



The Catholic Archdiocese of
Canberra and Goulburn

Sunday Celebration of the Word and Communion - Advent

INTRODUCTORY RITE

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

[Welcome one another.

The leader of prayer (L) moves from the front pews to the presiding place.

The priest's chair is empty.

The readers and ministers with candles and incense wait at the entrance.

The community or assembly (A) is gathered]

GATHERING SONG

Stand

L and A: Make the SIGN OF THE CROSS

LITURGICAL GREETING

(Alternative greeting for Advent p. 4, in Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours, or from the Mass of the day)

L: Blessed be the God of hope,
who has filled us with joy and peace by the Spirit,
that we may abound in hope
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Bless the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit.

A: Blessed be God forever.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS (p. 206)

L: Today, we, the people of God,
gather to hear and respond to God's word,
to return praise and thanks,
[and to share Christ's sacrament.]
We look forward to that day
when we will once more celebrate the Eucharist,
as Christ commanded us to do in his memory.
Our community makes its worship
in union with the Church throughout the world,

with N. our Pope, N. our bishop,
our pastor, Father N., who is unable to be with us,
and with our brothers and sisters in neighbouring
parishes who keep holy this day
in the celebration of the Lord's sacrifice and supper.

ADVENT WREATH

The wreath is blessed / candle/s lit.

A: Loving God,

Source of all hope and love,

you call us to be your people united in faith.

We thank you for this wreath,

the evergreen sign of your faithful love.

Dispel the darkness of sin,

**that the light and joy of Jesus may shine in this
waiting world.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

OPENING RITE

(Litany of Praise, Advent p. 6, No Gloria)

L: Rich in mercy is our Saviour and great in kindness.
Praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer/reflection

L: Lord Jesus, you are the dawn of our salvation:
Lord have mercy.

A: Lord have mercy.

L: Christ Jesus, you come among us in human flesh:
Christ have mercy.

A: Christ have mercy.

L: Lord Jesus, you will come in glory at the end of time:
Lord have mercy.

A: Lord have mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

(Advent p. 8-15, Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours or the Opening Prayer of the day e.g.)

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God,
strengthen the resolve of your faithful people
to prepare for the coming of your Christ
by works of justice and mercy,
so that when we go forth to meet him
he may call us to sit at his right hand
and possess the kingdom of heaven.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

A: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Process in to sung acclamation.

(The reader/s (R) with Lectionary held aloft, move from the entrance down the aisle, accompanied by ministers with lighted candles. The Lectionary is placed on the ambo and incensed.)

INVITATION

L: May the Word of God always be heard in this place,
as it unfolds the mystery of Christ before us,
and achieves our salvation within the Church. Sit

FIRST READING

The First Reading of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: The Word of the Lord.

A: **Thanks be to God.** *Followed by silent reflection*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (sung if possible)

The Responsorial Psalm of the Sunday from the Lectionary

SECOND READING

The Second Reading of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: The Word of the Lord.

A: **Thanks be to God.** *Followed by silent reflection*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*sung if possible*) Stand
The Gospel Acclamation of the Sunday from the Lectionary

Alleluia, alleluia...

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Gospel of the Sunday from the Lectionary

R: A reading from the holy Gospel according to
(e.g., Mark)

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** Sit

SHARED REFLECTION on the Readings followed by silence.

PROFESSION OF FAITH (alternative format p. 337) Stand

L: Brothers and sisters, let us profess the faith of the
Church we received on the day of our baptism.

A: **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

L: In response to God's Word proclaimed in our midst we pray to God for the needs of the Church and the world

A reader announces the intentions in the usual way.

R: Lord hear us.

A: Lord, hear our prayer.

