

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

3 BEFORE ADVENT (YEAR A)
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

COLLECT

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Wis 6.12–16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 70



R. In your great love, answer me, O God.
(*All repeat*)



O God make | speed to save me;
O Lord make | haste to help me.
Let there be shame | and confusion
on those who | seek my life. *R.*

O let them turn back | in confusion,
who delight | in my harm;
let them retreat | in disgrace
who jeer | at my lot. *R.*

Let there be rejoic-|ing and gladness
for | all who seek you.
Let them say for ever, | 'God is great',
who love your | saving help. *R.*

As for me, wretch-|ed and poor,
come to | me O God.
You are my help and | my deliverer;
O Lord do | not delay. *R.*

SECOND READING

1 The 4.13–18

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the
Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 24.42,44

Alleluia.

Keep yourselves watchful and be ready:
for you do not know when the Son of Man
will come.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mt 25.1-13

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

Jesus told this parable to the disciples:

“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, may the saving sacrifice of your Son, our King and peacemaker, which we offer through these sacramental signs of unity and peace, bring harmony and concord to all your children; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**