



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A (P 141)- 15/12/2019

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING 35:1-6,10 Page 141

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, "Courage! Do not be afraid. Look your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God, he is coming to save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy in their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, come and save us.



SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St James. 5:7-10 page 143

You also must be patient, do not lose heart; the Lord's coming will be soon.

★ Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophet who spoke in the name of the Lord. ★

✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠



Gospel Acclamation

Isa 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Page143 11:2-11

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

★ John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?" Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me."

After the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet; he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you, I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is." ★

◆ **The Gospel of the Lord.** ◆



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for coming feasts

◆ **Through Christ our Lord.** ◆



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