

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 10, 2023—Second Sunday of Advent



ALL ARE WELCOMED TO OUR PARISH!

We are so pleased that you chose to celebrate with us this weekend. We warmly invite you to active participation in our liturgical celebration. Please feel free to approach one of our Ministers of Hospitality if you are in need of any assistance. No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, your current family or marital situation, your past or present religious affiliation; no matter what your personal history, age, background, sexual orientation, gender, race, or color; no matter what your self-image or self-esteem: YOU are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Ithaca, New York.

ADVENT PRAYER 2023

Gracious God, thank you for this season of anticipation.
Confident in your unfathomable love, we seek forgiveness
and the grace to be ever watchful for, and to boldly proclaim, your kingdom.
Comfort and strengthen us in our earthly struggles so we can joyfully join Mary in saying Yes to you.
We ask this and all our prayers through your son, Jesus Christ, our savior who is to come.
Amen.



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of St. Catherine of Siena Parish
is to inspire, engage, and nurture our community
through worship, witness, and service.*

St. Catherine of Siena Church is a Tompkins County Living Wage Employer

St. Catherine of Siena Parish

309 Siena Drive, Ithaca, New York 14850

607-257-2493

stcathofsiena.org / [facebook/stcatherinesithaca](https://www.facebook.com/stcatherinesithaca)

Office Hours: Monday 1–4 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m.–4 p.m.; and Friday 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

MINISTRY TEAM

Parochial Administrator

Rev. John Orenge Omboga, fr.john.omboga@dor.org

Director of Liturgical Music

Alejandro Bernard-Papachryssanthou,
alejandro.bernard@dor.org

Director of Multi-Parish Faith Formation

Rich Rasmussen, rich.rasmussen@dor.org

Pastoral Care Associate

Karen Webb, karen.webb@dor.org

Communications Coordinator

Jane Bonassar, jane.bonassar@dor.org

Administrative Assistant

June Haynor, june.haynor@dor.org

Maintenance Technician

Craig Murray, craig.murray@dor.org

Liturgical Music Consultant

Sherry Scanza, sherry.scanza@gmail.com

Regional Finance Office

315-252-7111

Please contact the Finance Office with any questions regarding contributions to the parish.

TRUSTEES

Bob Pochily, Mary Crosley

COUNCIL CHAIRS

Pastoral Council: Ted Skibinski,
pastoralstcath@gmail.com

Finance Council: Amanda Soule Shaw,
amanda.shaw@cornell.edu

Pastoral Council minutes available at stcathofsiena.org/pastoral-council-minutes

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our parish community! Registration forms are available on our website or through the Parish Office.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Clothing for the Needy

Clean used clothing in good condition accepted 24/7 at the shed adjacent to the parking lot.

Blue Mutual Aid Food Cabinet

We host a blue food cabinet in front of the church, which functions as a small food pantry that is available for all community members. Anyone is invited to donate or take food from the cabinet.

Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard

St. Catherine's, as a member of Area Churches Together (ACT), supports the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard Food Pantry with food donated by parishioners and volunteer hours.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9 and 11:30 a.m.

All Masses available to attend in person or via livestream; also archived and available anytime at www.tinyurl.com/StCatLivestream.

Accommodations: *Gluten-reduced hosts* are available; please go to the presiding priest during Communion.

Personal listening receivers are available in the Atrium.

Daily Mass Schedule

We offer daily Mass on Mondays at 5:30 p.m.; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 a.m.; and on the first Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. We also celebrate Mass at Kendal of Ithaca (2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m.); Bridges Cornell Heights (3rd Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.); and Brookdale Senior Living (4th Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.).

Church Hours

The church is open for prayer when the Parish Office is open: Monday 1–4 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday 9 a.m.–4 p.m.; and Friday 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the church on Wednesday evenings from 7–8 p.m. Please enter through the east door.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation is available on Saturdays from 4–4:50 p.m. and by appointment.

Infant Baptisms

We're so happy about the new addition to your family. Parents participate in a preparation program prior to baptism. Please contact the office three months prior to the baptism. Please fill out the Baptism Registration Form on our website.

Marriage

Congratulations on your engagement! As with the other sacraments, prior preparation is necessary. Please contact the office **at least six months** before the wedding. If you do not live in New York State, you must do your preparation in your home state. Please fill out the Marriage Registration Form on our website.

