The Universal Prayer

Sunday 8th December 2024

**Second Sunday of Advent**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,

John the Baptist has called on us to

*Prepare a Way for the Lord.*

We pray that Jesus Christ will be at the heart

of this Advent Time.

1. That following the example of Pope Francis, we will treat each other *in the same friendly way as Christ treats* us.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. That our love for each other may increase so that we can always recognise what is best in life.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. That the cease fire between Israel and Lebanon will hold so that the

Lebanese people may return home and rebuild their houses and the government of Lebanon become stabilised.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. That hostages and prisoners in Palestine and Israel may be released,

humanitarian aid reach the people of Gaza, and safe places be assured for all the displaced people in Gaza as winter sets in.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

1. That the renewed violence in Syria will quickly come to an end,

so the free from all corruption, the sufferings of the people will be replaced by progress and harmony.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. That

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

1. That those who died in the Lebanon/Israel conflict will find eternal life in Jesus Christ.

We also remember …

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

enliven us with the presence of the Holy Spirit,

the Spirit of wisdom and insight,

the Spirit of counsel and power,

the Spirit of knowledge and reverence.

Through Christ our Lord.

The Universal Prayer

Monday 9th December 2024

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Celebrant: Today we rejoice that God filled the heart of Mary with grace from the first moment of her existence,

preparing her to be the mother of his Son, Jesus Christ.

1. May Christians find in the grace and holiness of Mary

a sign of hope as they seek to be faithful to her Son, Jesus Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

2. May we be may able to accept the will of God in our lives,

and live each day with a firm faith, trusting hope, and generous love.

Lord, have mercy.

3. May those nations across the world

which honour Mary under the title of her Immaculate Conception

as heavenly patroness: the United States of America, Spain,

Inner Mongolia, Tanzania, Zaire and Equatorial Guinea, as well as the people of Port Adelaide, be people committed to peace and justice.

Lord, have mercy.

4. May Mary, the Queen of Peace, intercede for her children trapped in the

horror of war in so many places so that hope is rekindled in their hearts.

Lord, have mercy.

5. May this International Anti-Corruption Day, with its theme, “Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity”, be a sign of hope for the future of politics, industry and businesses.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord God, with Mary we rejoice in all your blessings,

and we ask for the grace to always live for you.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 10th December 2024**

**Our Lady of Loreto**

**Second Week of Advent**

Celebrant: My friends, as we commemorate today in the

new Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto, centred upon the house where the Holy Family lived, we pray for God’s consolation on all families.

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1. That with the prayers of Mary and Joseph, and their example of love for Jesus, the welfare of all families will be blessed with peace.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That the students and staff of Loreto College will grow in that spirit of refection and charity seen in the homely life of Mary.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That the responsibility for the protection children will be embraced by all in the Church and in the community.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That peace will come across the whole land when the Holy Family lived,

so that violence ends, human dignity is restored, and hope is reborn in the hearts of all.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That we will not forget the people of Ukraine and Russia, locked in a painful war, along with the hungry people of Sudan and South Sudan,

and those in Myanmar oppressed by their military.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Eternal King, you have promised to judge the world with fairness. Do not look upon our sins, but see rather our desire for peace and our passion for justice, so that we can rejoice in your forgiveness. Through Christ our Lord.

**Mass Text**

**Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto**

**Collect**

***See the Supplement to***

***The Roman Missal***

***Published by Liturgy Publications, Brisbane.***

**Prayers Over the Gifts and After Communion**

***See Roman Missal: Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Advent Time.***

**Suggested Preface**

**next page**

**Alternate Preface from Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary:**

**Our Lady of Nazareth**

**It is truly right to give you thanks,  
truly just to give you glory Father most holy,  
on this celebration of the glorious Virgin Mary.  
  
For at Nazareth she receives with faith  
the message of Gabriel  
and becomes the Mother of your Son,  
begotten by you before the ages,  
now born into this world of time  
as our Savior and our brother.  
  
At Nazareth too,  
in loving communion with her Son,  
she watches over the growing Church  
in the person of her child  
and hands on to  
us the shining example of her life.  
  
In the holy house of Nazareth,  
as the first disciple of her Son,  
she receives the message of the Gospel,  
treasures it in her heart,  
and reflects on it in her mind.  
  
At Nazareth also this purest of virgins,  
united with Joseph, the just man,  
in an unbreakable bond of chaste love,  
praises you in song,  
worships you in silence,  
honors you by her daily life,  
and gives you glory as she cares for her family.  
  
