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THE BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

FOR USE IN THE DIOCESES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ACCORDING TO THE SECOND TYPICAL EDITION
OF THE ORDER OF READINGS FOR MASS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

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* Ritual Masses are prohibited on Sundays during the seasons of Advent, Lent and Easter, on solemnities, on days within the Octave of Easter, on the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls), on Ash Wednesday, and during Holy Week. Even when ritual Masses are prohibited, however, norms in some of the individual ritual books allow one reading to be chosen from among those provided in the ritual Mass. (See General Instruction of the Roman Missal, nos. 352 and 372 and Lectionary for Mass, no. 88).



SEASON OF ADVENT

[1] FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A

Stay awake, that you may be prepared!

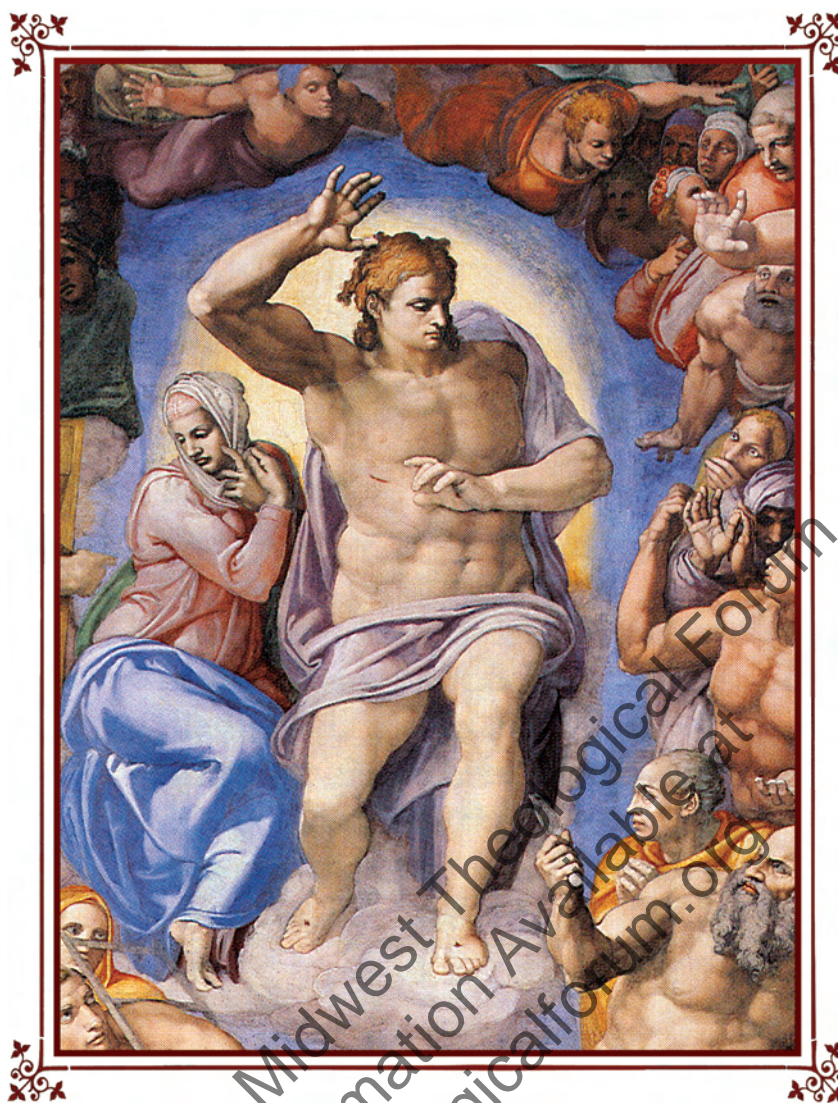
✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

24: 37-44

Jesus said to his disciples,
"As it was in the days of Noah,
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.
In those days before the flood,
they were eating and drinking,
marrying and giving in marriage,
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.
They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.
So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.
Two men will be out in the field;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Two women will be grinding at the mill;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Therefore, stay awake!
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.
Be sure of this: if the master of the house
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,
he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into.
So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.





Be watchful! You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming.

✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

13:33–37

Jesus said to his disciples,
“Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.
Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

[3] FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

C

Your redemption is at hand.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 21: 25–28, 34–36

Jesus said to his disciples,
“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars,
and on earth nations will be in dismay,
perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves.
People will die of fright
in anticipation of what is coming upon the world,
for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
And then they will see the Son of Man
coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.

“Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy
from carousing and drunkenness
and the anxieties of daily life,
and that day catch you by surprise like a trap.
For that day will assault everyone
who lives on the face of the earth.
Be vigilant at all times
and pray that you have the strength
to escape the tribulations that are imminent
and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



[4] SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT A



Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

3: 1–12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:
*A voice of one crying out in the desert:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.”*

John wore clothing made of camel's hair
and had a leather belt around his waist.
His food was locusts and wild honey.
At that time Jerusalem, all Judea,
and the whole region around the Jordan
were going out to him
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees
coming to his baptism, he said to them,
"You brood of vipers!
Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?
Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.
And do not presume to say to yourselves,
'We have Abraham as our father.'
For I tell you,
God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones.
Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.
Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit
will be cut down and thrown into the fire.
I am baptizing you with water, for repentance,
but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.
I am not worthy to carry his sandals.
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
His winnowing fan is in his hand.
He will clear his threshing floor
and gather his wheat into his barn,
but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord.



[5] SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT B



Make straight the paths of the Lord.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.
As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.*

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem

were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair,
with a leather belt around his waist.

He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed:

"One mightier than I is coming after me.

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

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.