



Second Sunday of Advent

Lectionary: 5

Reading 1 IS 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14

R. $(\hat{8})$ Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims; the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people. Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

The LORD himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and prepare the way of his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Reading 2

2 PT 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

Alleluia

LK 3:4, 6

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

MK 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



This Week's Mass Intentions		
Date	Intention	Requested by
Monday, December 7		
7:30 AM	Deceased Members of St. Mark's Holy Name	
	† James Ahern, 2nd Anniversary	Family
11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Members of St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society	
7:30 PM	† Monsignor Tom Ivory	Nuzzi Family
	† Thomas Branell	Family
Tuesday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
7:30 AM	† Mary McDonald & Anne Markey	Wallace Family
	† Robert Phillips	Pat Phillips
	† Mary Bohacik	Theresa Bohacik
11:00 AM	Living & Deceased Members of St. Mark's Social Concerns	
Wednesday, December 9		
7:30 AM	† Dorothy Wright	Family
	† Henry Cuartas	Denise & Dennis Tonry
11:00 AM	† George Ed Meehan	Betsy Smith
	† J. Daniel Buckley	Peggy Buckley
Thursday, December 10		
7:30 AM	† Patricia S. Hamilton	Leonhardt Family
11:00 AM	† Emory C. & Elizabeth A. Smith	Betsy Smith
	† Patricia Casey	Michael Casey
Friday, December 11		
7:30 AM	† Mark Wisz	Geigerich Family
11:00 AM	† Timothy, Stephan & Michael Dushnick	Mom & Dad
	† Cynthia Davitt	Irene & Joe Santangelo
11:00 PM	† Our Lady of Guadalupe	
Saturday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe		
7:30 AM	† Jean Judge	Estate
4:30 PM	† Helen Malloy	Family
	† John Heilmann	Rick & Maureen Heilmann
	† John Peluso	Hirsch Family
Third Sunday of Advent, December 13		
8:00 AM	† John Gildea	Family
	† Patrick Murray	Lisa Kitchenman
	† Franklin Redfield	Reynolds Family
10:00 AM	People of the Parish	
	† Mary Tobin	St. Mark's Parish Family
5:00 PM	Maria Valdez, Special Intention	Family & Friends
	†Silviano Ramirez	Daughter & Family

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Tuesday, December 8, 2020

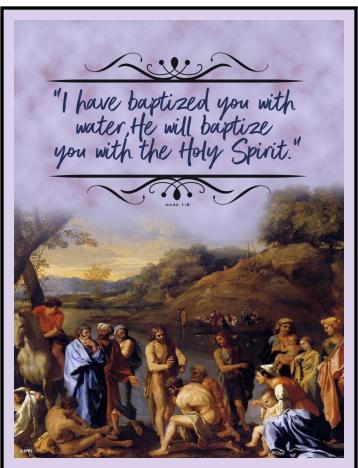
Vigil Mass

Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:30 PM

St. Mark's Church

Watch the Livestream Vigil Mass at www.stmarkseagirt.com





Readings for the Week December 6, 2020

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk

5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6,

11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt

11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab;

Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19 **Saturday**: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 **Sunday**: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1

Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Please note: Sunday and holiday Mass times have changed due to Covid. If you have a mass intention, please be sure to check the times. If you have any questions, please call the office.



The list of parishioners, relatives, and friends are in need of your prayers for healing. Note to ensure the consent of the person whose name appears here, the pastor's policy requires that only they or a family member may request a name be added to this list. Also if you or a loved one are unable to attend mass and would like to receive Holy Communion in a home or assisted living, please notify **Donna at 732-449-6364 ext. 100.**

Benjamin Ohlweiler
Jeremy Pavlick
Lucy Gargano
Julia Buonocore
Fred Buonocore
Christine Frauenheim
Alexandra Gavilanes
Sarah Gallagher
Jimmy Azzollini

Vivian Wilson
Ken Hauck
Dorothy Waugh
Patricia Cavanaugh
Rose Courtney
Grace Philhower
Jim Bogan
Maria Valdez
Ani Slevin

Eternal Rest grant onto them, O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon them.

