**WEEKDAY MASS SHEET**



**SECOND WEEK   
OF ADVENT**

*8th December — 14th December 2013*

**OUR PRAYERS THIS MONTH**

*We pray especially for: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees and Expectant Mothers.*

**THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS (December)**

***General Intention****: That children who are victims of abandonment or violence may find the love and protection they need.*

***Missionary Intention****: That Christians, enlightened by the Word incarnate, may prepare humanity for the Saviour’s coming.*

**MONDAY**

**The Immaculate Conception**

**of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is that the Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin. It was this grace that enabled Mary to give a true and considered “Yes” to the request, conveyed by the Angel Gabriel that she should consent to be the mother of the incarnate God.*

*Entrance Antiphon:* **I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantel of justice, like a bride adorned with her jewels.**

*The Gloria is said*

*First Reading*: Genesis 3: 9–15.20

*I will make you enemies of each other; your offspring and her offspring.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.**

*Second Reading*: Ephesians 1: 3–6.11-12

*Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ.*

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Luke 1: 26-38

*Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.*

The Creed is said

*Communion Antiphon:* **Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary, for from you arose the son of justice, Christ our God.**

**TUESDAY**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Behold, the Lord will come, and all his holy ones with him; and on that day there will be a great light.**

*First Reading*: Isaiah 40: 1-11

*God consoles his people.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Here is our God coming with power.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Come Lord! Do not delay. Forgive the sins of your people. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Matthew 18: 12-14

*God does not wish the little ones to be lost.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **The Just Judge will bestow a crown of righteousness on those who eagerly await his coming.**

**WEDNESDAY**

**St Damasus I, Pope**

*Born in 305 in Spain, Damasus joined the Roman Clergy. He was elected pope in 366. He held many synods against heretics and schismatics. He promoted the cult of the martyrs. He died in 384.*

*Entrance Antiphon:* **The Lord will come and he will not delay. He will illumine what is hidden in darkness and reveal himself to all the nations.**

*First Reading:* Isaiah 40: 25-31

*The Lord almighty gives strength to the wearied.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **My soul, give thanks to the Lord.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Behold, our Lord will come with power and will enlighten the eyes of his servants. Alleluia!**

*Gospel:* Matthew 11:28-30

*Come to me, all you who labour.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Behold, our Lord will come with power, and will enlighten the eyes of his servants.**

**THURSDAY**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

*The shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe, near Mexico City, is one of the most celebrated places of pilgrimage in North America. On December 9th 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to an Indian convert, Juan Diego, and left him with a picture of herself impressed upon his cloak. Devotion to Mary under this title has continually increased, and today she is the patroness of the Americas.*

*Entrance Antiphon:* **You, O Lord, are close, and all your ways are truth. From of old I have known of your decrees, for you are eternal.**

*First Reading*: Isaiah 41: 13-20

*I, the Holy One of Israel, are your redeemer.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Come to us, Lord, with your peace that we may rejoice in your presence with sincerity of heart. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Matthew 11: 11-15

*A greater than John the Baptist has never been seen.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Let us live justly and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of the glory of our great God.**

**FRIDAY**

**Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

*She was martyred in Syracuse probably during the persecution of Diocletian (which started in 303). Devotion to her spread rapidly across practically the whole church and her name is included in the Roman Canon of the Mass.*

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Behold now she follows the Lamb who is crucified for us, powerful in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity.**

*First Reading*: Isaiah 48: 17-19

*If only you had been alert to my commandments.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Anyone who follows you, Lord, will have the light of life.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! See, the king, the Lord of the world, will come. He will free us from the yoke of our bondage. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Matthew 11: 16-19

*They heed neither John nor the Son of Man.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **The Lamb who is at the centre of the throne will lead them to the springs of the water of life.**

**SATURDAY**

**St John of the Cross  
Priest and Doctor of the Church**

*Born in 1542 at Fontiverios in Spain, John died in Ubedea on this day. A Carmelite, he joined St Teresa of Jesus in the work of Carmelite reform and despite opposition and imprisonment organised the Carmelites. He is remembered for his mystical writings, which combine theology and poetry to describe the spiritual journey through darkness to union with God.*

Entrance Antiphon: **May I never boast, except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.**

*First Reading:* Ecclesiasticus 48: 1-4.9-11

*Elijah will come again.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Lord of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! The day of the Lord is near; look, he comes to save us. Alleluia!**

*Gospel:* Matthew 17: 10-13

*Elijah has come already and they did not recognised him.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me, says the Lord.**

****