**WEEKDAY MASS SHEET**



**THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT**

*15th December — 21st 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**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Hear the Word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: behold, our Saviour will come; you will no longer fear.**

*First Reading*: Numbers 24: 2–7. 25-17

*A star from Jacob takes the leadership.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Lord, make me know your ways.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! The Lord will come, go out to meet him. Great is his beginning and his reign will have no end. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Matthew 21 :23-27

*John’s baptism: where did it come from?*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that we may rejoice before you with a blameless heart.**

**TUESDAY**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Rejoice, O heavens, and exult, O earth, for our Lord will come to show mercy to his poor.**

*First Reading*: Genesis 49: 2. 8-10

*The sceptre shall not pass from Judah.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Wisdom of the Most High, ordering all things with strength and gentleness, come and teach us the way of truth. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Matthew 1: 1-17

*A genealogy of Jesus Christ son of David.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Behold, the Desired of all the nations will come, and the house of the Lord will be filled with glory.**

**WEDNESDAY**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **Christ our King is coming, he is the Lamb foretold by John.**

*First Reading:* Jeremiah 23: 5-8

*I will raise a virtuous Branch for David.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Ruler of the House of Israel, who gave the law to Moses on Sinai, come and save us with outstretched arm. Alleluia!**

*Gospel:* Matthew 1: 18-24

*Jesus was born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **His name will be called Emmanuel which means God-with-us.**

**THURSDAY**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **He who is to come will come and will not delay, and now there will be no fear within our land, for he is our Saviour.**

*First Reading*: Judges 13: 2-7. 24-25

*The birth of Samson was announced by an angel.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **My lips are filled with your praise, with your glory all the day long.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Root of Jesse set up as a sign to the peoples, come to save us, and delay no more. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Luke 1: 5-25

*The birth of John the Baptist was announced by Gabriel.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **The Dawn from on high will visit us, guiding our feet in the way of peace.**

**FRIDAY**

**Weekday**

*Entrance Antiphon:* **A branch shall sprout from the root of Jesse, and the glory of the Lord will fill the whole earth, and all flesh will see the salvation of God.**

*First Reading*: Isaiah 7: 10-14

*The maiden is with child.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Let the Lord enter! He is the King of Glory.**

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

**Emmanuel, our King and law giver, come and save us, Lord our God. Alleluia!**

*Gospel*: Luke 1: 26-38

*Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.*

*Communion Antiphon:* **The Angel said to Mary: behold you will conceive and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.**

 **SATURDAY
St Peter Canisius
Priest and Doctor of the Church**

*Born in Nijmegen (now in Holland) in 1521. He studied at Cologne and joined the Society of Jesus: he was ordained a priest in 1546. He was sent to Germany, where for many years he worked hard to defend and strengthen the Catholic faith both by writing and by preaching. He wrote many books, of which The Catechism is [particularly noteworthy. He died in Switzerland on 21st November 1597.*

Entrance Antiphon: **The Lord and Ruler will be coming soon, and his name will be called Emmanuel, because he will be God-with-us.**

*First Reading:* Song of Songs 2:8-14

*See how my beloved comes leaping over the mountains.*

*Responsorial Psalm:* **Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; O sing him a song that is new.**

*Gospel Acclamation:* **Alleluia, Alleluia! Key of David, who open the gates of the eternal kingdom, come to liberate from prison the captive who lives in darkness. Alleluia!**

*Gospel:* Luke 1: 39-45

*Why should I be honoured by a visit from the mother of my Lord?*

*Communion Antiphon:* **Blessed are you who have believed, that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.**

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