

# **St. Mary of the Angels Geelong**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025**



## **Daily Reflections**

**<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>**

# MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

## *2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent*

### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

*Genesis 3: 9-15, 20. Psalm 97: 1-4 R. v.1, Ephesians 1: 3-6, 11-12, Luke 1: 26-38.*

***Reflection: Mary said yes, yes, yes, My Lord, your way is best.....***

The Immaculate Conception is not Mary's achievement but the dominion of God's grace in her life. Mary was totally passive; she did nothing to merit this grace, which was sheer gift. To say that Mary was without original sin is to affirm that she was privileged by a special grace, such that she was mysteriously redeemed by her son, the Redeemer, before his birth. This privilege was in view of the fact that she was chosen to be the mother of God's Son. Mary's immaculate conception did not interfere with her human nature of freedom; otherwise, she would have been reduced to that of a puppet. Rather, Mary remained free to say Yes or No to God as seen in the account of the Annunciation. The grace of the immaculate conception, then, does not separate Mary from us. Like us, she too had to journey by faith and obedience.



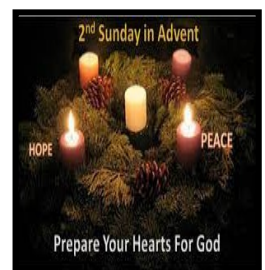
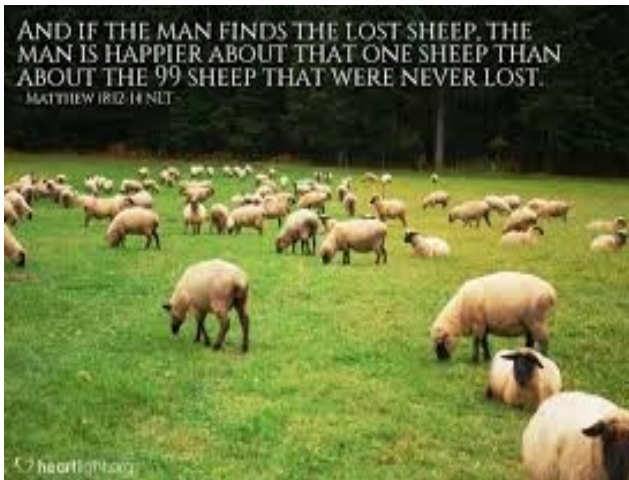
**TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent***

***Isaiah 40: 1-11, Psalm 95: 1-3, 10-13. R. cf. Isaiah 40: 9-10, Matthew 18: 12-14.***

***Reflection: The Lord our God comes in strength.***

The prophet Isaiah portrays God as a loving and caring shepherd feeding his flock, leading the mother ewes to their rest, and caressing the lambs to his bosom. Jesus presents God as a shepherd concerned for all his sheep: the good and the straying. In accentuating God's care and concern for the straying sheep, Jesus portrays God as a shepherd who, unlike us, would risk the safety of the ninety-nine well behaved sheep- leaving them unprotected and vulnerable to thieves and wild animals- and go out in search for the single stray until he finds it. In God's eyes each and every person, irrespective of their moral status, is precious; no person is disposable or dispensable. Jesus reminds us that God will not abandon us no matter how lost we may feel. Like a loving parent, God cannot rest until all his children are safe and sound at home.



**WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2025**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent*

**OUR LADY OF LORETO**

*Isaiah 40: 25-31, Psalm 102: 1-4, 8, 10. R. v. 1, Matthew 11: 28-20.*

*Reflection: O bless the Lord, my soul.*

The Scriptures and especially the Gospels were foundational in St Therese of Lisieux's spiritual journey, her relationship with God. Pauline, her biological sister who was in the Lisieux convent, reported the following incident: 'I was speaking to her about certain practices of devotion and perfection counselled by the saints, which were a source of discouragement to me.' Therese replied: 'As for me, with the exception of the Gospels, I no longer find anything in books. The Gospels are enough. I listen with delight to these words of Jesus which tell me all I must do: Learn of me for I am meek and humble of heart; then I'm at peace, according to his sweet promise: and you will rest for your souls.' Therese teaches us that Jesus, whom we encounter according to his sweet promise: and you will rest for your souls.' Therese teaches us that Jesus, whom we encounter in the Gospels, does not make it arduous for us to come to him. Yoked to Jesus we can bear our burdens joyfully.



## THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent*

**ST DAMASUS I**

*Isaiah 41: 13-20, Psalm 144: 9-13. R. v. 8, Matthew 11: 11-15.*

***Reflection: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

Jesus lavishes ultimate praise on John the Baptist: ‘of all born of women there is no greater.’ Jesus, then, declares John as the greatest of all human being. Why? Because John lived his prophetic vocation with uncompromising obedience to God- even to the extent of laying down his life. John prepared the people to welcome Jesus, the Messiah, faithfully, courageously, and with great integrity. Yet, surprisingly, Jesus adds: ‘the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.’ Why? Because although John prepared the people for the one who would inaugurate the kingdom, he himself was not part of the kingdom. John did not know Jesus as we know him. We, the least in the kingdom, are greater because we have had the privilege of knowing Jesus and witnessing the great love of God manifested in and through him. Do we appreciate the blessings of knowing Jesus?



**FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

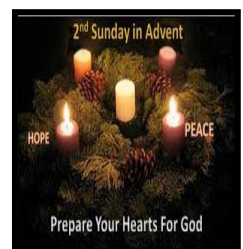
*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent*

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

*Isaiah 48: 17-19, Psalm 1: 1-4, 6. R. cf. John 8:12,  
Matthew 11: 16-19*

***Reflection: Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.***

Jesus implicitly refers to Israel's history with the prophets. He likens the people to obstinate, uncooperative, and unresponsive children who are closed, negative and resistant towards God's messenger. When John the Baptist came as an ascetic, the people wrote him off as demon possessed; when Jesus came as a friend of sinners and diner with them, the people rejected him as a morally perverse and indulgent person. In short, no matter who God sent, the people were unresponsive to God's overtures of love seeking to draw them into loving relationship with himself. How do we, today, respond to the prophets God sends us? Who are the people challenging us to respond more faithfully to the gospel, and how do we respond to them and to their challenge? Do we try to discredit them to justify our reluctance to change? Or do we listen and respond positively to their challenge?



**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

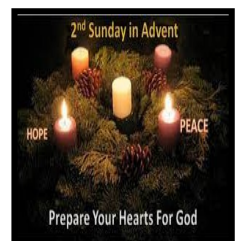
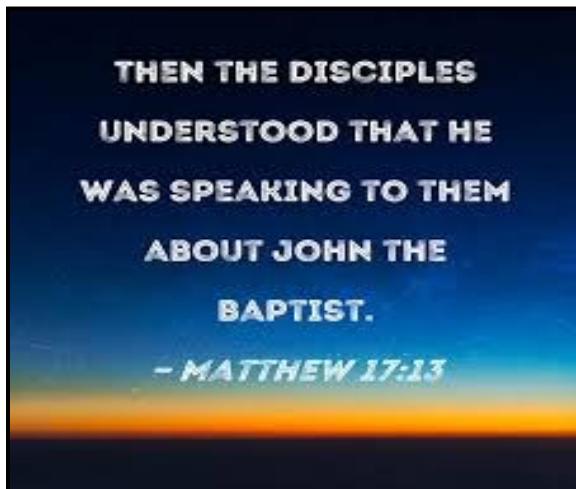
*2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent*

**ST LUCY**

*Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11, Psalm 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19. R. v. 4,  
Matthew 17: 10-13.*

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

The disciples have experienced Jesus' transfiguration and are convince he is the Messiah. Perplexed, however, by the scribes teaching that Elijah must precede the Messiah (Malachi 4: 5-6) to prepare the people to receive him, the disciples question Jesus. Jesus points out that Elijah has already come in the person of John the Baptist, but he was neither recognised nor received well. And Jesus himself will share the same fate. The scribes failed to recognise Elijah's return because they interpreted Malachi literally. Moreover, because they cling to their own expectation regarding the Messiah, they are also blind to Jesus' Messiahship and will dispose of him too. God, then, comes to us in various ways and guises. IF we are to welcome God's advent into our life, we must strive to be open minded, to let go of our expectations and prejudices, and to seek to see with God's eyes.





# 3rd Week of Advent