Anointing of the Sick/Visitation

Please contact the office for arrangements for individual anointing or for a visitation to someone who is sick or homebound. For emergencies, please contact Fr. John directly at 607-302-0143. Please alert the Parish Office when family members are in the hospital. If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Corner, please call the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.):

For information on becoming Catholic, or questions about the Catholic faith, contact Fr. John.

Holy Orders:

For information about vocations, contact the Diocesan Office of Vocation Awareness at 585-461-2890 or vocations@dor.org.

The collection numbers for December 3 will be included next week. Thank you for your patience.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Offertory Income — November 26, 2023

	<u>11/26/23</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Sunday Mass Envelope Collection:	\$1,717	\$277,800
Loose Collection:	\$397	\$67,890
Electronic Giving (Sunday Collection):	\$2,669	\$359,067
Holy Days:	\$0	\$6,727
Christmas:	\$0	\$8,800
Easter:	\$0	\$1,546
Collection to Support Schools:	\$0	\$2,560
Collection for Buildings and Grounds:	\$515	\$12,543
Christmas/Easter Flowers:	\$0	\$5,332
Votive Candles:	\$0	\$630
Memorials:	\$0	\$350
Total Collection for This Week:	\$5,298	\$667,318
Average Weekly Budgeted Operating Expenses:	\$14,071	
Surplus (Shortfall) for This Week and Year-to-Date:	(\$8,773)	
Catholic University	\$322	
We anticipate an operating loss for this fiscal year.		

WHAT'S HAPPENING: DECEMBER 11-17

All liturgies are available both in person and via livestream. You can reach our livestream feed via the Boxcast link on St. Catherine's website (stcathofsiena.org) or at tinyurl.com/StCatLivestream.

Monday, December 11

St. Damasus I

5:30 p.m. MASS: Our Godchildren by Jeff & Jane Doyle

6:00 p.m. Movie Night

Tuesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 a.m. MASS: Our Parishioners

10:30 a.m. MASS AT KENDAL: Mary & Jim Gilligan and
Deceased Family Members by the Gilligan Family

6:00 p.m. R.C.I.A.

7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

7:00 p.m. Trivia Night Committee

Wednesday, December 13

St. Lucy

9:00 a.m. MASS: Thomas Brown by the Brown Family

5:45 p.m. Adult Faith Enrichment Committee

6:30 p.m. Beyond the Plate Committee

7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, December 14

St. John of the Cross

9:00 a.m. Meeting Christ in Prayer

7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 15

9:00 a.m. MASS: Geraldine Hens by Lisa Hens

9:30 a.m. Pietra Fitness

Saturday, December 16

9:00 a.m. AA

9:00 a.m. Children's Choir

10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

4:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. MASS: Joe Campanella by Sharon, Judy, Mary, and
Chuck

Sunday, December 17

9:00 a.m. MASS: Phyllis Galliher by John & Tori Wishart

10:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant

11:30 a.m. MASS: Our Parishioners

Daily Readings

Mon., Dec. 11: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tues., Dec. 12: Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38

Wed., Dec. 13: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thurs., Dec. 14: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Fri., Dec. 15: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, and 6; Mt 11:16-19

Sat., Dec. 16: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sun., Dec. 17: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Parish Information

GIVING TREE

Now is the time to return your gifts for the Giving Tree! Please attach the tag from the tree to your gift or label it with the description listed on the website as well as your name and email. You can place your gifts in the labeled bin in the Parish Center atrium before or after Mass this weekend, or bring them to the Parish Office during business hours this week. Volunteers will also be available to accept your gifts **this Sunday, December 10, from 12-2 p.m., and Tuesday, December 12, from 6-7 p.m.** Thank you!

YOUTH MINISTRY WREATH SALE

St. Catherine's Youth Ministry is selling fresh Christmas wreaths this weekend! This fundraiser helps provide financial assistance for various youth trips, leadership opportunities, and youth ministry events. **There are no pre-orders this year, so sales are on a first-come, first-served basis until sold out.** You can purchase 22" wreaths for \$30 or 26" wreaths for \$38 in the Parish Center **this Saturday, December 9, after the 5 p.m. Mass, and Sunday, December 10, after the 9 and 11:30 a.m. Masses.** Cash or checks will be accepted; please make checks payable to St. Catherine of Siena Church. Thank you so much!

