

### Introduction:

Advent is here! Today, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Advent season – a time of joyful longing for the coming of Jesus Christ. The Advent season is not only a preparation period to celebrate the historical birth of Jesus but is also an occasion to prepare for the birth of Jesus in our hearts. Thus, preparing us for His Second Coming, when He returns in glory and power. Therefore, this becomes a season of joyful and spiritual expectation.

### Readings:

**First Reading:** Jer 33:14-16  
**Psalm:** Ps 25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14  
**Second Reading:** 1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2  
**Gospel:** Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36

### Prayers of the Faithful

#### Celebrant:

Abba Father, as we prepare for the coming of your Son, our saviour and Lord, we present to you our prayers and petitions in faith.

#### Response: Father in your mercy, hear us.

For the Holy Father, the Bishops, Priests and Religious, that they may continue to grow in their faithfulness and zeal, leading the Church to her saviour, we pray to the Lord.

For the leaders of governments, that truth and justice may be their foundations in service of people, we pray to the Lord.

For each one of us, that this season of advent may become an occasion for growing in our relationship with Jesus, we pray to the Lord.

For Holy Father's Universal Prayer Intention, *for pilgrims of hope*: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope, we pray to the Lord.

For our personal intentions and needs which we now place before the Lord in silence (Pause...), we pray to the Lord.

#### Celebrant:

Father, we wait in joyful hope for the coming of Christ our Saviour. As you answer our prayers, make us holy, that we may greet Him with eager hearts, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.