



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A (P 145)-22/12/2019

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One, let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour,

FIRST READING 7:10-14 Page 145

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, “Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.” “No, Ahaz answered “I will not put the Lord to the test.”

Then Isaiah said: “Listen now, House of David; are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call **Emmanuel**, a name which means **“God is with us.”**

✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠

Responsorial Psalm

Let the Lord enter, he is king of glory.



SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Romans. 1:1-7 page 146

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

★ From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God’s beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

★ ✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Page 147 1:18-24

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

★ This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband, Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.” Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means “God is with us”. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do; he took his wife to his home. ★

◆ **The Gospel of the Lord.** ◆



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 so the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son’s Nativity.

◆ **Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.** ◆

