

### **Introduction:**

This Second Sunday of Advent we continue our journey of waiting and hope. Last week, we began our Advent pilgrimage by watching for the coming of the Lord. Today, prophet Isaiah presents to us a renewed world springing from the root of Jesse, and St. Paul reminds us that Scripture gives us endurance and hope, while John the Baptist calls us to repentance so that we may truly prepare the way of the Lord. As we light the second candle which represents Peace, let us look forward to coming of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, bringing an end to all strife and unrest in our hearts and in this world.

**First Reading:** Is 11: 1-10  
**Psalm:** Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17  
**Second Reading:** Rom 15: 4-9  
**Gospel:** Mt 3: 1-12

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

#### **Celebrant:**

Abba Father, as we prepare for the coming of your Son, our saviour and prince of Peace, with humble hearts we place our intentions and petitions before you.

**Response: Father, may your peace reign in our hearts.**

For the Holy Father, the Bishops, Priests and Religious, that they continue to proclaim the coming of Jesus and be missionaries of peace in this world. We pray,

For Holy Father's Universal Prayer Intention, *for Christians in areas of conflict*: Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope. We pray,

For world leaders, that they may work tirelessly for justice and reconciliation among nations, building a world where peace and dignity are upheld for all. We pray,

For all who are burdened by sin, fear, or despair, that with repentant hearts, they may hear God's comforting word and find new hope in His forgiveness. We pray,

For the sick, the lonely, and those in mourning, that the Lord's consolation and healing may bring them strength and peace. We pray,

For our personal intentions, we now pray to the Lord in silence (pause). We pray,

#### **Celebrant:**

Abba Father, in your graciousness you listen to our heart's desires. Hear our prayers, and help us to prepare for the coming of your Son. We make these prayers through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.