

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Readings: 1) Isaiah 7:10-14 2) Romans 1:1-7 3) Matthew 1:18-24

Sunday Liturgy

The Focus for today's Mass is:

Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises God has made to the House of David.

Today's readings remind us that in Christ Jesus, God has been faithful to the promises he made to his Chosen People. Our salvation in Christ is how we are reconciled back to God, who created us and loves us.

Isaiah prophesies a sign for Israel: *The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son who will embody God's redemptive presence with his people.* Paul, recalling his own apostolic calling, writes that the Gentiles are also *called to belong to Jesus Christ.* In the Gospel, the Lord's angel comes to Joseph in a dream and reveals the circumstances of Mary's pregnancy, and what this means. Joseph obeys the angel's commands.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Let us bring our prayers and petitions before him with confidence and trust.

**For all who lead the Church,
for the humility in authority and perseverance in prayer.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

**For the family of nations,
for peace and respectful relations among all peoples.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

For all who are sick; in body, mind or spirit.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

For all those who have died.

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

**For this community of believers and witnesses,
for strong faith, lively hope and deepening love.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

For our own personal intentions..... (long pause)

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, here our prayer.

PRIEST:

Father, we entrust our prayers to you in the holy name of your son, Jesus Christ.

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