

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B)

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Isaiah (63:16-17; 64:1,3-8)

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come
down
- at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 79:2-3,15-16,18-19. R.v.4)

**R. God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

SECOND READING: A reading from the first letter of
St Paul to the Corinthians (1:3-9)

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send
you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have
received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you
have been enriched in so many ways, especially in
your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ
has indeed been strong among you so that you will
not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while
you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be
revealed; and he will keep you steady and without
blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to
his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Ps 84:8)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help

R. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark (13:33-37)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay
awake, because you never know when the time will
come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone
from home, and left his servants in charge, each
with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to
stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not
know when the master of the house is coming,
evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes
unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And
what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

The Gospel of the Lord.