Please remember in your prayers those of our diocese, parish, friends, and family members who have recently died.

May the angels lead you into paradise..."

Thank You! We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and it's ministries!



We would especially like to thank all of those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through the Parish Giving Program.



We would like to thank all those who have attended Mass the past few weeks, who wore a mask and adhered to the social distancing requirements. We wish to remind those who are afraid to

come to Mass because of health issues, that the dispensation from Sunday and Holy Day obligation will remain in effect until further notice.

Serenades to Our Lady of Guadalupe

St. Mark's Spanish Ministry would like to invite you to the: "Grand Celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe"

> Friday, December 11, 2020 Time: 8:00pm

> > ******

Come and celebrate Our Heavenly
Mother with us!

Program:

8:00-8:15 p.m. Welcome

8:15-8:20 p.m. Blessing of the Children

8:20-8:50 p.m. Rosary

9:00-10:00 p.m. Spanish Holy Mass

Serenades to Our Lady of

Guadalupe

Refreshments To-Go

St Mark's Catholic Church 215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt NJ 08750 For more information please call: (732) 449-6364 ext. 104





Christmas Eve

1:00 PM Spanish Mass.

3:00 PM Mass with contemporary Christmas Carols.

5:00 PM Mass with contemporary Christmas Carols.

8:00 PM Traditional "Midnight "Mass with traditional Christmas Carols.

Christmas Day

8:00 AM Traditional Christmas Carols.

10:00 AM Mass with contemporary Christmas Carols.

12 Noon Mass with traditional Christmas Carols.

2:00 PM Spanish Mass.



Christmas Flower Memorial envelopes are now available!

It's a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of our Savior and to remember a loved one on Christmas!

December Thoughts by Marge Loenser

To be creative we need inspiration. The greatest source of inspiration comes from the Holy Spirit. As I seek His guidance now, I write this despite a great sadness I carry because someone I love is desperately. III. I believe God wants us to give of ourselves even when its difficult. Isn't that what Jesus did? So as He leads me I will write.

We are already in Advent. In Latin advent means "coming." Yes, yes, "Santa Claus is coming to town!" But to paraphrase Jesus, "But there is someone greater than Santa here!" You couldn't prove it by our secular world. But just imagine! Our Heavenly Father loved us so much that He Sent His Son to this earth, to be conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary, to be born fully human and divine, to make a bridge for us to cross from our sinful world to eternity. Now, that is the greatest Christmas present! Christ Himself, present to us!

On the 12th we celebrate the great feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In 1531 the Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego three times and requested he ask the bishop to build a church on Tepeyac Hill. To finally convince the bishop, Our blessed Mother had Juan gather roses in his cloak (or tilma,) and when the roses tumbled out to the floor in front of the bishop, the beautiful picture of our Lady of Guadalupe was etched on the tilma! It's still there in Mexico city to see!

Because of the pandemic most of us are not sure how or *if* we will be sharing Christmas with our families. This surely is a great sacrifice. More than ever we must focus on the Babe in the manger. His parents were not sure of what was coming or where they would go next, either. God however, always in the present moment, always full of love and joy sent angels to announce the Holy Birth and nevertheless, Gloria's rang out thru the hills of Bethlehem and shepherds came to adore Him!

Let me leave you with this little poem I wrote:

'Twas the evening of Christmas and all thru the night

Dwelt this sweet gentle silence and the brightness of light!

Shepherds were startled by angels on high,

And were told of a Babe born in Bethlehem nigh.

Hosanna, come see the Messiah promised from old

All wrapped in cloth to keep from the cold!

Dear Mary and Joseph knelt by his side,

While shepherds looked on with eyes opened wide!

We adore You, we adore You sweet Baby King

For to our hearts, peace and salvation You bring!!

God bless us everyone!

Merry Christmas Love Marge



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.



