

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: As we begin this season of Advent, this period of waiting for the Lord to be born into this world, we lift up our prayers to the One we know will never abandon us.

- ☺ For the Church, that we might use this time of the holy season of Advent to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ For world leaders, for an increased awareness that all power comes from above, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ For those who feel abandoned and hopeless, that they may know the comfort of God, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ For those who are facing difficult hardships in the winter months ahead, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ That all who are separated from the Church may come to possess the great joy of knowing God's compassionate love and acceptance, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ For our community, from young to old, that we may appreciate the anticipation that is part of this Advent season, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ That the dead may rejoice forever in the house of the Lord, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**
- ☺ For the prayers of our baskets, the Living & Deceased Members of the Lesavage Family, Frank Zaske, Bill & Virginia Harris, George, Geraldine & Tom Phillip, the Diocesan Annual Appeal, and the needs of St. Joseph and St. Stephen Parishes, we pray;  
▶ **God of mercy, fill us with hope.**

*(Pause for intentions from the heart to be prayed.)*

Presider: Eternal and Ever-present God, hear our prayers that we offer here today in humility and love. Grant them through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

**ALL: AMEN!**

## ***FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT***

December 2-3, 2017



### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

The Living & Deceased Members  
of the Lesavage Family  
†Frank Zaske

†Bill & Virginia Harris  
†George, Geraldine & Tom Phillip

## **Blessing & Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

### ***PENITENTIAL RITE:***

Lord Jesus, Emmanuel, you come to us in word and sacrament:  
Lord, have mercy. **.....Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, Emmanuel, you are the redeemer who reconciles us  
to God and one another:  
Christ have mercy **.....Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, Emmanuel, you will come in glory on the last day:  
Lord have mercy; **.....Lord, have mercy.**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

The Word of the Lord.  
**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

#40, Gather - Psalm 85  
Lord Let Us See Your Kindness

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.  
**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**PRAISE TO YOU LORD, JESUS CHRIST!**

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I believe in one God, the Father, the 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 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.