

3 December 2023  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1B

## The People's Mass

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**GOSPEL** (Mk 13:33-37)  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!' The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Profession of Faith** (Nicene Creed)  
I believe in one God, / the Father almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, / of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, / the Only Begotten Son of God, / born of the Father before all ages, / God from God, Light from Light, / true God from true God, / begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; / through him all things were made; / For us men and for our salvation / he came down from heaven,  
*All the words that follow up to and including and became man, all bow.*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, / and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, / he suffered death and was buried, / and rose again on the third day / in accordance with the Scriptures, / He ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father, / He will come again in glory / to judge the living and the dead / and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son, / who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, / who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. / I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins / and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead / and the life of the world to come. Amen.  
*The priest intones the Prayer of the Faithful.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**  
Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands

for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and all his holy Church.

**Eucharistic Prayer**  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

**Sanctus**  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**After the Consecration**  
The mystery of faith.  
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

**THE COMMUNION RITE**  
At the Saviour's command ...  
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.  
Lord Jesus Christ, ... Amen.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins ... 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.  
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.  
Communion Antiphon (Ps 84:13)  
The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

**THE INTRODUCTORY RITES**  
**Entrance Antiphon** (Cf. Ps 24:1-3)  
To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, Amen. The grace of our Lord ... And with your spirit.

**Penitential Act**  
Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
*A brief pause for silence follows.*  
I confess to almighty God / and to you, my brothers and sisters, / that I have greatly sinned, / in my thoughts and in my words, / in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
*And making their breast they say:*  
through my fault, through my fault, / through my most grievous fault; / therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, / all the Angels and Saints, / and you, my brothers and sisters, / to pray for me to the Lord our God.  
May almighty God have mercy on us, ... Amen.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
*The Gloria is not said.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**FIRST READING** (Is 63:16-17; 64:1-6)  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down — at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves

and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father, we the clay, you the potter; we are all the work of your hand. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19)  
**1B** God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.  
1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up our might, O Lord, come to our help. **1B**  
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **1B**  
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. **1B**

**SECOND READING** (1 Cor 1:3-9)  
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.  
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.  
I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.  
The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.  
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (Ps 84:8)  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

(cont'd on each page)

**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

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Email: [croomchurch@eircom.net](mailto:croomchurch@eircom.net)  
**Croom and Banogue Parish Website:** <https://www.croomparish.com/>  
**Diocesan Web Page:** [www.limerickdiocese.org](http://www.limerickdiocese.org)  
**Link for Live Church Services:**  
**Website:** <https://www.croomparish.com/>  
 Croom Parish - [ChurchCamLive.ie](http://ChurchCamLive.ie)  
 Banogue Parish - [ChurchCamLive.ie](http://ChurchCamLive.ie)  
**Last Sundays Offertory Collection:** Banogue €275  
 Croom €900

**Recent Death**  
Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Katherine (Kitty) Ryan, **Towerfield Crescent**. Requiem Mass on Tuesday next at 12 Noon.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December is a Holy Day of obligation, Vigil mass Thursday 7pm Croom and 11.30am on Friday. Mass in Banogue at 10am Friday.

**St Vincent De Paul Collection 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December**  
The annual St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Collection takes place next weekend at the Croom and Banogue Masses. St Vincent De Paul has always been a huge means of support for those who are most in need in our community. Now more than ever many people struggle to meet the higher costs of food and energy. There has always been a great response to this collection and St. Mary's Conference here in Croom are confident again of your support for this appeal so that there can be an enjoyable Christmas for all.

**Carol Service**  
St. Mary's National School Christmas Carol Service Join us for an evening of Beautiful Christmas Carols from the traditional to the unexpected on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7 p.m. in St. Mary's Church Croom. Raffle on the Night.

**Banogue Drama Group**  
Banogue Drama Group will present a 3 Act Comedy 'Love Thy Neighbour' by Jimmy Keary in the local parish hall on Friday 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 8 p.m. sharp. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**Advent Reflection**  
Advent is a season of hope. It would be hard to exaggerate the value of hope. It is said that while there is life there is hope. This has an even deeper meaning in reverse. While there is hope there is life. As long as there is hope, no situation is impossible. It is the task of Christians to keep hope alive in the world. Advent summons us to wait in joyful hope. For the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the final analysis, he is our hope.

**Prayer of Blessing for an Advent Wreath**  
Lord God, Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

