

World AIDS Day Resources

First Sunday of Advent (Year B)—Sunday, November 27, 2005

Greeting

As we gather on this **First Sunday of Advent 2005**, we acknowledge that this coming Thursday will be the observance of **World AIDS Day**.

The people touched by this pandemic are held in our thoughts and our prayers this day.

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 24:1-3

“To you, my God, I lift my soul, I trust in you; let me never come to shame. Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.”

Penitential Rite

Priest or Deacon: Lord Jesus,
You are the sign of hope,
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest or Deacon: Christ Jesus,
You are Light and Life,
Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Priest or Deacon: Lord Jesus,
You raise up the poor,
the lonely, and all persons
who are sick and suffering,
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

Isaiah prophesied, “All our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves... We are the clay and you are the potter: we are the work of your hands.”

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

“Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Paul wrote, “God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. You are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 85:8

“Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.”

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said, “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come... Watch, therefore” whether at sunset, midnight, cock crow, or sunrise. “Watch!”

Homily/Preaching Hints

♦The AIDS pandemic reflects an image of the ongoing struggle to bring Gospel justice and more equitable sharing of human and financial resources for the sake of the poor. Advent

celebrates our commitment to respond to the “waiting” for care and compassion that face so many people in the world today.

♦HIV/AIDS is a pandemic that primarily affects people who are vulnerable due to discrimination, loneliness and feeling deprived of resources and opportunities. Reflect on how Jesus came into the world to teach us how to reach out in love and compassion to the “least of” our brothers and sisters.

Prayer of the Faithful

Priest or Deacon: God of overflowing love, we come with joys and sorrows. We come in turmoil and chaos, struggling to create one world in hope. Let your loving justice inspire our hearts as we pray:

Reader: God of our hope, make us one as we walk with all who live with HIV or AIDS. Encourage our hearts and open our hands. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: God of our hope, make us one as we pray for all caregivers, researchers, and those who seek to prevent the further spread of HIV and AIDS.

We pray to the Lord,

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: God of our hope, make us one as we commit ourselves anew to greater equity and access to information, treatment, and care for people with HIV across the world. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Communion Antiphon: Psalm 84:13

“The Lord will shower his gifts, and our land will yield its fruit.”

Mother of God Light in All Darkness

Mother of God,
Light in All Darkness,
shelter him
our flame of hope
with your tender hands.
And in our times
of dread and nightmares,
let him be our
dream of comfort.
And in our times
of physical pain
and suffering,
let him be
out healer.

And in our times of separation
from God and one another,
let him be
our communion.

AMEN



Special thanks to Bari Colombari from Oregon Catholic Press (www.ocp.org) for preparing this resource for the Secretariats for African American Catholics (www.usccb.org/saac) and Hispanic Affairs (www.usccb.org/hispanicaffairs) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Catholic AIDS Network (www.ncan.org), the National Black Catholic Congress (www.nbccongress.org) and the Leadership Campaign on AIDS (phs.os.dhhs.gov/aids/tlcapage1.html).

World AIDS Day Resources

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)—Sunday, December 4, 2005

Greeting

This **Second Sunday of Advent 2005**, we acknowledge that this past Thursday was the observance of **World AIDS Day**. As a gathered community of faith, may our hearts be filled with compassion, prayer, and love for all individuals and all families through-out the world that have been touched by this pandemic.

Entrance Antiphon: See Isaiah 30:19, 30

“People of Zion, the Lord will come to save all nations, and your hearts will exult to hear his majestic voice.”

Penitential Rite

Priest or Deacon:

Lord Jesus,
You are the root of Jesse,
hope of the world,
Lord, have mercy.

All:

Lord, have mercy.

Priest or Deacon:

Christ Jesus,
You quench our thirst
for justice,
Christ, have mercy.

All:

Christ, have mercy.

Priest or Deacon:

Lord Jesus,
You welcome
all to your table,
Lord, have mercy.

All:

Lord, have mercy.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Speaking for God, Isaiah said, “‘Comfort, give comfort to my people,’ says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service will end.”

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

“Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.”

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter wrote that God does not want anyone to perish but wants all to repent, for the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 3:4, 6

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Fulfilling what Isaiah foretold, John appeared in the desert as a messenger making ready the way of the Lord and proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

Homily/Preaching Hints

♦World AIDS Day invites us to pray in faith and hope for increased solidarity in the human family to address all of the limitations and circumstances which can increase people’s vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening diseases.

♦Education continues to be the only effective “vaccine” to combat denial, ignorance, and prejudice which places all people at risk. We celebrate our hope for a world where fewer people become infected with HIV and where those living with this disease can be treated with respect and compassion.

Prayer of the Faithful

Priest or Deacon: God of justice, endurance, and encouragement, we bring our prayers:

Reader: God of our hope, make us one as we challenge poverty, ignorance and fear, prejudice and discrimination, particularly affecting those living with HIV or AIDS. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: God of our hope, make us one with all those who have gone before us, whose living and dying with AIDS have impacted upon us. May angels surround them and saints welcome them into peace. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: God of our hope, make us one with the frightened, the timid, and those who breed fear, that they may loosen the bonds of oppression and so be empowered in freedom. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Communion Antiphon: Baruch 5:5; 4:36

“Rise up, Jerusalem, stand on the heights, and see the joy that is coming to you from God.”

A Reflection

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, O good and gracious God, You are the God of health and wholeness in the plan of your creation, You call us to struggle in our sickness and to cling always to the cross of your Son. O God, we are your servants.

Many of us are now suffering with HIV or AIDS. We come before you and ask you, if it is your holy will, to take this suffering away from us, restore us to health and lead us to know you and your powerful healing love of body and spirit. We ask you also, to be with those of us who nurse your sick ones. We are the mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children and friends of your suffering people.

It is so hard for us to see those whom we love suffer. You know what it is to suffer. Help us to minister in loving care, support, and patience for your people who suffer with HIV and AIDS. Lead us to do whatever it will take to eradicate this illness from the lives of those who are touched by it, both directly and indirectly.

Trusting in you and the strength of your Spirit, we pray these things in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

—National African American Catholic HIV/AIDS Task Force

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