HOLIDAY CARD MAKING DECEMBER 10

Attention all young people and families: **this Sunday, December 10, at 10 a.m.,** we will host a Christmas Card Making event to create Christmas cards for people in our local nursing facilities. All young people and families are encouraged to take part. We will meet in Mahler Hall, and supplies will be provided. We hope you can join us in bringing joy and comfort to others.

TEACHING AND PRAYING WITH THE DOMINICANS: A SABBATICAL STORY

During spring 2023, Jonathan Lunine was in Washington, D.C., while on sabbatical from the Astronomy Department at Cornell. He spent five months at the Dominican House of Study, teaching astronomy to student Dominican brothers, lay theology students, and a few faculty. He also worked with Dominican theologians and philosophers on a project involving dialogue between science and Thomistic philosophy. Come to the conference room **this Sunday, December 10, from 10:15-11:15 a.m.,** to listen to Jonathan describe his experiences while on this most unusual sabbatical leave.

PICTURES OF OUR BELOVED DEAD

Pictures displayed in the church during November are available to be picked up in the Parish Office.

PRAYER CORNER

Please hold in prayer those who are sick:

Michael Gifford, June Haynor, Caryl Funke, Paul Bates, Michael Luzzi, Susanne Lorbeer, Chloe Wetzel, Kathy Teeter, Ramona Forney, Donna Dutton, Emily O'Mara, Cindy Horner, Ruth Horner, Joan Dalbano, Stephanie Hawkins, Beth Hawkins, Burt Allen, Danny Palardy, Lee Miller, Ruthe Bruen, Dale Bathe, Jack Colangelo, Kathy Boice, Julian Kuczma, James Bilinski, Elizabeth Colangelo, Ron Ross, Dee Loreda, Cara Wynn, David Sirois, Lonnie Slape, Andrea Caraccilo, and Mary Mulvanerton.

Please hold in prayer those who have died in the peace of Christ:

Roy Dexheimer, husband of Fran Dexheimer.

MOVIE NIGHT DECEMBER 11

Please join us for the next two episodes of *The Chosen*, on **Monday, December 11, from 6-8:30 pm.** After some technical difficulties during the last Movie Night, we will be reshowing season 3, episodes 1, "Homecoming," and 2, "Two by Two." Bring your own drinks and a few dollars to contribute to pizza, and other movie snacks for yourself or to share. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., and the movie will begin around 6:15 p.m. We will end the evening with a short discussion.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Donations toward our Christmas flowers in memory of deceased loved ones or in honor of the living are due by **this Monday, December 11.** Envelopes are available in the atrium and from the Parish Office. The names of those memorialized will be printed in the bulletin on December 24 and 31.

POINSETTIA PROJECT

We still need a few more volunteers to help us deliver poinsettias to local recipients. If you would like to be a part of this ministry to bring Christmas cheer, please contact Karen in the Parish Office at karen.webb@dor.org or 607-257-2493, ext. 208.

MASS ATTENDANCE, DECEMBER 2/3

	<i>In person</i>	<i>Virtual</i>
December 2, 5 p.m.	67	63
December 3, 9 a.m.:	168	72
December 3, 11:30 a.m.	96	43
Total:	331	178
Church capacity:	1,200	

SIGN UP FOR ADORATION

During this year of Eucharistic Revival, we are planning for more opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration. Beginning Wednesday, December 6, we will have Adoration from **9:30 a.m. until 8 p.m. every Wednesday**. Please sign up for an hour of Adoration on the sign-up sheet on our website (stcathofsiena.org), or through the Parish Office.

TRIVIA NIGHT UPDATE

Please mark your calendars for our annual Trivia Night, coming up on **Saturday, January 27, at 7 p.m.** Trivia Night is open to anyone 16 and older. You can register as a team, or we can put together teams of people who register on their own. You are welcome to bring snacks for your table. The cost is \$10 per person (paid at the door); members of the winning teams win a \$25, \$15, or \$5 gift card. Come enjoy fellowship, fun, and dad jokes while testing your knowledge of useless information! Please watch the bulletin and website in the coming weeks for information about how to register. We need more team members to make this event happen! If you are interested, please contact Bob Brown at lcodc@aol.com or come to the next planning meeting on **Tuesday, December 12, at 7 p.m.** in Mahler Hall.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

So far, 90 donors have pledged \$27,157 toward our goal of \$63,000. That's 43 percent of our goal! Please prayerfully consider donating to the CMA.

