

### First Reading Baruch 5:1-9

#### A Reading from the Prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

### Responsorial Psalm. 125

**What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
It seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
On our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: What marvels  
The Lord worked for them!

What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord from our bondage  
As streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
Will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
Carrying seed for the sowing:  
They come back, they come back, full of song,  
Carrying their sheaves.

### Second Reading Philippians 1:4-6;8-11

#### A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see it is finished when the day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that you love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

### ***SYNOD - A TWO YEAR 'SYNODAL' PROCESS IS TAKING PLACE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH***

***from October 2021 until the final Gathering of Bishops in October 2023. The overall theme is:***

***'For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission'.***

***Over the next few weeks we will have the opportunity to contribute at parish level***

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia alleluia!**

**Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.**

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Luke 3:1-6**

The Lord be with you

**And with your spirit.**

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill will be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of the Lord.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

### FRATELLI TUTTI

**The Unique Value of Love**

92. The spiritual stature of a person's life is measured by love, which in the end remains "the criterion for the definitive decision about a human life's worth or lack thereof".<sup>[71]</sup> Yet some believers think that it consists in the imposition of their own ideologies upon everyone else, or in a violent defence of the truth, or in impressive demonstrations of strength. All of us, as believers, need to recognize that love takes first place: love must never be put at risk, and the greatest danger lies in failing to love (cf. *1 Cor* 13:1-13).

93. Saint Thomas Aquinas sought to describe the love made possible by God's grace as a movement outwards towards another, whereby we consider "the beloved as somehow united to ourselves".<sup>[72]</sup> Our affection for others makes us freely desire to seek their good. All this originates in a sense of esteem, an appreciation of the value of the other. This is ultimately the idea behind the word "charity": those who are loved are "dear" to me; "they are considered of great value".<sup>[73]</sup> And "the love whereby someone becomes pleasing (*grata*) to another is the reason why the latter bestows something on him freely (*gratis*)".<sup>[74]</sup>

94. Love, then, is more than just a series of benevolent actions. Those actions have their source in a union increasingly directed towards others, considering them of value, worthy, pleasing and beautiful apart from their physical or moral appearances. Our love for others, for who they *are*, moves us to seek the best for their lives. Only by cultivating this way of relating to one another will we make possible a social friendship that excludes no one and a fraternity that is open to all.

**Pope Francis**

## Second Sunday of Advent Year C

<u>Saturday</u>	6.00 pm	Rosa Gibson Bdy	St. MM
<u>Sunday</u>	9.30 am	Keira & Andrew Wiles	St Ter
<u>Sunday</u>	11.30 am	Dick McNicholas	Bl Sac
<u>Tuesday</u>		No Mass	St Ter
<u>Wednesday</u>		No Mass	St M M
<u>Friday</u>		No Mass	Bl Sac
<u>Saturday</u>	Reader	Christine Nuttall	St M M
<u>Sunday</u>	Reader	Chris Kelly & Tony Deighton	St Ter
<u>Sunday</u>	Reader	Anne H	Bl Sac

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>6.00 PM</b>	<b>RICHARD ARCHER RIP</b>	<b>ST MM</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9.30 AM</b>	<b>LEE SAYLES SPEEDY RECOVERY</b>	<b>ST TER</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>11.30 AM</b>	<b>ANTHONY MORRIS RIP</b>	<b>BL SAC</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>CHRISTINE RUDDY</b>	<b>ST MM</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>CHRIS DEIGHTON &amp; PAT HORBURY</b>	<b>ST TER</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>READER</b>	<b>MAX</b>	<b>BL SAC</b>

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Diocese strongly recommends the use of face masks except if you are exempt.
2. We encourage the use of hand sanitizers while entering and leaving the church.
3. While taking your seat please give space, unless a family group.
4. We encourage parishioners NOT to kneel until further notice.
5. Offertory plates are still provided at the entrance and exit doors.
6. For Holy Communion, come to the front one seat at a time maintaining a good distance.
7. We recommend regular Covid testing. Thank you for your support in these challenging times.

#### OFFERTORY DONATIONS

Thank you to all our parishioners for your generous offertory donations.

St Ter Envelopes £176.00

St MM Envelopes £53.00    Loose Money £50.00

Bl Sac Envelopes £128.00    Loose Money £3.52    Raffle £21.00

St Mary Magdalene - THE ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE - will be held Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 7.00 pm. If you wish to help in any please see Tony McNicholas

St Teresa's - 125 Club Membership - is due for renewal 1<sup>st</sup> January - at the latest 15<sup>th</sup> January. Many thanks to all who continue with this welcome addition to our finances.

St Teresa's

Blessed Sacrament

St Mary Magdalene's  
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2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*





