182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 11</td>
<td>Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect # 183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe (Feast-USA)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Lect #690 A or Com of BVM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Dec 13</td>
<td>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lect #692  or Lect #185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dec 14</td>
<td>St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lect #693  or Lect #186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 15</td>
<td>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lect #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Dec 16</td>
<td>Monday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lect #187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
<td>Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #193  O Antiphons begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dec 19</td>
<td>Thursday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Dec 20</td>
<td>Friday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dec 21</td>
<td>Saturday of the Third Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 22</td>
<td>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lect #10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Dec 23</td>
<td>Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent (morning)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lect #200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cf. Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, no. 59*
# A Liturgical Year Calendar Advisory for the Christmas Season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Feast/Text</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday/ Wednesday</td>
<td>Dec 24/ Dec 25</td>
<td>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Holy day of obligation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Funeral Mass not permitted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Genuflect at “and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate…”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Preface I, II or III of Christmas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vigil: Lect #13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Midnight: Lect #14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dawn: Lect #15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Day: Lect #16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Dec 26</td>
<td>St. Stephen, The First Martyr</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Dec 27</td>
<td>Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dec 28</td>
<td>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Dec 29</td>
<td>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Dec 30</td>
<td>Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Dec 31</td>
<td>Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Jan 1, 2020</td>
<td>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Jan 2</td>
<td>St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen,</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bishops and Doctors of the Church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday / The Most Holy Name of Jesus</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan 4</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Jan 5</td>
<td>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Jan 6</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>or St. Andre Bessette, Religious -- USA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Jan 7</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>or Saint Raymond Penyafort, Priest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan 11</td>
<td>Christmas Weekday</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Christmas**

24
First Sunday of Advent (December 1, 2019)  
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 8, 2019)  
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 (Monday, December 9, 2019)  
First Reading  Genesis 3: 9-15, 20  
Responsorial Psalm  Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4  
Second Reading  Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12  

Our Lady of Guadalupe [Feast] (Dec. 12, 2019) 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: 18bcd, 19  

Third Sunday of Advent (December 15, 2019)  
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  

Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22, 2019)  
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Lectionary #</th>
<th>Readings and Psalms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **The Nativity of the Lord – Vigil Mass**  | 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** | 14, ABC        | First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-6  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 96:1-2, 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13  
Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14  
| **The Nativity of the Lord – Mass at Dawn** | 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** | 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 (Sunday, December 29, 2019)** | 17 A          | First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 [or 3:12-17]  
Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 |
| **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (January 1, 2020)** | 18, ABC        | 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 5, 2020)** | 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 12, 2020)** | 21 A          | First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7  
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 29:1a, 2, 3ae-4, 3b, 9b-10  
Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38  
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17 |
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 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*. 

27
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
(TEh 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.
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-sixth day of February
will fall Ash Wednesday,
and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

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

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

On the thirty-first day of May,
the feast of Pentecost.

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

On the twenty-ninth day of November,
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 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, tercero edición, and on the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Associate Members are entitled to online resources, discounts on publications, and discounts to national meetings. For more information on Associate Membership, please visit www.fdlc.org/membership.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD), the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) for their kind permission to reprint copyrighted texts.