



Liturgy Cycle A

Second Sunday After Christmas

From His Fullness We Have All Received

Introduction

The lights of Christmas are already beginning to fade. Things are getting back to normal. But the mystery of Christ's presence among us remains. John reminds us of this in the gospel of today: 'The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...from this fullness we have all received.' Let us draw close to Christ so that he can fill our emptiness.

First Reading (Ecclesiastes 24: 1-2. 8-12)

This is poem in praise of wisdom, a wisdom that has pitched her tents among God's people.

Second Reading (Ephesians 1: 3-6.15-18)

This reading introduces the theme of God's plan of salvation for us.

Gospel (John 1: 1-18)

This is the beginning of John's Gospel. Christ, the Son of God, came and dwelt among us sinners. By accepting him we too become children of the Father, and are filled with grace and truth.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to God through Christ our Brother, who assumed our human nature, with all its weaknesses, to show us what we can become.

R: Lord, save us through your coming.

For the people of God: that they may die to sin and live to holiness. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, save us through your coming.

For our leaders: that they may show special concern for the most needy and vulnerable members of our society. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, save us through your coming.



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For all those who are labouring under a burden of fear, or guilt, or despair. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, save us through your coming.

That by accepting the love of Christ we may grow in grace, and in freedom of the children of God. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, save us through your coming.

Communion Reflection

A man and his wife (both staunch Christians) were going into an exhibition of paintings by a promising young artist, when they passed a beggar sitting on the steps.

The wife gave him a few pence, but her husband scolded her, saying: 'I never give anything to his kind, because they only go off and drink it.'

Inside, one painting greatly impressed the husband. It was a painting of an old beggar man. 'It's so realistic,' he exclaimed. 'Look at the patches on the beggar's coat, the dirt on his hands, the sadness in his eyes, and the indifference of the passerby. It's beautiful.' He bought it for 400 pence.