



Liturgy Cycle B

Third Sunday Of Advent

Witnessing to the Light

Introduction

In today's liturgy we will hear John the Baptist say to us: "There stands one among you whom you know not." The one he speaks of is Christ our Saviour. Christ is the unseen guest at our banquet. More than that – he is the host who welcomes us to this banquet given by the Father. Let us draw close to him and renew our faith in his presence with us.

First Reading (Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11)

The writer declares that he has been anointed by God and sent to bring good news to the poor. Jesus used this passage to announce the programme of his own ministry.

Second Reading (1 Thess 5:16-24)

St. Paul tells the Thessalonians how they ought to live as they wait for the second coming of Christ.

Gospel (John 1:6-8; 19-28)

John the Baptist makes it clear that he is not the Saviour. His task is a humbler one – to prepare the way for the Saviour who is already among the people, though they do not recognize him.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray that the light of Christ our Saviour may shine in our lives and in our world.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That Christians, by the way they live, may show forth the light of Christ's love and mercy to all people. Lord hears us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For all rulers: that they may work for the good of those they govern, Lord hear us.



R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That hearts that are broken with sorrow, disappointment or loneliness may experience the gentle healing of Christ. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That we ourselves may witness to the Good News that there is forgiveness for sin, and that there is hope for our world, by the way we speak and act. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

Communion Reflection

A six year old child whose parents were non-believers one day asked his teacher to take him to visit a nearby church. During the visit he said to the teacher:

"This is God's house, so Grandma says,
She says that God is love,
She says she prays to him
which means she talks to him.

I have never prayed.
But I would like to talk to God.
I would like to hear what he has to say.

There's a boy in my class at school
who believes in God,
He's a Catholic.
But Papa and Mama are not God-believing people,
and so I am not.
It makes me feel lonely not knowing God".

The words of a six year old:
"It makes me feel lonely not knowing God".
But sadly his parents were no help to him,
in search for God.

If we do not possess the light
we cannot give it to others.