

# SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

STAND

## ENTRANCE ANTIPOH *Wis 18: 14-15*

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

## ENTRANCE HYMN

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

**Sing, choirs of angels,**  
**sing in exultation,**  
**sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:**  
glory to God in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:

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

People: **Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (Brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

**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,**

*Striking your breast as you say:*  
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.

4th January 2026



## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIT

### FIRST READING

*24:1-2, 8-12*

A reading from the book of **Ecclesiasticus**

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself.

She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One:

'Then the Creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance."

'From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain.

'I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus I was established in Zion.

'In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority.

'I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps147: 12-15, 19-20. Jn1:14*

**R. The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.**

**1.** O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God! He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you.

**R.**

2. He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with the finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

3. He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees. He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**

**SECOND READING**      **1:3-6, 15-18**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved.

That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

————— **STAND** —————

**ACCLAMATION**      **Col3:15.16**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world.

Alleluia.



**GOSPEL 1:1-5, 9-14 ·Shorter Form**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God,

to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

————— **STAND** —————

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(*All bow during the next three lines*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

————— **SIT** —————

**Raising the host, the priest says:**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

**The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:**

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

**Raising the chalice, the priest says:**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

**Bowing the priest says quietly:**

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

**Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:** Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.

**STAND****Facing the people the priest says:**

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II****PREFACE of Nativity of The Lord II**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your Spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.**

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 on the feast of this awe-filled mystery, though invisible in his own divine nature, he has appeared visibly in ours; and begotten before all ages, he has begun to exist in time; so that, raising up in himself all that was cast down, he might restore unity to all creation and call straying humanity back to the heavenly Kingdom. And so, with all the Angels, we praise you, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

**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.**



You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

**The Priest joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:**

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,  
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

**DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

**The mystery of faith:**

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

**Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world,

and bring her to the fullness of charity,

together with Leo our Pope and N. our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

**The Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:**

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

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION RITE****STAND**

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

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 Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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



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.  
**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you  
always.

**And with your Spirit.**

*The priest may add these or similar words.*  
Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*The priest places a small piece of the host in  
the chalice saying quietly:*  
May this mingling of the body and

blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

*Meanwhile the people sing or say:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world: have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world: have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world: grant us peace.**

### KNEEL

*The priest says quietly:*

May the receiving of your Body and  
Blood, Lord Jesus Christ,  
not bring me to judgement and  
condemnation, but through your loving  
mercy be for me protection in mind  
and body, and a healing remedy.

*Raising the host the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of  
the world.

Blessed are those called to the supper  
of the Lamb.

*And together with the people he says once:*

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

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest reverently consumes the Body of  
Christ.*

*Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:*

May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it  
to each of the communicants, saying:*

The Body of Christ.

**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIphon Cf. Jn 1: 12**

**To all who would accept him,  
he gave the power to become  
children of God.**

### COMMUNION HYMN

**Once in Royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a Mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that Mother mild  
Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven,  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable  
and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.**

### PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, eternal wisdom,  
you have come forth from the mouth  
of the Most High:  
you are the Word of God made flesh:  
you have pitched your tent among your  
privileged people. And from fullness I  
have received grace upon grace.  
In you is life: all things were made  
through you.

In this Holy Communion you want to  
give me a share in your life and bring  
me to the abundance of grace and truth.  
You are the true light shining now in the  
darkness of my soul; it is you who make  
the Father known to me:  
it is you who give me the power to  
become a child of God.

How can I thank you for all your  
goodness to me?

You come into my heart to cleanse it;  
you come into my mind to enlighten it;  
you touch my lips so that I may speak  
no word which would hurt another;  
you come to me when I am sad so as to  
comfort me;

you come to me when I am tired so as  
to refresh me;  
you come to me when I am lonely so as  
to cheer me.

In you I have been blessed with every  
spiritual blessing.

### STAND

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God, we humbly ask you,  
that, through the working of this  
mystery, our offences may be  
cleansed and our just desires fulfilled.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITES

### STAND

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

*Solemn Blessing – The Beginning of the Year*  
May God, the source and origin of all  
blessing, grant you grace,  
pour out his blessing in abundance,  
and keep you safe from harm  
throughout the year. **Amen.**

May he give you integrity in the faith,  
endurance in hope,  
and perseverance in charity  
with holy patience to the end. **Amen**

May he order your days and your  
deeds in his peace,  
grant your prayers in this and in every  
place, and lead you happily to eternal  
life. **Amen**

And may the blessing of almighty God  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, come down on you and remain  
with you forever.

**Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

**O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet, in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all thy years  
are met in thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth;  
for Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.**