

The Collects, Epistles and Gospels of the Liberal Catholic liturgy, rendered into gender-neutral, modern language, as an alternative form, by The Mission Episcopate of Saints Francis and Clare, a Eucharistic Community in the Liberal Catholic Tradition.

The Second Sunday in Advent

Class B. Violet or blue vestments. At least 6 candles at Mass. (LCC Class C. Violet vestments.) (In a small church, white may take the place of all colours, except there should be a violet stole for use where prescribed. Cloth of Gold may always take the place of white, red or green vestments, but not of violet.)

The Collects

P. Christ be with you
C. And with your spirit.
P. Let us pray.

The collect for purity

P. Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy Name. In Christ's name we pray. **R/.Amen.**

The priest then intones or says the collect of the day and other collects, if any, and finally the collect for peace:

The collect of the day

P. O GOD, our Creator and Preserver, we thank You for Your never-failing love, and do most earnestly desire and resolve to show forth Your praise not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Your service, and by walking before You in holiness and righteousness all our days. In Christ's name we pray. **R/.Amen.**

The Collect for Advent Sunday

P. O SOVEREIGN CHRIST, we pray for strength to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, that we may prepare ourselves not only to keep aright Your holy Feast of Christmas, but also faithfully and acceptably to serve You when You shall come again, to Whom we ever offer heartfelt love and worship. **R/.Amen.**

The collect for peace

Teach us, Most High, to see your life in all the peoples of your earth, and so guide the nations into an understanding of your laws that peace and goodwill may reign upon earth; In Christ's name we pray. **R/. Amen.**

The Epistle

The Epistle is taken from the fifth chapter of the First Epistle of St. Paul the Apostle to the Thessalonians, beginning at the eleventh verse.

THEREFORE comfort yourselves together and edify one another, and be at peace among yourselves. We exhort you, sisters and brothers, warn those who are unruly, comfort the

dispirited, support the weak, be patient toward all. See that none render evil for evil to anyone but ever follow that which is good both among your selves and to all. Rejoice evermore, and in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit, examine all things, hold fast to that which is good and abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Sovereign Christ.

Here ends the Epistle.

The epistle ended, all stand and sing:

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual

1. P: They that love wisdom love life:
C: and they that seek her early shall be filled with joy.
2. **Teach us, O God, the way of your statutes: and we shall keep it unto the end.**
3. **Give us understanding and we shall keep your law: we shall keep it with our whole heart.**
4. **The path of the just is as the shining light: shining more and more unto the perfect day.**

Munda Cor Meum

D. Cleanse my heart and my lips, O God, who by the hand of your seraph did cleanse the lips of the prophet Isaiah with a burning coal from your altar and in your lovingkindness so purify me that I may worthily proclaim your holy gospel; In Christ's name .

C. May the Most High be in your (+) heart and on your (+) lips, that through your heart the love of God may shine forth and through your lips God's power be made manifest. **R/. Amen.**

The Gospel

P OR D. Christ be with you.

C. And with your spirit.

The holy Gospel is taken from the fourth chapter of that according to St. Mark beginning at the twenty fourth verse.

C: Glory be to you, O Holy One.

TAKE heed what you hear. With what measure you measure, it shall be measured to you, and to you that hear shall more be given. For they that have, to them shall be given, and they that have not, from them shall be taken even that which they have. Thus is the realm of God, as if we should cast seed into the ground and should sleep and rise night and day and the seed should spring and grow up, without us knowing how. For the earth brings forth fruit of itself, first the blade, then the ear, and after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately we put in the sickle, because the harvest is come. To what shall we liken the realm of God, or with what parable shall we present it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which when sown in the earth is less than all the seeds in the earth, but when it is sown, it grows up, and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out great branches, so that the birds of the air may lodge under its shadow.

R/Praise be to you, O Christ.