Please give during the annual collection on December 12/13.

The National Religious Retirement Office coordinates the annual national appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious and distributes financial assistance for retirement needs to eligible religious institutes. The National Religious Retirement Office and the Retirement Fund for Religious are sponsored by the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, Leadership Conference of Women Religious, and United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. NRRO strives to support, educate and assist religious institutes in the United States to care for their elderly and frail members now and in the future. NRRO aims to:

- 1. raise funds for retired religious;
- 2. help religious institutes realistically assess their current retirement needs and implement planning;
- 3. educate religious institutes to allocate assets realistically;
- 4. develop educational tools, programs, services and resource materials that enable religious institutes to address retirement wisely.

Visit <u>www.retiredreligious.org</u> to learn more about who we help and why they need our help now.

Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious appeal in your parish or send your donation to:

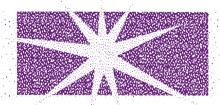
Retirement Fund for Religious P.O. Box 96988 Washington, D.C. 20090-6988

We would like to draw your attention to a new plaque that has been placed over Our Lady Guadalupe Votives in memory of Theodore J. Zeller for his extremely generous contributions to St. Mark's Church over the years. Please remember Mr. Zeller in your prayers.



Rosary Makers will meet Monday, December 7th, at 1pm in the church basement. Masks must be worn.

"Dear blessed Mother Mary. Teach me loving acceptance of the divine will. May I be a true servant to the Lord, generous in doing all that pleases Him."



COME LORD, JESUS

CYO News

"CYO Operation Thermal"

The Missionaries of Charity sisters have asked us for donations of NEW thermal tops and pants in adult sizes for the homeless in our area. These will be gifted to them by the Sisters on Christmas Day.



Please place new thermals in the boxes designated "CYO Operation Thermal on the weekends of **December 5/6 and December 12/13.**



Christmas Wreath Sale

We will also be selling our Christmas wreaths to benefit our charities: Madonna House, Ugandan missions etc. on December 5/6 for \$25.

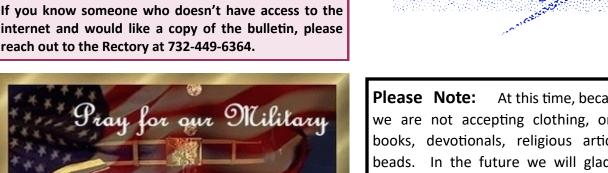
Be watchful

for his coming

Thank you. A blessed Advent season to all!

Any parishioner who has not been able to attend Mass and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Holy Communion to them, please contact Donna at the rectory, 732-449-6364 x100 or email donna@stmarkseagirt.com

internet and would like a copy of the bulletin, please reach out to the Rectory at 732-449-6364.



At this time, because of Covid 19, we are not accepting clothing, or any personal books, devotionals, religious articles or Rosary beads. In the future we will gladly accept your donations, but at the present time and for the

safety of all those concerned, we are asking that

these items not be left at the church.

Thank you.



The Christmas season is now upon us and The Giving Tree committee, through the Social Concerns ministry, is asking for your support. The response has always been exceptionally generous, and despite the challenges we face with the pandemic, we hope this year's efforts will continue to show our desire to share with others. St Mark's will continue to sponsor the residents of Habcore in Asbury with \$25 Target gift card donations as well as toys, hats and gloves for the children of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Epiphany House, Mercy Center and Madonna House.

With the safety of our parishioners and volunteers in mind, this year's Giving Tree procedures have been adjusted to be 100% non-contact. There are three ways to contribute:

Online gift donations: We have set up online gift registries through Amazon,
 Walmart and Target. Gifts will be shipped directly to the Social Concerns and dropped off at our charities. We ask that online orders are to be placed by Tuesday, December 1st to ensure they arrive on time.

