

Sunday - Advent Week 2 (Year B)

Collect:

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet Your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to His company.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

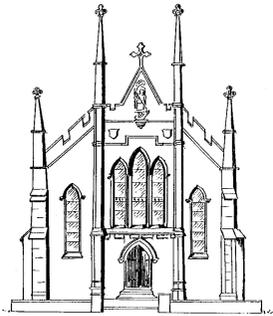
Today's Gospel reading: Mark 1:1-8

Today's prayer:

O Lord,
look mercifully on us,
and grant that we may choose the way of peace.
Rescue us from the captivity of the sins
which have oppressed us,
that we may attain the dwellings of the heavenly Jerusalem
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

From the Sarum Rite (11th Cent.)

DAILY PRAYERS SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
Serving Kendal and Sedbergh

www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk

Monday – St Ambrose

Bishop

Collect:

O God, who made the Bishop Saint Ambrose
a teacher of the Catholic faith
and a model of apostolic courage,
raise up in Your Church men after Your own heart
to govern her with courage and wisdom.
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.

Today's Gospel reading: John 10:11-16

Today's prayer:

Lord, teach me to seek You,
and reveal Yourself to me when I seek You.
For I cannot seek You unless You first teach me,
nor find You unless You first reveal Yourself to me.
Let me seek You in longing and long for You in seeking.
Let me find You in love and love You in finding.

St Ambrose of Milan

St Ambrose, Pray for us

St Ambrose, (339, in Augusta Treverorum, Belgica, Gaul [now Trier, Germany] - 397, Milan). He was the bishop of Milan, biblical scholar, and the initiator of ideas that provided a model for medieval conceptions of church-state relations. His literary works have been acclaimed as masterpieces of Latin eloquence, and his musical accomplishments are remembered in his many hymns. Ambrose is also remembered as the teacher who converted and baptised St. Augustine of Hippo, the great Christian theologian. St Ambrose was a model bishop who viewed the church as rising above the ruins of the Roman Empire.

Tuesday – The Immaculate Conception

Collect:

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin
prepared a worthy dwelling for Your Son,
grant, we pray, that as You preserved her from every stain
by virtue of the Death of Your Son, which You foresaw,
so, through her intercession,
we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to Your presence.
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.

Today's Gospel reading: Luke 1:29-38

Today's prayer:

Act of Joy in the Immaculate Conception

Hail, glorious Virgin, Morning-star that outshines the sun,
gracious Mother of my God,
sweeter than the dropping honeycomb:
you are that fair one
in comparison with whom all beauty is pale and dim;
you are redder than the rose and more dazzling white than the lily;
all virtues adorn you,
you are purer than the seraphim;
and every Saint gives you honour,
you who are the highest honour of our race
having the higher throne in the heavens. Amen.

*A prayer recited by St Gertrude and St Mechtildi,
expressing our love of Mary
and beautifully honours her virtues.*

Wednesday - Advent Week 2

St Juan Diego Cuauhtatoatzin

Collect:

Almighty God, who command us
to prepare the way for Christ the Lord,
grant in Your kindness, we pray,
that no infirmity may weary us
as we long for the comforting presence
of our heavenly physician.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Mt 11:28-30

Today's prayer:

Prayer to St. Juan Diego

Blessed St Juan Diego,
You who were chosen by Our Lady of Guadalupe
as an instrument to show your people and the world
that the way of Christianity is one of love, compassion,
understanding, values, sacrifices, repentance of our sins,
appreciation and respect for God's creation,
and most of all one of humility and obedience.
You who we know is now in the Kingdom of the Lord
and close to our Mother,
be our angel and protect us,
stay with us as we struggle in this modern life
not knowing most of the time where to set our priorities.
Help us to pray to our God
to obtain the gifts of the Holy Spirit
and use them for the good of humanity and the good of the Church,
through the Heart of Our Lady of Guadalupe to the Heart of Jesus. Amen.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pray for us
Saint Juan Diego, Pray for us

Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtatoatzin, also known as St Juan Diego (1474–1548), a native of Mexico, is the first Catholic indigenous saint from the Americas. He is said to have been granted an apparition of the Virgin Mary on four occasions in December 1531 at the hill of Tepeyac, then a rural area but now within the borders of Mexico City

Thursday – Advent Week 2

Our Lady of Loreto

Collect:

Stir up our hearts, O Lord,
to make ready the paths
of Your Only Begotten Son,
that through His coming,
we may be found worthy to serve You
with minds made pure.
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.

