

Entrance Antiphon:

Christ our King is coming, he is the Lamb foretold by John.

First Reading *a reading from the prophet Jeremiah. Jer 23:5-8*

‘See, the days are coming-it is the Lord who speaks-when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.

‘So, then, the days are coming-it is the Lord who speaks-when people will no longer say, “As they Lord lives who brought the sons of Israel out of the Land of Egypt!” but, “as the Lord lives who led back and brought home the descendants of the House of Israel out of the land of the North and from all the countries to which he had dispersed them, to live on their own soil.

*The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king’s sons your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel, who along works wonders, ever blessed his glorious name. Let his glory fill the earth. Amen! Amen!

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Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Come, Leader of ancient Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: rescue us with your mighty power! Alleluia!

Gospel: *a reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. Mt 1:18-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.’ Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means ‘God is with us’. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

*The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

Communion Antiphon:

His name will be called Emmanuel, which means God with us.