

# St. Stanislaus Cathedral

The First Parish of the Polish National Catholic Church

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## December 7, 2025 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

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PRELUDE *Shall I Not Sing to My God?*

Johann Ernst Rembt

### Prayer Before Holy Mass (please rise)

*My dear God and loving Father, as I participate in this Holy Mass, may Jesus fill me with His holy grace when I open my heart to Him in sincere prayer. May the sacraments I will receive, the prayers that I will say and the hymns that I will sing bring me closer to Jesus and help me to be more like Him in all that I say and do. May the Holy Communion that I will receive give me strength, so that I may share faith, hope and love with the people I will meet. Amen.*

### THE LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

C: "Make ready the way of the Lord. Clear Him a straight path." (Luke 3:4)

C: Our help is in the name of the Lord. **R: Who made heaven and earth.**

C: Lord hear our prayer. **R: And let our cry come to you.**

C: The Lord be with you. **R: And also with you.**

READER: Advent is a time of preparation: preparation for the Christmas holiday in all of our lives, but more importantly, preparation for the coming Christ Child. In this Second Week of Advent, as we light today the Candle of the Preparation, stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the path of your only Son, Jesus. "Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign;

the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son, you shall name him Emmanuel (*Light the second purple candle*)

C: Almighty and loving God, You Who dwell within our hearts at every waking moment, keep us always close to You. Help us to recognize and appreciate the gifts and talents You have given us. Keep our hearts and minds ever alert to Your peaceful and loving touch in every prayer, in every act of worship, as we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ, your Son, who shall come to judge the living and the dead, forever and ever. **R: Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN 16 *Send Forth, O Heavens* (1, 4, 5)

Send forth, O Heavens, dew from the sky.  
Pour forth, O Clouds, the Just One Most High.  
Hold back Your wrath, Lord; O hold back Your anger.  
Our sins forgive, Lord; save us from our languour.

Send forth, O Heavens, dew from the sky.  
Pour forth, O Clouds, the Just One Most High.  
Take comfort, people, even in your misery,  
For now approaching is the end of slavery.

Send forth, O Heavens, dew from the sky.  
Pour forth, O Clouds, the Just One Most High.  
Open, ye heavens, shower us with favor,  
And from your bosom send at last our Savior.

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### INTROIT

John 1:6-8

C: A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through Him. **R: He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.** C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE Advent Kyrie (based on *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*)

## OPENING PRAYER

Almighty Father, send Your Son once again to judge the secrets of the human heart. May we, who in holy fear await His coming as judge, joyfully regard Him as our Savior. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with the You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

## ~ LITURGY OF THE WORD ~

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

*This is the Word of the Lord.* **R. Thanks be to God.**

### GRADUAL - *Traditional Mass*

Jeremiah 23:5-6

C: Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David; As king He shall reign and govern wisely, He shall do what is just and right in the land. **R: In His days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security. This is the name they give Him: "The Lord our justice."**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM - *Contemporary Mass*

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

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**R. Jus-tice shall flour-ish in his time, and full-ness of peace for ev-er.**

**R. (cf. 7) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,  
and with your justice, the king's son;  
he shall govern your people with justice  
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

Justice shall flower in his days,  
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.  
May he rule from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,  
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.  
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;  
the lives of the poor he shall save.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

May his name be blessed forever;  
as long as the sun his name shall remain.  
In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;  
all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

### SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and of encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping

with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: "Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name."

*This is the Word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.*

ALLELUIA

Sirach 2:18

W. H. Monk, arr. Elfman



C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** C: Let us fall into the hands of the Lord and not into the hands of men, for equal to His majesty is the mercy that He shows. **R: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: "A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these

stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

*This is the gospel of the Lord. R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

HYMN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT *An Advent Prayer*

Holy Spirit, make me see  
All His coming means for me;  
Take the gifts of Christ, I pray,  
Show them to my heart today. Amen.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL - *Contemporary Mass*

**R: Lord hear our prayer.**

## ~ LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST ~

OFFERTORY VERSE

Psalm 116:4

Then I called on the name of the Lord, "O Lord, save my life."

OFFERTORY HYMN 14 God Eternal, Living Father (1, 3, 5)

God eternal, living Father, Savior of mankind, Redeemer:  
Hear our humble cry of sorrow, hear our humble cry of sorrow.

From the awesome heights of heaven, send the dew of Thy salvation  
To all those of humble station, to all whose of humble station.

Hear the cry of Thy creation: Grant that we may see salvation  
Through Christ's birth and incarnation, through Christ's birth and incarnation.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the hope, joy and peace You have given us, and implore You to accept this oblation we now offer. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

SANCTUS

Proulx

~ CANON ~

THE LORDS PRAYER

AGNUS DEI

Elfman

POST-COMMUNION SOLO *O Day of Peace*

O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.  
May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God's grace our warring world shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.  
Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze, a little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.  
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Rebecca Elfman, soprano

COMMUNION VERSE

Isaiah 41:13

For I am the Lord, your God, Who grasp your right hand; It is I Who say to you, "Fear not, I will help you."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Heavenly Father, You chose John the Baptist to call us to repentance and to announce the nearness of the kingdom. May we, whom Your Son has gathered around His table, praise and glorify You and proclaim Your name before all the world. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **R. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING (please kneel)

DISMISSAL

C: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **R: Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer After Holy Mass (please remain kneeling)**

*I am grateful to You, Lord, that I was able to come to church and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. I thank You for receiving Your gracious pardon, Your instruction and teaching through Your Word, and Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion. May Your sacraments continue to strengthen and help me to be faithful to You and Your Church. Help me to face all the challenges of life on my journey to Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN 21 *On Jordan's Bank (1, 2, 4, 5)*

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh:  
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way of God within,  
And in each heart prepare a home where such a mighty Guest may come.

To heal the sick stretch out Thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
Shine forth and let Thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to Thee, whose advent doth Thy people free:  
Whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost for evermore.

POSTLUDE *Fuga*

P. Czernohorsky