



**First Sunday of Advent –
Catholic Handicapped Day
November 30, 2014**

Sunday Liturgy Guide for the Church of the Poor in the Spirit of the New Evangelization

The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, shows vigilance when she cares for the people as a parent and like a potter molds them for an idealistic vision of the future in Christ.

In light of today's theme: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, shows vigilance when she cares for the people as a parent and like a potter molds them for an idealistic vision of the future in Christ, let us continue to ponder on PCP-II's vision of a Church Renewed that focuses on Discipleship in Community. It talks now of community-in-mission.

“C.3 A Community-in-Mission

(104) The community of disciples does not exist only for itself or its members. It exists for the world. It is sent on mission to proclaim the good news of Christ and to be the

instrument of his grace. It exists in order to evangelize, i.e., to proclaim the Good News, to build up the Church, and to serve the Kingdom by permeating the world with Gospel values so that finally all creation may be united in Christ as head.

(105) Christ did not only call his disciples to follow him. He did not only gather them around him. His final words to them were words of missioning: ‘You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth’. St. Matthew narrates the commissioning in another way: ‘Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... And behold, I am with you always, until the end of age.’”

There are two movements in our following of Christ: the centripetal force – to be with him – and the centrifugal force – to go away from him. Jesus Christ remains our center. We form a community with him; and we go out of that circle to bring him to others and to draw others to him in an ever-widening circle of disciples-in-mission. In Christ, we all are missionaries. ■

Introductory Rites

Entrance Antiphon: *(Psalm 25(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.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

Introduction and Welcome

P: Dear brothers and sisters: today we begin the season of Advent. We open our hearts to God's love as we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives, into our homes and into our communities. The candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.

(Lighting of the Candle) Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Penitential Act

P: Brothers and sisters: to celebrate worthily these sacred mysteries, let us now recall to mind our sins and ask God's loving forgiveness and compassion.

P: I confess...

A: *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, 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.

P: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: *Amen.*

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

P: Christ, have mercy.

C: *Christ, have mercy.*

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: *Lord, have mercy.*

C: *Amen.*

Gloria

Glory to God in the Highest!

And on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect

P: Let us pray: Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in

the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

L: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!

Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind.

There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Commentary on Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7:

Upon their return from exile, the people of Israel were disappointed, disenchanted, discouraged. The prophetic promises did not come true. Instead, people

were losing their faith in Yahweh, and their society was torn into two: the conservative elite versus the idealistic visionaries. But Third Isaiah must keep the hopes of the people alive. But it does so by recognizing Yahweh as their father and redeemer, now distant from his distraught and sinful people. It does so by making the people admit to their sins. The people and Yahweh are re-united, when the people submit themselves to be molded by their father, as the potter molds the clay, the work of God's hands.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

R: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.

R: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Commentary on Psalm 80:

This is a psalm of lamentation and community supplication. The verses show the distance that Yahweh has created between him and his people. There is a contrast between a favored past and the disgraceful present: in the past, Yahweh was with his people in the liberation from Egypt; this time the people are

full of bitterness, wailing and tears while Yahweh sits on his throne. The psalmist expresses confidence in Yahweh's coming to liberate the people, because Yahweh is almighty and shepherd of the people. Yahweh will not forsake what he has started from of old; he will unite the people to himself once more. With this new life, the people will return to him.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

L: The second reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Commentary on 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

This is the beginning of Paul's first letter to the Christian community in Corinth. It consists of greetings and thanksgiving. Paul recognizes in the Corinthian Christian community the gifts of God through Jesus Christ. In particular, discourse and knowledge are gifts and qualities which are very impressive and highly regarded

by the Greeks. When Paul speaks of God making them "firm to the end", he is convinced that the second coming of Jesus is impending. In nine verses, Paul mentions Jesus Christ nine times. He is drawing the attention of the people to Jesus Christ!

R: Alleluia, alleluia. Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation! **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.*

Commentary on Mark 13:33-37

This is part of Mark's discourse concerning the last times. While the early Christian community expects the coming of Jesus as very soon, Mark puts a corrective to this expectation. The short parable demonstrates the basic attitude of a Christian: be vigilant and be watchful. But as to the exact date and time of the second coming of Jesus, no one really knows.

