

# **Liturgy Alive of Saturday, 1st Week Of Advent**

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### **A COMPASSIONATE GOD**

#### **Introduction**

God is compassionate. He cannot let his people suffer. This compassion of God has become visible in the person of Christ.

The Old Testament text, perhaps an elaboration on Isaiah's thoughts by a later author, promises restoration to God's people after their conversion. God will take pity on his people. He promises freedom from evil, sickness, famine, violence, injustice, provided people realize their own poverty and inability to live as they should by their own powers, though God will work these things in people and with people.

In the New Testament, Jesus will go out to encounter us and to help us out. He sends out his Church, even today, to encounter people in their miseries and to alleviate all suffering.

#### **Opening Prayer**

God of mercy and compassion,  
in your Son Jesus Christ  
you have revealed yourself  
as a God of people.

Turn our empty hearts to you,  
give us eyes to see the depth of our poverty  
and our inability to build a better world  
with our own resources,  
and then come and build it with us  
through your Son and our Savior  
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

#### **General Intercessions**

Let us pray to the Lord that he may call many to become shepherds willing to continue his work in our Christian communities with zeal and patience.

- That leaders in our communities may be people with a heart, compassionate and patient, we pray:
- That they may proclaim the gospel as good news of joy, justice and love, we pray:
- That they may be living examples of what they preach and teach, so that the message may become

credible through them, we pray:

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Lord, merciful and loyal God,  
at the table of your Son  
you dress the wounds of your people  
and you fill those who are poor of heart  
with the strength of Jesus Christ.  
Keep us going, in the certain hope  
that with him we can rebuild  
what our hands have destroyed  
and that he can turn our miseries  
into lasting happiness.  
This is our prayer  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

God of tenderness and love,  
you let your Son encounter us  
in the inadequacy of our love.  
Through him, present among us,  
open our hearts and hands  
to all ills and all needs,  
to forgive, to bless, to uplift  
and to be together the people  
who live in your love  
and who glory in the name  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Blessing**

Jesus had compassion on the leaderless crowd. May God give us compassionate hearts that care for people in patience and a spirit of service. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.