L: God of love, hear the prayers of your people and grant us today what we ask of you in faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE

L Let us praise the Lord.
(Brief pause)

Left hand side We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for your goodness and love in all creation, by which you continually nourish and sustain us. To you, most holy and glorious God, we voice our praise and sing/say:
**My soul is thirsting for the Lord.
When shall we see him face to face?**

Right hand side: We give you thanks, Lord our God, for revealing yourself throughout history, and forming a covenant of salvation with your people. To you, most holy and glorious God, we voice our praise and sing/say:
**My soul is thirsting for the Lord.
When shall we see him face to face?**

Left hand side: We give you thanks, gracious God, for speaking words of life through the prophets and especially in the Word made flesh. To you, most holy and glorious God, we voice our praise and sing/say:
**My soul is thirsting for the Lord.
When shall we see him face to face?**

Right hand side: We give you thanks, God of mercy and love, for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, who freed us from slavery to sin and anointed us as your beloved children. To you, most holy and glorious God, we voice our praise and sing/say:
**My soul is thirsting for the Lord.
When shall we see him face to face?**

Left hand side: We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, for the Spirit of adoption, who consecrates us to proclaim the good news of salvation and unites us in your eternal kingdom. To you, most holy and glorious God, we voice our praise and sing/say:
**My soul is thirsting for the Lord.
When shall we see him face to face?**

SIGN OF PEACE

L: In the name of Christ, let us offer each other a sign of peace.
[The leader of prayer returns to the body of the Church.]
[The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EM) prepares for Communion.]

COMMUNION RITE

Kneel

BRINGING OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT TO THE ALTAR
[by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.]

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Stand

EM: Taught by our Saviour's command and formed by the Word of God, we dare to say/sing.

**A: Our Father...
...now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Kneel

EM: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**A: Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

The distribution of Communion takes place in the usual way.

REPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

PERIOD OF SILENCE

Sit

EM: Let us pray. (Advent p. 260)
(*Silent prayer*)

In this communion, almighty God, you have given us the pledge of eternal redemption. Grant that the closer we come to the feast of Christmas, the more eagerly we may prepare to celebrate the saving mystery of your Son's birth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

[The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion returns to his/her place.]

[The leader of prayer returns to the sanctuary.]

CONCLUDING RITE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sit

COLLECTION

BLESSING (p. 249-250)

Stand

L: May the God of hope fill us with every joy in believing.
May the peace of Christ abound in our hearts.
(*make the Sign of the Cross*)
May the Holy Spirit enrich us with his gifts, now and for ever.

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord by our life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Considerations for music

"The Church's liturgy moves within the cycle and rhythm of the liturgical seasons that celebrate the many facets of the mystery of Christ and salvation through the course of the liturgical year. The use of the Lectionary with the Sunday scriptures unites each Sunday assembly with the Church universal" *Pastoral Handbook for the Dioceses of Australia: Sunday Celebration of the Word, Sunday Celebration of the Hours*, p. 28. This cycle and rhythm of liturgical seasons should also be reflected in the musical selections for a Celebration of the Word.

"The hymn chosen for communion should speak of the meaning of the act of communion, and not adoration. The communicant is in union with Christ, and with the whole body of Christ. The hymn's text should reflect the ritual action or speak of unity and service. Texts should not give the impression that the eucharistic celebration has taken place at *this* celebration." *Pastoral Handbook*, p. 30.

As with selecting music for Mass, priority should be given to those parts of the liturgy that by their nature are sung e.g. Responsorial Psalm, Gloria (when appropriate), the Gospel Acclamation, and the Acclamations during the Proclamation of Praise. Then consideration should move to the Processional songs (Entrance, Word and Communion) and the verses of the Proclamation of Praise, followed by music for other parts of the liturgy.

For more information about musical selection see our document on *Music in the Liturgy* and p. xxxix-xlii in *Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours*.

Acknowledgement

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Other Useful Resources:

Archdiocese of Brisbane. *Lay Leaders of Liturgy with Sample Rites for Sundays, Weekdays and Funerals*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

Chase, A. *Remaining Faithful: Sundays without the Eucharist*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

National Liturgical Commission. *Pastoral Handbook for the Dioceses of Australia: Sunday Celebration of the Word, Sunday Celebration of the Hours*. Brisbane: The Liturgical Commission, 2004.

