

**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 12, 2021**

**Pre-Mass Meditation**

*We all have knots, or deficiencies in our hearts, and we go through difficulties.  
God wants us to trust Our Lady, undoer of knots, to entrust to Her the knots of  
our sins, the tangles of our miseries that prevent us from uniting oursel  
ves with God, to allow Her to undo them and bring us to Her son Jesus,  
Especially for the knots of  
Climate Change, Clericalism, Prejudice, and within Families.*

**Entrance Hymn: God, Beyond All Names (BB 431)**

God, beyond our dreams, you have stirred in us a memory,  
you have placed your powerful spirit in the hearts of humankind.

**Refrain**

All around us we have know you, all creation lives to hold you.  
In our living and our dying we are bringing you to birth.

God beyond all names, you have made us in your image;  
we are like you, we reflect you; we are woman, we are man. **Refrain**

God, beyond all words, all creation tells your story;  
you have shaken with our laughter, you have trembles ith our tears. **Refrain**

**Blessing of the Advent Wreath**

Leader:

Advent is a time of hope. This Advent, we place our hope in Mary, Undoer of Knots to help us contemplate the knots in our society. With every candle we light on the wreath we draw closer to Mary, the girl who had hope in God's word. Advent is a call to wake up to God in our midst. Let us keep walking through Advent with our eyes open, finding ways to undo the knots we encounter. Follow the Light, allowing these days to draw us to a place where darkness gives way to a new vision, and wonder leads to wisdom.

Priest:

Lord God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus; he is Emmanuel, the hope of all peoples. He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us. Let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of the wreath. May its light be as a sign of Christ's promise of salvation and a sign of your unending love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(Sprinkle the wreath, light two candles)*

**Hymn: Come, Lord! Maranatha (BB 65)**

Come, Lord! Maranatha! Come and bring us your peace.

Come, Lord! Maranatha! Come to us, set us free.  
Come now and bring us your peace.

## **Greeting**

In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

## **And with your spirit.**

Let us come to God, mindful of our sins:

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 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.

## ***God have Mercy***

You come to heal the contrite. God, have mercy. **God, have mercy.**  
You come to call sinners. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
You plead for us at the right hand of the Father. God, have mercy. **God, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen**

## ***Collect***

Let us pray:

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

***First Reading***      Zephaniah 3:14-18a

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!  
Sing joyfully, O Israel!  
Be glad and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Most High God has removed the judgment against you  
God has turned away your enemies;  
the Ruler of Israel, our God, is in your midst,  
you have no further misfortune to fear.

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!

The Most High, your God, is in your midst,  
a mighty savior;  
who will rejoice over you with gladness,  
and renew you in God's love,  
the Most High will sing joyfully because of you,  
as one sings at festivals.

The Word of God  
**Thanks be to God**

***Responsorial Psalm***

**Refrain**

Lord, come and save us. Lord, come and save us. Lord, come and save us.  
**Lord, come and save us. Lord, come and save us. Lord, come and save us.**

Happy those who keep faith with you, securing justice for the oppressed.  
who give your food to each hungry heart, your freedom to each captive. **Refrain**

You give your sight to all the blind, you raise up those bent low.  
Your heart is near to the broken ones, you welcome in the stranger. **Refrain**

The weak and poor you sustain in love, the wicked ones you bring to destruction.  
for ever more shall your reign endure, to every generation. **Refrain**

***Second Reading***      Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Community at Philippi

Sisters and brothers:

Rejoice in our God always.  
I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.  
For our God is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,  
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,  
make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of our God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

***Alleluia (Mass of Renewal)***

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,**

The spirit of the Lord is among me;  
I have been anointed to bring glad tidings to all.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,**

***Gospel Luke 3:10-18***

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

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"  
He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none.  
And whoever has food should do likewise."

Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?"

He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed."

Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?"

He told them, “Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages.”

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying,

“I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Exhorting them in many other ways, John preached good news to the people.

The Good News of Salvation

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

*Homily (take a moment to reflect on the readings - what word or phrase stood out to you?)*

*Universal Intercessions*

Response: God of joy, hear our prayer  
(God of joy, hear our prayer)

For openness of heart: that we, like the crowds, may ask “What should we do?” and listen for God’s life giving invitations, let us pray...

For a flowering of justice: that we may strive to fulfill our duties to others and use our gifts to ease the suffering and promote the wellbeing of all our brothers and sisters, let us pray...