SAVE THE DATE FOR BEYOND THE PLATE!

Beyond the Plate is a five-course gourmet dinner fundraiser featuring local expert chefs donating their time and artistry, with selected wine pairings, in support of the Ithaca MobilePack for Feed My Starving Children. The event will take place on **Sunday, February 4, from 5-9 p.m.** in Mahler Hall. Chefs include Jay Dietershagen, Crossroads Bar & Grille; Sam Epps, Gola Osteria; Jen Irwin & Stan Walton, formerly of Just a Taste, now with a new restaurant project, "here.", on Seneca Lake; Greg Norkus, Mercato Bar & Kitchen; and Serendipity Catering & Bar. Wine pairings by Karl Kernan, Triphammer Wine & Spirits. Ann Marie Eckert will be our emcee for the evening! Tickets are \$120 each, on sale January 8, at stcathofsiena.org. Sponsorships (at varying levels) are available—please contact Judy Malys at 607-275-6767 or Lisa LiVigne at lmliivigne@hotmail.com or 607-342-5978 for more information.

EXPERIENCE THE O ANTIPHONS DURING ADVENT!

The O Antiphons are seven Magnificat (Latin for "praise") antiphons sung at Vespers on the last seven days of Advent before Christmas Eve (December 17-23). An antiphon is a short chant whose text is made up of Biblical passages assembled to make a new text. A Magnificat is a hymn of praise modeled on the Magnificat spoken by Mary in Luke 1:46-55. Vespers is the sunset service sung in the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, and Anglican/Episcopal churches.

The O Antiphons originated as early as the 6th century and were originally sung in Latin, but English translations are now widely used. Each of them begins with an address to Christ whose first word is "O" followed by one of Christ's attributes. The rest of the antiphon is a petition to Him about His coming into the world. The final antiphon in the series is the basis for the familiar Christmas hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

- 17 December: *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom)
- 18 December: *O Adonai* (O Lord)
- 19 December: *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse)
- 20 December: *O Clavis David* (O Key of David)
- 21 December: *O Oriens* (O Dawn of the East)
- 22 December: *O Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations)
- 23 December: *O Emmanuel* (O God with Us)

The O Antiphons have ancient musical settings in Gregorian chant, but in addition there are many other versions by composers from the Renaissance to the present.

For more information about the O Antiphons, including links to hear them sung in English and Latin, please see our website: stcathofsiena.org/o-antiphons.





FR. JOHN'S HOMILY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We are being invited in this second Sunday to reflect on how, when the Lord comes, we can "be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace." In our busy preparations for Christmas, we can be preoccupied with making our homes immaculately clean for the many guests we may entertain, but we tend to "run out of time" for the interior cleaning that we need, the preparation for our hearts. The readings today remind us that our Advent work is not only external but internal as well.

In our first reading, Isaiah gives a beautiful image of the kind of change that is to take place in us: "The rugged land shall be made plain, the rough country, a broad valley." A plain is a vast piece of open and level land. The entire surface can be seen; nothing is hidden. A broad valley, similar. From atop a hill or mountain, we can gaze upon a beautiful valley and see it all on display before us. The transformation of the rough landscape into an open, beautiful, welcoming space is symbolic of how the rough wasteland of our hearts needs to be made smooth. The rocks of our stubbornness and pride must be removed, and the dark crevices of fear and doubt need to be filled in with the light of faith. Our whole interior life must be exposed to the healing rays of the Lord's mercy.

The call to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord is urgent and strong. Isaiah's voice rang out in the desert with the message, and John the Baptist's voice makes it even more insistent. We cannot act as if the wasteland of our sin condition is normal, much less fitting for the arrival of the Lord. The voice of the prophets calls out to us today: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

We have a natural tendency to want to avoid the impact of the prophetic message and to downplay its urgency. For hundreds of years people have been saying that the Lord will come, but he never has. If he's going to keep delaying, why should I bother worrying about his coming? St. Peter refutes this erroneous way of thinking in the second reading. He tells us that what looks to us like "delay" is in fact divine patience! If the Lord has not returned yet, it is only because he sees our need for repentance. For him, a thousand years are like one day. Whether he comes in one day or in a thousand years, the message remains the same: prepare the way! Peter teaches us that, rather than procrastinating, we should look forward to the future, conducting ourselves "in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God."