Today's Gospel: Matthew 11:11-15

Today's prayer:

Prayer to Our Lady of Loreto

O God, whose ever-watchful Providence rules all things,
we humbly implore You
through the prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of Your son,
to remove from us whatever is harmful
and to bestow on us only that which will be helpful.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady of Loreto, Pray for us

Last year Pope Francis decreed that the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto be observed as an optional memorial on December 10th. He said that the Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto, venerated by generations of pilgrims and honoured by numerous Popes, “recalls the mystery of the Incarnation, leading all those who visit it to consider ‘the fullness of time’, when God sent His Son, born of a woman, as well as to meditate both on the words of the Angel announcing the Good News and on the words of the Virgin in response to the divine call”.

Friday - Advent Week 2

Pope St Damasus I

Collect:

Grant that Your people, we pray, almighty God,
may be ever watchful
for the coming of Your Only Begotten Son,
that, as the author of our salvation Himself has taught us,
we may hasten, alert and with lighted lamps,
to meet Him when he comes.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 11:16-19

Today's prayer:

Father,
as Saint Damasus loved and honoured Your martyrs,
so may we continue to celebrate their witness for Christ,
who lives and reigns with You
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St Damasus was born in around 305. He was elected pope by the clergy and people of Rome in 366. He summoned synods to suppress various heresies rife at the time, particularly Arianism and Donatism. He commissioned St Jerome to undertake his translation of the Bible. He embellished and conserved the tombs of the martyrs. St Damasus died in 384.

Saturday – Advent Week 2

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Collect:

May the splendour of Your glory dawn in our hearts,
we pray, almighty God,
that all shadows of the night may be scattered
and we may be shown to be children of light
by the advent of Your Only Begotten Son.
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Today's prayer:

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of the true God and Mother of the Church, who from this place reveal your clemency and your pity to all those who ask for your protection, hear the prayer that we address to you with filial trust, and present it to your Son Jesus, our sole Redeemer. Mother of Mercy, Teacher of hidden and silent sacrifice, to you, who come to meet us sinners, we dedicate on this day all our being and all our love. We also dedicate to you our life, our work, our joys, our infirmities, and our sorrows. Grant peace, justice, and prosperity to our peoples; for we entrust to your care all that we have and all that we are, our Lady and Mother. We wish to be entirely yours and to walk with you along the way of complete faithfulness to Jesus Christ in His Church; hold us always with your loving hand. Virgin of Guadalupe, we pray to you for all the Bishops, that they may lead the faithful along paths of intense Christian life, of love and humble service of God and souls. Contemplate this immense harvest, and intercede with the Lord that He may instill a hunger for holiness in the whole people of God, and grant abundant vocations of priests and religious, strong in the faith and zealous dispensers of God's mysteries. Grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life in its beginnings, with the same love with which you conceived in your womb the life of the Son of God. Blessed Virgin Mary, protect our families, so that they may always be united, and bless the upbringing of our children. Our hope, look upon us with compassion, teach us to go continually to Jesus and, if we fall, help us to rise again, to return to Him, by means of the confession of our faults and sins in the Sacrament of Penance, which gives peace to the soul. We beg you to grant us a great love for all the holy Sacraments, which are, as it were, the signs that your Son left us on earth. Thus, Most Holy Mother, with the peace of God in our conscience, with our hearts free from evil and hatred, we will be able to bring to all true joy and true peace, which come to us from your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Pope St John Paul II

Mexico, January 1979. Visiting the Basilica during his first foreign trip as Pope.