Target Registry Link

Type in: tgt.gifts/stmarksgivingtree

Walmart Registry Link

Type in: https://bit.ly/2GJQJLU

<u>Amazon List Link</u>

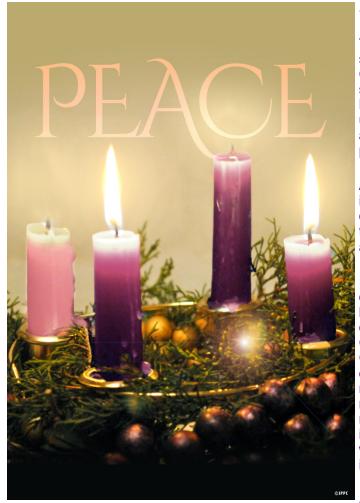
Type in: https://amzn.to/3f9jRcn



- Gift Card donations: \$25 to either Target or Walmart. Please put in envelope and drop off at the rectory or mail to 215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt, NJ 08750. Return by Sunday, December 6th. You can also purchase gift cards through the registry links.
- Monetary donations: We are accepting monetary donations to shop on your behalf. Any donation in either cash or checks, made out to St. Mark's Social Concerns with Giving Tree in the memo. Please put in envelope and drop off at the rectory or mail to 215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt, NJ 08750. Return by Sunday, December 6th.

Please reach out to **Tricia Levin at stmarksgivingtree@gmail.com** with any questions.

Thank you and God Bless you for your generosity.



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

This weekend we have our annual encounter with that strange man with an even stranger message. The Church wants us to hear from him each Advent season, so he becomes in fact "the man of Advent": John the Baptist. His is a call to lift our minds and hearts up from undue concern about earthly prep for Christmas 2020 and consider the superior importance of spiritual preparation for the next coming of Christ.

After all, the ultimate reason for Christmas is the incarnation, the taking on of a human nature of the Son of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. He truly becomes the "Emmanuel" foretold by the prophets, a title which means "God with us."

In this early part of Advent, the focus turns to the matter of Christ's second coming because that event should have a profound personal impact on how we live each day. The first Coming, we know, is all joy and glory to God in the highest. That's as it should be, as we note God's eternal plan slowly coming to fruition with the birth of the holy Babe. The second coming is described in more frightening terms because then this Babe will have matured and will be coming as our Judge. That will also mark the end of the universe as we know it. So that inescapable moment of judgment we each face could well have a background we can only imagine. Frightening beyond words.

As if to shake us out of the sentimentality associated with Christmas, the Church presents us with Mark's gospel, where he hurries past the birth tale to Jesus' adult baptism in the Jordan. It marks the beginning of Our Lord's brief time being personally present as God's best emissary. Jesus launches His "campaign" if you will. We will come back to this event in a few weeks to mark the liturgical end of the Christmas season early next year.

God knows we Americans are very familiar this year with the notion of "campaigns," as we have just lived through months of one for the highest office in our land. I think the vitriol we saw on both sides causes us to look back in wonder that we could ever stoop so low to make a point.

Meanwhile, we must be careful not to turn John the Baptist into a kind of campaign manager. Rather, is he Our Lord's precursor, the one who gets us ready to hear the Good News? Salvation history has come to its final chapter, after centuries of hoping for it. Thus does John the Baptist straddle both biblical testaments as the last prophet of the Old and the first of the New. The era of ultimate choice has arrived, and John is the first to make it known. In blunt terms, it is between Jesus and Satan.

Satan, you ask? Oh yes, he's still around and very real. He is evil personified. We may not automatically think that way but every one of our sins is a vote cast for the evil one. This culture of ours has found a somewhat sleazy way out of living by objective morality by making everything subjective. So somebody might justify drinking too much at a Christmas party by thinking he/she deserves it "because 2020 has been a very bad year." We should wonder just how such an excuse would hold up on Judgment Day. Tough and sober truth.

So, allow me to put an Advent twist on the well-known lyric of a Christmas song, "You better watch out; you better not cry, you better not pout, I'm telling you why: Jesus Christ is coming to town."

At any rate, God love you and give you His peace.