How do we go about this? John the Baptist gives us two essential elements of our Advent preparation: repentance and humility. When he appears in the desert, his main message is the proclamation of "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." This shows us that sin is the main obstacle to a proper welcoming of the Lord. Sin leaves rubbish and potholes, mountains and valleys, spots and blemishes, on the highway. We cannot, on our own, do anything about the problem of sin, but when we repent, we deliberately turn away from sin and express our sorrow. This opens the way for the Lord to restore us. Most of us have already been restored through the marvelous miracle of baptism. But sin keeps finding its way back onto the highway and must be cleared away. The great sacrament of repentance is confession. In the season of Advent, we should "prepare the way" by making a thorough, thoughtful, prayerful examination of conscience and then make a good confession.

Humility is the other lesson we learn from John the Baptist. A powerful preacher and forceful witness, he is at the same time an extraordinarily humble man, well aware that he was not worthy even to stoop before the Messiah and loosen the thongs of his sandals. We who are even less worthy than John are called to humble ourselves before the Lord. When we do, we welcome the voice of the prophets who call us to repentance, and we open our hearts to the Lord's power to heal us and care for us. When we acknowledge our dependence on God and dedicate time to be alone with him in prayer, he can speak to our hearts and change them from rough and obstructed to smooth and open. He replaces our vices with virtues and heals our hidden wounds. As we continue to prepare for the Christmas festivities, let us prepare space in our hearts for the birth of our savior by taking time in prayer, repenting of our sins, and conducting ourselves "in holiness and devotion."

MUSIC, READINGS, AND PRAYERS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Our cantors are: Diane Duthie (5 p.m.), Jane Doyle (9 a.m.), and Grace Demerath (11:30 a.m.).

Prelude: *Creator of the Stars of Night*, verse 2 (Breaking Bread #68)

1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3. When this old world drew on toward night,
 4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5. Come in your might, we pray,
 6. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 Should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 You came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 Re - deem us for e - ter - nal day,
 And God the Spir - it, Three in One,

O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 You came, O Sav - ior, to set free
 Not as a mon - arch, but the child
 All things on earth with one ac - cord,
 De - fend us while we dwell be - low
 Praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

We pray you hear us when we call,
 Your own in glo - rious lib - er - ty.
 Of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
 Like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
 From all as - saults of our dread foe.
 From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: *Creator alme siderum*, Latin 9th C., revised 1632; tr. *The Hymnal* 1982, alt., © 1985, The Church Pension Fund. Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, LM, Mode IV, Sarum, 9th C.; acc. by Gerard Farrell, OSB, 1919-2009. All rights reserved. Used with permission of OneLicense #A-728114.

Processional Hymn: *Comfort, Comfort O My People* (Gather #413)

1. Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple,
 2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing
 3. O make straight what long was crook - ed,

Speak of peace, now says our God,
 In the des - ert far and near,
 Make the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
 Bid - ding all to full re - pent - ance
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

Moun - ing un - der sor - rows' load.
 Since the king - dom now is here,
 As be - fits his ho - ly reign.

Speak un - to Je - ru - sa - lem
 Oh, that the warn - ing cry of the Lord
 For the glo - ry of the Lord

Of the peace that waits for them.
 Now the pre - pare earth for God a way!
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad.

Tell of all the sins I cov - er,
 Let the val - leys rise see the meet - cr,
 And all flesh shall shall to the him
 ken

And that war - fare now is o - ver.
 And the hills bow down nev - er greet him.
 That his word is down nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Isaiah 40:1-8; *Tröstet, tröstet, meine Lieben*; Johann Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Tune: GENEVA 42, 8 7 8 7 7 7 88; *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; harm. adapt. from Claude Goudimel, 1505-1572. All rights reserved. Used with permission of OneLicense #A-728114.

Greeting

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Penitential Act – Mass of Quiet Waiting

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Lord have mer - cy. Chri - ste e - le - i - son; Christ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Lord have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy.

