

WEEKDAY MASS SHEET

CHRISTMAS WEEK 2

2 – 7 January 2017



THE SCRIPTURES

“From 29 December on, there is a continuous reading of the whole of 1 John. The Gospels relate manifestations of the Lord: events of Jesus’s childhood from Luke (29-30 December); passages from John 1 (31 December - 5 January); other manifestations from the four Gospels (7-12 January).” (GIL 96.)

OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We pray especially for: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers.

THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTIONS

January: Christian Unity.

That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord’s teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen: close friends, and great figures of the Eastern Church in the fourth century. Basil was Bishop of Caesarea and active in promoting the monastic life, writing a “rule” which is still observed today. Gregory was Bishop of Constantinople, and because of his great learning is still known in the East as “Gregory the Theologian”; he eventually retired from the episcopacy to return to his monastery in Nazianzus. Gregory summed up their lives: “Our great concern, our great name, was to be Christians and be called Christians.”

The Most Holy Name of Jesus: The greatest promoters of this devotion were Saint Bernardine of Siena and Saint John of Capistrano, who used the monogram of the Holy Name in their preaching. Because the manner in which Saint Bernardine preached this devotion was new, he was accused before Pope Martin V, but was successfully defended by John. This feast reminds us that the word “Jesus” means “God Saves”, and our salvation comes through Christ alone.

Saint Raymond of Penyafort: at the age of forty-seven Raymond entered the Dominican Order; he then became confessor to Pope Gregory IX, and collated the decrees of Popes and Councils into the ‘Book of Decretals’; he also compiled the ‘Summary of Cases’, a text book on The Sacrament of Penance for the use of priests. He died, aged around 100, in 1275.

MONDAY

Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

[MMEMORIAL]

Entrance Antiphon

Let the peoples recount the wisdom of the Saints, and let the Church proclaim their praise.

First Reading: 1 John 2:22-28: Keep alive in yourselves what you were taught in the beginning.

Responsorial Psalm

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Gospel Acclamation

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us. To all who received him he gave power to become children of God.

Gospel: John 1:19-28: One is coming after me who existed before me.

Communion Antiphon

We proclaim Christ crucified; Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

TUESDAY

Christmas Weekday

or The Most Holy Name of Jesus

[OPTIONAL MEMORIAL]

Entrance Antiphon

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord: The Lord is God and has given us light.

First Reading: 1 John 2:29-3:6: Anyone who lives in God does not sin.

Response to the Psalm

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Gospel Acclamation

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Gospel: John 20:2-8: The other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first.

Communion Antiphon

Because of that great love of his with which God loved us, he sent his Son in the likeness of sinful flesh.

WEDNESDAY

Christmas Weekday

Entrance Antiphon

A people who walked in darkness has seen a great light; for those dwelling in a land of deep gloom, a light has shone.

First Reading: 1 John 3:7-10 He cannot sin when he has been begotten by God.

Response to the Psalm

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Gospel Acclamation

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us. To all who received him he gave power to become children of God.

Gospel: John 1:35-42 We have found the Messiah.

Communion Antiphon

That life which was with the Father became visible, and has appeared to us.

THURSDAY

Christmas Weekday

Entrance Antiphon

In the beginning and before all ages, the Word was God and he humbled himself to be born the Saviour of the world.

First Reading: 1 John 3:11-21

We have passed out of death and into life because we love our brothers.

Responsorial Psalm

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son.

Gospel: John 1:43-51 You are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.

Communion Antiphon

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

FRIDAY

Christmas Weekday

Entrance Antiphon

A light has risen in the darkness for the upright of heart; the Lord is generous, merciful and just.

First Reading: 1 John 5:5-13: There are three witnesses: the Spirit and the water and the blood.

Response to the Psalm

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel Acclamation

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

Gospel: Mark 1:6-11: You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Communion Antiphon

By this the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his Only Begotten Son into the world, so that we might have life through him.

SATURDAY

Christmas Weekday

or Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

[OPTIONAL MEMORIAL]

God sent his Son, born of a woman, so that we might receive adoption as children.

First Reading: 1 John 5:14-21 If we ask for anything, he will hear us.

Response to the Psalm

The Lord takes delight in his people.

Gospel Acclamation

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Gospel: John 2:1-11

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus, at Cana in Galilee.

Communion Antiphon

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.