Now, with all the Saints and Angels,  
we praise you forever:  
  
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.**

**The Universal Prayer**

#### **Wednesday 11th December 2024**

**St Damasus I**

# **Second Week of Advent**

Celebrant: Dear friends, God’s strength and power, revealed by the words of Isaiah, become strength through Christ and power in the Spirit.

1. That those who have grown tired and weary with the burdens of

life, may find in God, who does not grow tired or weary,

the One who gives comfort and strength.

Lord, have mercy.

2 That those who serve in our shops, those working in hotels and

restaurants and petrol station attendants, will be treated with respect

in this busy time.

Lord, have mercy.

3 That the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, Fred’s Van, the Hutt

St Centre and the Adelaide Day Centre, who seek to bring cheer to the poor and needy at this time, will do so in the spirit of Jesus.  
Lord, have mercy.

4 That the wisdom of St Damasus, in both renewing the liturgy of the Church and in commissioning St Jerome to translate the Greek Bible into the language of the people – Latin – in the 4th century, will guide the Church as she reaches out to people of different cultures and languages today.

Lord, have mercy.

5 That peace in every war-torn country will be our prayer during Advent.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Heavenly Shepherd, you heal our ills and forgive our sins;

through this Eucharist receive our praise and thanksgiving. Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 12th December 2024**

Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Second Week of Advent**

Celebrant: Dear Friends, God’s word, spoken through the prophet Isaiah,

*Do not be afraid. I will help you,* is comfort for us as we live

in difficult times for many across the world.

1. That wherever the dark shadow of war covers people, the radiant and loving Light of Christ will shine with hope.

Lord, have mercy.

2. That we will recognize in the least of people, those on the edges of society, those suffering from poverty and hunger, the presence of

God’s grace who has given them great dignity.

Lord, have mercy.

3. That through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, all the Americas – Central, South and North – will be delivered from the violence of the drug cartels, corruption of those in public office,

racism and neglect of the poor, and hardening attitude towards migrants and asylum seekers.

Lord, have mercy.

4 That those in our local community who are afraid because of personal

difficulties, unemployment or sickness,

may be encouraged through friendship with others.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord our God,

you are kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in mercy;

listen to the cries of those who live with fear,

release them from such bondage,

and bless them with freedom and peace.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 13th December 2024**

**St Lucy**

**Second Week of Advent**

Celebrant: Dear friends, the feast of St Lucy, whose name means ‘light’, has long been a favourite of children in Europe

as they prepare to celebrate Christmas.

1. That each one of us may carry in our hearts the light of Christ,

so that our words and actions reflect his presence and goodness.

Lord, have mercy..

2. That children in particular may carry that same, true light in their lives,

bringing joy and peace to others.

Lord, have mercy.

3. That the sick who honour St Lucy as patroness, especially people with eye diseases, the blind, those suffering from hemorrhage and throat infections, may receive the gift of healing and courage.

Lord, have mercy.

4 That we may understand the wisdom of Jesus,

who ate with sinners, calling them to a new life,

who prayed and fasted alone, drawing closer to his Father.

Lord, have mercy.

5 That the generations of family, living in the distress and poverty of war across Palestine and in Ukraine, will give each other mutual support,

and by prayer, keep love and hope alive.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord our God, give us the strength to follow your way,

so that delighting in your law of love, we may flourish in good works.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

#### **Saturday 14th December 2024**

**St John of the Cross**

# **Second Week of Advent**

Celebrant: Dear friends, the life of Elijah Prophet had a powerful influence on Jewish people, and in the Transfiguration he and Moses appeared in the presence of Jesus.

1. That the goodness of Elijah may continue to inspire people of faith.

Lord, have mercy.

2. That we may appreciate the many miracles which take place in our lives each day.

Lord, have mercy..

3. That the return of Elijah to heaven may remind us of our destiny

to live with God forever.

Lord, have mercy.

4 That the Cross which overshadows Palestine, Israel, Syria, Ukraine and

Russia will bring the peace of salvation to those suffering and convert the hearts of those intent on war.

Lord, have mercy.

5 That St John of the Cross, friend of St Teresa of Avila, mystic and poet,

may teach us the beauty of spiritual friendships and the joy of silent prayer.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: God and King,

be our shepherd,

come to our help,

protect us,

do not forsake us.

Though Christ our Lord.