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Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has

(continued)

A vibrant Catholic Community where all are welcomed, challenged, and supported in their life's journey.

spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care. Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm



Text: Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 12-14; Marty Haugen, © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL. Music: Marty Haugen, © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission of OneLicense #A-728114.

Second Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation — *Mass of Quiet Waiting*



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Gospel Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Universal Prayer

People's Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

A vibrant Catholic Community where all are welcomed, challenged, and supported in their life's journey.

Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn: *Ubi Caritas* (Breaking Bread #484)

Refrain

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, De - us i - bi

1. *est.* 2. *est.* to Verses (Fine) Verses 1, 3

1. We gath - er to - geth - er
Our God is a - live, the

3. Then, joined with the bless - ed,
Our joy none can mea - sure,

1. in the love of Christ; let each one be
God of love is near; so love one an -

3. filled with hope and grace, dear Lord, in great
joy that knows no end, re - sound - ing from

1. glad in him and re - joice.
oth - er with a heart sin - cere. (to Refrain)

3. glo - ry may we see your face.
end - less age to age. A - men. (to Refrain)

Verse 2

2. We, the man - y, be - come one bod - y
Let all quar - rels, all di - vi - sion,

2. as the Spir - it binds, and we seek to be
all our con - flict cease; then will Christ tru - ly

2. one in Christ and one in heart and mind.
dwell a - mong us as our Lord of Peace. (to Refrain)

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Invitation to Prayer

Priest: Pray ... that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: May the Lord accept sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right and just.

Priest: ... we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy – *Mass of Quiet Waiting*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lo - rd, God of Hosts. Hea - ven and earth are

fu - ll of your Glo - ry; Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bles - sed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

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Priest: The mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation – *Mass of Quiet Waiting*

ALL:

The my - ste - ry of faith: Save us, Sa - vior of the world, for

by your cross and res - sur - re - ction you have set us free.

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Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

Great Amen – *Mass of Quiet Waiting*

A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men.

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Priest: ... we dare to say:

The Lord's Prayer

People: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

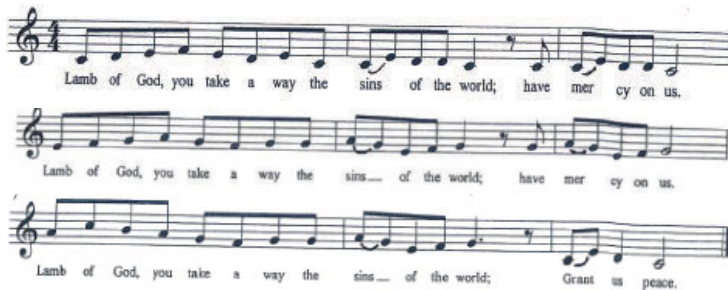
People: Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Lamb of God—*Mass of Quiet Waiting*



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Invitation to Communion

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Communion Hymn—*In Every Age* (Gather #716)

Verse 1

1. Long before the mountains came to be and the land and sea and stars of the night, through the endless seasons of all time, you have always been, you will always be.

Refrain

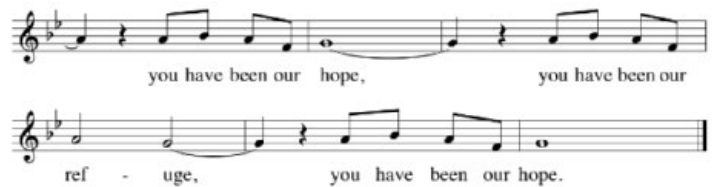


Verses 2, 3

2. Destiny is cast, and at your silent word we return to dust and scatter to the wind. A thousand years are like a single moment gone, as the light that fades at the end of day.

3. Teach us to make use of the time we have. Teach us to be patient even as we wait. Teach us to embrace our ev'ry joy and pain, to sleep peacefully, and to rise up strong.

Coda



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Prayer after Communion

Priest: Let us pray. ... Through Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Concluding Rites

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

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

People: Amen.

Priest: Go in peace.

People: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn—*Ready the Way* (Breaking Bread #53)



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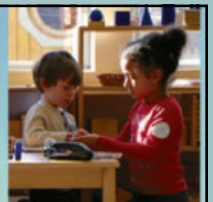
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