

World AIDS Day Resources

Solemnity of Jesus Our Lord Christ the King (Year B, #161)—Sunday, November 26, 2006

Greeting

We gather to celebrate the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King 2006**, full of knowledge that this coming Friday the global community observes **World AIDS Day**. In this celebration of the Paschal Mystery, we lift up all whose lives, families and countries have been touched by this health crisis.

Entrance Antiphon: Revelation 5:12; 1:6

“The Lamb who was slain is worthy to receive strength and divinity, wisdom and power and honor: to him be glory and power for ever.”

Penitential Rite

Priest or Deacon:

Lord Jesus,
You are the keeper of promises,
Lord, have mercy.

All:

Lord, have mercy.

Priest or Deacon:

Christ Jesus,
You are Healer, Redeemer King,
Christ, have mercy.

All:

Christ, have mercy.

Priest or Deacon:

Lord Jesus,
You turn your face toward the sick,
the suffering, the poor and the
lonely of our world.
Lord, have mercy.

All:

Lord, have mercy.

First Reading: Daniel 7:13–14

Daniel had a vision and saw “one like a Son of man coming, on the clouds of heaven. ... His dominion is an everlasting dominion.”

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 93:1, 1–2, 5

“The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.”

Second Reading: Revelation 1:5–8

The firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth has made us a kingdom, priests for his God and Father.

Gospel Acclamation: Mark 11:9, 10

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!”

Gospel: John 18:33b–37

When Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus replied, “You say I am a king.”

Homily/Preaching Hints

♦The AIDS pandemic has many faces, mirroring all ages, races, genders, and faiths. Reflect on the injustice of stereotypes and bias. We serve the King of Glory, the King who shared table with outcasts, sinners, the sick and the poor. As servants to the world, we need to do all we can to keep the promise of stopping AIDS.

♦Throughout the world, AIDS affects the vulnerable and fosters discrimination, loneliness and fear. Reflect on how the faith community may actively offer the compassionate hand of Christ, extending ministries of acceptance, healing, consolation and unconditional love.

Prayer of the Faithful

Priest or Deacon: God of all goodness and grace, we come with gratitude and in need. We come in joy and in sorrow, striving to build the Kingdom as a place of hope and promise. Touch our hearts as we pray:

Reader: God of Promise, unify us with all that live with HIV and AIDS. Open our hearts and strengthen our will to serve.
We pray to the Lord,

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: God of Promise, fortify us with renewed vision of your Kingdom on earth as a place of justice, unconditional love and equity for all, especially people with AIDS around the world. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: God of Promise, pour out your love on all who care for the sick and suffering, especially family members, health care workers and medical researchers. We pray that their faithfulness will be rewarded by your loving strength. *We pray to the Lord,*

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon: Psalm 28:10–11

“The Lord will reign for ever and will give his people the gift of peace.”

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

World AIDS Day Resources

First Sunday of Advent (Year C, #3)—Sunday, December 3, 2006

Greeting

On this **First Sunday of Advent**, we gather with the knowledge that this past Friday the global community observed **World AIDS Day**.

In this Advent celebration of the Paschal Mystery, we wait in joyful hope for a cure to this world crisis, uniting ourselves in prayer for all whose lives and whose families have been ravaged by HIV and AIDS.

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 summit of Advent hope,
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest or Deacon: Christ Jesus,

You are the font of Advent living water,
Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Priest or Deacon: Lord Jesus,

You are the source of Advent healing,

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The time is coming when the LORD's promise to Israel will be fulfilled. An offspring of David will come and bring justice for all nations of the world.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14

“To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.”

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:4:2

Paul prayed to the Lord for the Christians of Thessalonica that their love for one another would overflow and that their hearts might be blameless and holy before God.

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 85:8

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

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

There will be great signs in the heavens and great distress on the earth when the Son of Man comes in glory. Therefore, “be vigilant at all times...to stand before the Son of Man.”

Homily/Preaching Hints

♦On this First Sunday of Advent, we begin our season of waiting. In observance of **World AIDS Day** (December 1), we stand in unity with all people around the world that are waiting—waiting for a vaccine, a cure, a compassionate word of encouragement and judicial distribution of health care and medicine. In the faces of those with HIV and AIDS, we see the face of Christ in a distressing disguise.

♦As compassionate Christian communities of faith, we strive to be more accepting and more welcoming. May we also grow to be communities of action, challenging bias, injustice and discrimination. In faith, may we gain courage to speak out about how fear and lack of knowledge can foster loneliness and isolation. We are called to action, understanding and acceptance of those less fortunate, recalling Christ's words of *mandatum* on Holy Thursday, “...as I have done to you, you should also do” (John 13:15).

Prayer of the Faithful

Priest or Deacon: God of justice and love, unify our hearts as we approach your altar of love praying:

Reader: God of Promise, give us enduring strength to do your work and your will. Help us fight injustice while raising your voice of love for the outcast and the downtrodden. *We pray to the Lord,*

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

Reader: God of Promise, renew our faith and open the eyes of our understanding as we grow to be more accepting and more loving. Help us to offer temporal and spiritual support to all whose lives are touched by HIV and AIDS. *We pray to the Lord,*

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

Reader: God of Promise, pour out your loving compassion on all caregivers and medical professionals, especially those who minister and serve in Third World countries. *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
our healer.
And in our times of separation
from God and one another,
let him be
our communion. **AMEN**