Prayer to Jesus for Coronavirus Healing

Jesus Christ You traveled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness. At Your command the sick were made well. Come to our aid now in the midst of the global spread of the corona virus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus, may they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Carry in Your arms those who have died from the virus and bring them home. Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. May they know Your Peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who put themselves at risk in serving the sick. May they know your protection. Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they were meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long term solutions to help prevent future outbreaks. Our Lord Jesus stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us Your Peace. Jesus Christ heal us. Amen

Wrap Yourself or Your Loved One in a Prayer Shawl



St. Mark's Prayer Shawl Ministry, a part of Social Concerns is offering beautiful hand made shawls blessed by our priests.

If you, a family member, or neighbor, are sick, lonely, grieving or would appreciate the embrace of a warm shawl, please call Donna at the rectory at 732-449-6364 ext.100.

Catholic Charities News

Community Services is Catholic Charities' link to parishes in the Trenton diocese. Serving families in crises, we provide food, mortgage, rent and utilities assistance, temporary housing, counseling, and immigration services. To learn more about Catholic Charities Community Services visit our You Tube presentation. Click on: https://youtu.be/-r8YRyPClY4
If you know of anyone needing assistance, please contact Catholic Charities at 800-360-7711



St. Mark's would like to let our Parishioners know what practices we have in place to protect them during the pandemic so that

they can make informed decisions on whether they feel they would like to attend in person Masses. Social distancing with roped off pews which allows those present to sit at least 6 feet apart, all pews, door handles and railings are sanitized after every Mass daily and during the weekend Masses and Sacraments, sanitizer is at the front and side entrances, bathrooms are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis, masks must be worn by everyone in the church, the priests and Extraordinary Ministers use hand sanitizer before distributing Communion, Communion is distributed one side at a time to allow for social distance, the windows are open during Mass to help circulate air, collection baskets are placed on the Altar rail rather than the Ushers handling the collection, weekend requirement is entrance thru the front doors for Parishioner count but you may exit thru all doors.



Please join us on Friday's for Adoration immediately after 11:00 AM Mass with Benediction at 1:45 PM. It will also be broadcast on livestream @ stmarkseagirt.com

St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society

St. Mark's Altar Rosary Society will be reciting the rosary after the 11am mass on the first Monday of each month.

We invite those that cannot make it to church, to join us from home in the recitation of the

rosary. In this way we continue to honor our Blessed Mother and follow her directions to continue praying for an end to abortion and all the intentions of her Immaculate Heart.

Mañanitas a la Virgen de Guadalupe

La parroquia Católica de San Marcos, Sea Girt les hace una cordial invitación:

A la Gran Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Viernes 11 de Diciembre 2020 Comenzando a las 8:00 p.m.

Ven a Festejar con Nosotros a Nuestra Madre Celestial

Programa:

Rosario

Bendición a los niños Santa Misa 9:00 pm Mañanitas a la Virgen Refrigerios para llevar

St Mark's Catholic Church 215 Crescent Pkwy, Sea Girt N.J. 08750 Tel (732) 449-6364 ext. 104 /105



Iglesia de "San Marcos" Apostolado Hispano Misa Dominical: Domingo 5:00 p.m. Misa de Semana: Martes 6:00 p.m.

Msgr. Sean P. Flynn, Pastor Rev. José Fernandez-Bangueses, Sacerdote Residente

josefernandez@stmarkseagirt.com Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 122. Horario de oficina en Español: Lunes, Miércoles y Viernes 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Andrea Martinez, Apostolado Hispano

> liz@stmarkseagirt.com Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 104. Fax: (732) 449-1646

Directora del Ministerio de Religión
Diana Zuna Nieves
diana@stmarkseagirt.com
Teléfono: (732) 449-6364 ext. 105

Segundo Domingo de Adviento ~ Diciembre 6, 2020



Primera lectura: Isaías 40, 1-5. 9-11.

"Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo, dice nuestro Dios. Hablen al corazón de Jerusalén y díganle a gritos que ya terminó el tiempo de su servidumbre y que ya ha satisfecho por sus iniquidades, porque ya ha recibido de manos del Señor castigo doble por todos sus pecados". Una voz clama: "Preparen el camino del Señor en el desierto, construyan en el páramo una calzada para nuestro Dios. Que todo valle se eleve, que todo monte y colina se rebajen; que lo torcido se enderece y lo escabroso se allane. Entonces se revelará la gloria del Señor y todos los hombres la verán". Así ha hablado la boca del Señor. Sube a lo alto del monte, mensajero de buenas nuevas para Sión; alza con fuerza la voz, tú que anuncias noticias alegres a Jerusalén. Alza la voz y no temas; anuncia a los ciudadanos de Judá: "Aquí está su Dios. Aquí llega el Señor, lleno de poder, el que con su brazo lo domina todo. El premio de su victoria lo acompaña y sus trofeos lo anteceden. Como pastor apacentará su rebaño; llevará en sus brazos a los corderitos recién nacidos y atenderá solícito a sus madres".

Salmo Responsorial: Sal 84, 9ab-10. 11-12. 13-14.

Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos al Salvador.

Escucharé las palabras del Señor, palabras de paz para su pueblo santo. Está ya cerca nuestra salvación y la gloria del Señor habitará en la tierra.

Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos al Salvador.

La misericordia y la fidelidad se encontraron, la justicia y la paz se besaron, la fidelidad brotó en la tierra, y la justicia vino del cielo.

Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos al Salvador.

Cunado el Señor nos muestre su bondad, nuestra tierra producirá su fruto. La justicia le abrirá camino al Señor e irá siguiendo sus pisadas.

Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos al Salvador.

Segunda lectura: 2 Pedro 3, 8-14.

Queridos hermanos: No olviden que para el Señor, un día es como mil años y mil años, como un día. No es que el Señor se tarde, como algunos suponen, en cumplir su promesa, sino que les tiene a ustedes mucha paciencia, pues no quiere que nadie perezca, sino que todos se arrepientan. El día del Señor llegará como los ladrones. Entonces los cielos desaparecerán con gran estrépito, los elementos serán destruidos por el fuego y perecerá la tierra con todo lo que hay en ella. Puesto que todo va a ser destruido, piensen con cuánta santidad y entrega deben vivir ustedes esperando y apresurando el advenimiento del día del Señor, cuando desaparecerán los cielos, consumidos por el fuego, y se derretirán los elementos. Pero nosotros confiamos en la promesa del Señor y esperamos un cielo nuevo y una tierra nueva, en que habite la justicia. Por lo tanto, queridos hermanos, apoyados en esta esperanza, pongan todo su empeño en que el Señor los halle en paz con él, sin mancha ni reproche.

Aclamación antes del Evangelio: Cfr Lc 3, 4. 6.

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Preparen el camino del Señor, hagan rectos sus senderos, y todos los hombres verán al Salvador. R. Aleluya.

Evangelio: Marcos 1, 1-8.

Éste es el principio del Evangelio de Jesucristo, Hijo de Dios. En el libro del profeta Isaías está escrito: He aquí que yo envío a mi mensajero delante de ti, a preparar tu camino. Voz del que clama en el desierto: "Preparen el camino del Señor, enderecen sus senderos". En cumplimiento de esto, apareció en el desierto Juan el Bautista predicando un bautismo de arrepentimiento, para el perdón de los pecados. A él acudían de toda la comarca de Judea y muchos habitantes de Jerusalén; reconocían sus pecados y él los bautizaba en el Jordán. Juan usaba un vestido de pelo de camello, ceñido con un cinturón de cuero y se alimentaba de saltamontes y miel silvestre. Proclamaba: "Ya viene detrás de mí uno que es más poderoso que yo, uno ante quien no merezco ni siquiera inclinarme para desatarle la correa de sus sandalias. Yo los he bautizado a ustedes con agua, pero él los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo".