

## **First Sunday of Advent.**

### **First reading**

*Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8*

#### **O that you would tear the heavens open and come down**

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,  
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.  
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your  
ways  
and harden our hearts against fearing  
you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open  
and come down!  
– at your Presence the mountains would  
melt.

No ear has heard,  
no eye has seen  
any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him.  
You guide those who act with integrity  
and keep your ways in mind.  
You were angry when we were sinners;  
we had long been rebels against you.  
We were all like men unclean,  
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.  
We have all withered like leaves  
and our sins blew us away like the wind.  
No one invoked your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you.  
For you hid your face from us  
and gave us up to the power of our sins.  
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;  
we the clay, you the potter,  
we are all the work of your hand.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19**

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help.

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted.

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

May your hand be on the man you have  
chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again;  
give us life that we may call upon your  
name.

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your  
face and we shall be saved.*

### **Second reading** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

#### **We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed**

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

### **Gospel Acclamation** Psalms 84:8

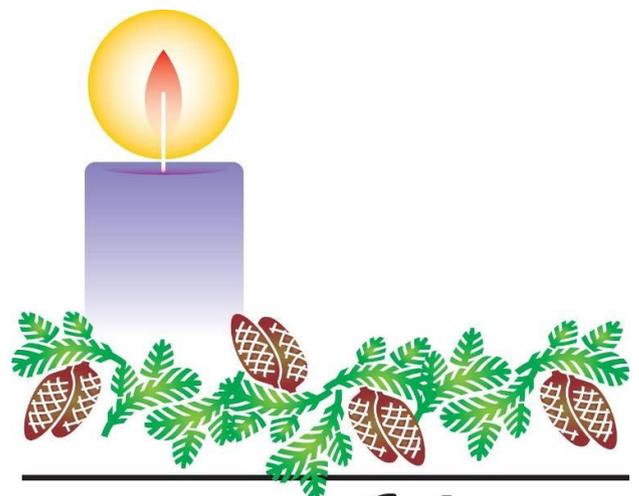
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel**

*Mark 13:33-37*

**If he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



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FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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