For protection of earth’s resources: that God will give wisdom and understanding to all who are developing policies that affect earth’s air, water and natural resources, let us pray...

For all of us that we may hear the call of Our Lady of Guadalupe that all of us are sisters and brothers to one another let us pray...

For what other intentions do we want to pray...

**The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

*Preparation of the Gifts*

## **Come to Us (G538)**

Come to me, come to us, you who are burdened.  
Come to the word, and come to the meal.  
Come without question or pressure or price:  
Come, be embraced by the body of Christ.

Come to me, come to us, pilgrim or stranger,  
looking for change, or challenge, or light.  
We are the people whose calling is care,  
bearers of mercy, nourished in prayer.

Come to me, come to us, broken or building,  
Come with your children, your choices, your chains.  
All are invited to friendship or rest,  
to share in our struggle, our call and our quest.

## ***Offertory Prayers***

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 forever.**

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 forever.**

Pray, 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.**

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***The Eucharistic Prayer*** (if you are watching the video or listening to the audio, please follow along and participate with Fr. Jack; and continue with the Communion Reflection Song below. If you are using this at home with your family, continue with the Spiritual Eucharist below)

***Service Music: Mass of Renewal (BB 878)***

**Spiritual Communion**

*Invite the Family to **stand** for the Our Father. Although without a Priest, we cannot offer the Mystery of Jesus' Sacrifice on the Cross, we can join with the Church throughout the world in offering a Spiritual Communion until such time as we can again participate in the great Sacrifice of the Mass.*

### **Our Father**

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

*Family:* 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.

*Leader:* Deliver us Lord we pray from every evil, and grant us 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.

*Family:* For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

*Leader:* 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 forever and ever.

*Family:* Amen.

*Leader:* May the peace of the Lord be with us always.

*Invite the family to **kneel** if practical. The following formula of prayers can be prayed together as a family, inviting Jesus spiritually into our hearts.*

*Leader:* Together with the whole Church throughout the world, let us profess an Act of Faith in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist.

*All:* O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins and that he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches because you have revealed them who are eternal truth and wisdom, who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

In this faith I intend to live and die.

Amen.

*Leader:* Through His sacrifice on the cross, Jesus made the ultimate act of love by offering himself as expiation for our sins. Let us now make our own act of love as we pray:

*All:* O Lord God, I love you above all things and I love my neighbor for your sake because you are the highest, infinite and perfect good, worthy of all my love. In this love I intend to live and die. Amen.

*Leader:* With a humble and contrite heart, we ask the Lord to come to us just as He would if we were able to receive the sacrament.

*All:* My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

***Communion Song: Comfort, Comfort, O My People (BB 59)***

Comfort, comfort, O my people. Speak of peace, now says our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning neath their sorrows' load.  
Speak unto Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell of all the sins I cover, and that warfare now is over.

Har, the voice of one who's crying in the desert far and near,  
Bidding all to full repentance since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

O make straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
And all flesh shall see the token that his word is never broken.

***Communion Meditation Each Winter as the Year Grows Older (G 258)***

Each winter as the year grows older. We each grow older too.  
The chill sets in a little colder; the verities we knew seem shaken and untrue.

When race and class cry out for reason, When sirens call for war.  
They overshoot the voice of reason, and scream till we ignore all we held dear before.

Yet I believe beyond believing, that life can spring from death;  
That growth can flower from our grieving;  
that we can catch our breath and turn transfixed by faith.

So even as the sun is turning, to journey to the north,  
The living flame, in secret burning, can kindle on the earth, and bring God's love to birth.

O Child of ecstasy and sorrows, O Prince of peace and pain,

Brighten today's world by tomorrow's, renew our lives again; Lord Jesus, come and reign!

**Prayer after Communion:**

Let us pray:

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Concluding Rite**

*Final Blessing*

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

**Amen**

Go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

*Song of Sending: City of God (BB 388)*

Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep!  
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.  
The people in darkness have seen a great light.  
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

**Refrain:**

Let us build the city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing!  
For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!

We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day.  
The One who has loved us has brightened our way.  
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be  
A light for his people to set their hearts free. **Refrain**

God is light; in him there is no darkness.  
Let us walk in his light, his children one and all.  
O comfort my people, make gentle your words.  
Proclaim to my city the day of her birth. **Refrain**

O city of gladness, now lift up your voice!  
Proclaim the good tidings that all my rejoice! **Refrain**