



Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)



St. Jude's Shrine, Dec 21, 2025

COMMENTARY Brothers and sisters, now that the Nativity of our Lord approaches, through this liturgy, celebrated in faith, let us contemplate the greatness of the divine promise, announced by the prophets and fulfilled in Christ Jesus. We are here to thank the Father for the accomplishment of our salvation, which came through the "yes" of Mary and Joseph. Blessed be the Father who, through the Holy Spirit, manifested his Son in our flesh, so that all humanity may experience the mystery of his love. Let us stand and begin our holy Eucharistic Celebration with the entrance hymn, and welcome **Father Maximiliano**.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

1. ENTRANCE SONG

1. O come, o come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

2. O come, o Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.

Refrain

3. O come, o come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

4. O come, o Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain

5. O come, o Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode.

Refrain

6. O come, o Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light.

Refrain

7. O come, o King of nations, bind,
in one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid all our sad divisions cease
and be yourself our King of Peace.

Refrain

2. GREETINGS

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you All.
All: And with your spirit.

RITUAL FOR LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

The assembly sing the Refrain below

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today**

3. PENITENTIAL ACT

Celebrant: As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love, let us acknowledge our failures and ask the Lord for pardon and strength. **(SILENCE)**

*Kyrie eleison (2x)
Christe Eleison (2x)
Kyrie eleison (2x)*

*Lord have mercy (2x)
Christ have mercy (2x)
Lord have mercy (2x)*

Celebrant: May almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **All: Amen.**

4. LET US PRAY

Celebrant: Hear in kindness, O Lord, the prayers of your people, that those who rejoice at the coming of your Only Begotten Son in our flesh may, when at last he comes in glory, gain the reward of eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

5. FIRST READING (Isa. 7, 10-14)

A Reading from the book of Prophet Isaiah

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

6. RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS. 24, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6)

R. (7c and 10b) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

¹ The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.

² For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

Response

³ Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?

⁴ One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,
who desires not what is vain.

Reponse

⁵ He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.

⁶ Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. (2x)

7. SECOND READING (Rom. 1, 1-7)

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

8. GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Mt. 1, 23)

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

²³ The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

9. GOSPEL READING (Mt. 1,18-24)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you!

All: **And with your Spirit.**

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel, † according to Matthew:

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Homily

10. PROFESSION OF FAITH (NICENE CREED)

I believe in one God,/ the Father almighty,/ maker of heaven and Earth,/ of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,/ the Only Begotten Son of God,/ born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light,/ true God from true God,/ begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;/ through him all things were made./ For us men and for our salvation/ he came down from heaven,/ and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,/ and became man./ For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,/ he suffered death and was buried,/ and rose again on the third day / in accordance with the Scriptures. / He ascended into heaven/ and is seated at the right hand of the Father./ He will come again in glory/ to judge the living and the dead/ and his kingdom will have no end./ I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,/ who proceeds from the Father and the Son,/ who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,/ who has spoken through the prophets./ I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church./ I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins/ and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead/ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

11. PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters, in communion with all people who await God's manifestation in their lives, with all nations and with the earth that longs for salvation, let us pray:

Response: Come, Lord, and save your people!

1. Lord Jesus, remember your Church present throughout the world and bless your local Church of São Paulo.

Response

2. Lord Jesus, fulfill among us your promise of peace; bring an end to war and violence across the earth, and let justice be done for the poor. **Response**

3. Lord Jesus, hear the cry of Creation and strengthen all individuals and groups who work for the preservation of our Common Home. **Response**

4. Lord Jesus, strengthen the sick and the elderly; do not abandon those who have strayed from you; give hope to the discouraged and comfort those who are going through trials. **Response:** Come, Lord, and save your people!

Celebrant: Hear our cry, O Christ, and by your Spirit come to our aid, you who live and reign forever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

12. OFFERTORY SONG

1. Christify the gifts we bring to you,
bounty of the Earth receive anew;
take and bless the work of our hands;
christify these gifts at your command.

2. Sun and moon and Earth and wind and rain,
All the World's contained in every grain;
All the toil and dreams of humankind,
All we are we bring as bread and wine.

(02 chorus)

3. Turn the bread and wine, our hearts implore,

to the living presence of the Lord;
blessed and broken, shared with all in need;
all our hungers, sacred bread will feed.

4. With this bread and wine you Christify,
now our deepest thirst you satisfy;
we who by this bread you sanctify,
draw the World for you to Christify;
we who by this bread you sanctify,
draw the World for you to Christify.

Celebrant: Pray, brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

13. PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Let us pray

Celebrant: Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of your Church, for in your mercy you have given them to be offered and by your power you transform them into the mystery of our salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

14. EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

Preface I:

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For in the mystery of the Word made flesh a new light of your glory has shone upon the eyes of our mind, so that, as we recognize in him God made visible, we may be caught up through him in love of things invisible. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim: *Holy, Holy ...*

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lord God of host

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

(2x) Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

(2x) Hosanna in the highest

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body † and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT: FOR THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT: FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith. (Singing)

All: **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.(2x)**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with **Leo our Pope and Odilo our Bishop** and all the clergy.

† Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, *with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be co-heirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Celebrant: **Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.**

All: **Amen.**

15. COMMUNION RITE

Celebrant: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words, our Savior gave us:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord; we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will, Who live and reign for ever and ever. All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All: **Peace be with you!**

16. LAMB OF GOD

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace Emmanuel, Morning Star, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords

(The assembly repeats after each CALL)

1. Lamb of God, / You take away / the sins of all, / the World, / *Miserere nobis.*
2. Bread of life, / You take away / the sins of all, / the World, / *Miserere nobis.*
3. Agnus Dei, / You take away / the sins of all, / the World, / *Dona nobis Pacem.*

Celebrant: This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper. All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

17. COMMUNION SONG

1. **Mary, did you know**
That your baby boy, would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know
That your baby boy, would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know
That your baby boy, has come to make you new?
And this child that you delivered will soon deliver you
2. **Mary, did you know**
That your baby boy, will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know
That your baby boy, will calm the storm with his hand?
Did you know
That your baby boy, has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby you kissed the face of God?
Oh, Mary did you know (uhuhuh)

*The blind will see
The deaf will hear
The dead will live again
The lame will leap
The dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb*
3. **Mary, did you know**
That your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know
That your baby boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know
That your baby boy, is heaven's perfect Lamb?
The sleeping child you're holding
Is the Great, I am.

18. PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray

Celebrant: Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. All: **Amen.**

CONCLUDING RITES

19. FINAL BLESSING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
All: **And with your Spirit.**

Celebrant: May God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favor and make you sharers with the Church in heaven. All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God †, the Father †, and the Son †, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. All: **Amen.**

20. FINAL SONG

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see.

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.**
2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice
Refrain
3. Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed
Refrain
4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone
Refrain
5. Many the gift, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come
Refrain

Merry Christmas to all



Join us for the **English Mass every 4th Sunday at 10 a.m. at St. Jude's Shrine.**

✦ First Mass of 2026: **January 25.**

You are warmly invited to participate.