Homily: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, shows vigilance when she cares for the people as a parent and, like a potter, molds them for an idealistic vision of the future in Christ.

Summary of the Sunday Reading Message	Concrete description of the poor people and their situation	Reflection/ Points for reflection/ Call/ Challenge
The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, shows vigilance when she cares for the people as a parent and, like a potter, molds them for an idealistic vision of the future in Christ.	Are there handicapped or differently-abled persons in your BEC or small faith community? Are there jobless in your community? Why are they without work?	“Proclaim the Good News, to build up the Church, and to serve the Kingdom by permeating the world with Gospel values so that finally all creation may be united in Christ as head.”

Profession of Faith

A: 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, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, 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.

Prayers of the Faithful:

P: Dear sisters and brothers: let us now elevate our hearts and minds to God our Father, and humbly present to him our prayers. For every prayer let our response be: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: Let us pray for the Church: that, being a Church of the Poor spread all over the world, she may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in her continuing care for all people and creation, especially the weak and the handicapped. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: For our Holy Father, Pope Francis I, for the bishops, priests, deacons, for those in consecrated life and for all those who are entrusted with the care and administration of the church as People of God: that, by sharing the sentiments of the heart of Christ, they may continue to inspire and lead people to a life of simplicity, compassionate love and effective service by their examples of evangelical poverty, missionary spirit and selfless dedication to the ministry. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: For world leaders and all those entrusted with governance and administration of the goods of the earth:

that they may continue to promote the common good by courageously instituting programs that provide land to the landless, homes to the homeless, jobs to the jobless and so discourage the excessive selfish desire for wealth, power and opulence as morally decadent and scandalous in a world divided by a huge gap between the majority poor and a few rich. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: For all of us, inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven: that we may inspire one another to envision and build a future human community as communion, by working to close the gap of social and economic divisions, provide alternatives to a cruel society that drives young men and women to prostitution, addiction and despair and to help each other strive for the ideals and values of the gospel rather than the ideals and values of the oppressors who control our unjust society. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: For our beloved dead: that in the forgiveness of their sins, they may find eternal rest in the heart of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

L: For our special intentions, in the silence of our hearts. (*pause*)... Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, draw us always closer to you.

P: Lord God of love and compassion, listen to the prayers of your people. Help us to be ever watchful for the second coming of your Son and prepare well for the celebration of his birth by knowing our weaknesses and

sinfulness and overcoming them through actions of personal integrity and justice for transformation and peace. We ask this through the Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

C: Blessed be God forever.

P: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

C: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P: Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Eucharist

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right and just.

P: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For he assumed at his first coming the lowliness of human flesh, and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago, and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, that, when he comes again in glory and majesty and all is at last made manifest, we who watch for that day may inherit the

great promise in which now we dare to hope.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts of Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

A: 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.

Acclamation

P: The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

(Concluding the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest says:)

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Doxology

C: For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Sign of Peace

P: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles; Peace ... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

A: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world ... grant us peace.

Communion

P: 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.

A: 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 85(84):13)

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray: May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Final Blessing

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Bow down for the blessing: May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again, sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing.

C: Amen.

P: As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope and active in charity.

C: Amen.

P: So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty.

C: *Amen.*

P: And may the blessings of almighty God, + the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever.

C: *Amen.*

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, and be watchful always.

C: *Thanks be to God.* ■

Join Fr. Ben Alforque, MSC of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in **GOSPEL BREAK**, a short yet entertaining and insightful discussion of this Sunday's Gospel on YouTube.

Visit gospelbreak.wordpress.com.

Or scan this QR code with your Smartphone or tablet.



Please help us continue publishing this Missalette with your donation.

Any amount is appreciated no matter how small.

Thank you!

Account Name:

Communication Foundation for Asia
Metrobank V-Mapa, Sta. Mesa, Manila

Branch:

SA# 3306-509-480

BDO Old Sta. Mesa Road, Manila Branch:

SA# 7090-042-836

Please fax deposit slip to 713-2736

We are located at # 4427 Old Sta. Mesa St.,
Sta. Mesa, Manila

The Church
of the Poor,
through the
Basic Eccle-
sial Com-
munities,
shows
vigilance
when she
cares for
the people
as a
parent and,
like a potter,
molds them
for an
idealistic
vision of the
future in
Christ.