Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

28th November 2026

First reading

Revelation 22:1-7

'Night will be no more, for the Lord God will be their light.'

The angel showed me, John, the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

And he said to me, 'These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.'

'And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95(94):1-2. 3-5. 6-7b. ℟ 1 Corinthians 16:22b, Revelation 22:20c

Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks; let us hail him with a song of praise.
A mighty God is the Lord, a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his.
To him belongs the sea, for he made it, and the dry land that he shaped by his hand.
O come; let us bow and bend low. Let us kneel before the Lord who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people, the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

Gospel Acclamation **Luke 21:36**

Alleluia, alleluia.
Stay awake at all times,
praying that you may have strength to stand before the Son of Man.
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 21:34-36**

'Stay awake that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place.'

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Short reflection on the reading for today

On this final day of the liturgical year we are told that our passing from darkness to light is certain and will come in due time. Meanwhile we must trust in God's plan for us and for the world and go on living decently and honourably. Whether in darkness or light, we are not alone but are provided with all we need. "On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."

St Luke's gospel was written some years after a period of major crisis (the destruction of the Holy City of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70), at a time when his Christians had a peaceful breathing-space. We gather this from the way that he words Jesus' warning, "Be on guard lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence and drunkenness and worldly cares."

If it is true that faith thrives more during adversity than during financial prosperity, perhaps we may hope for some rebirth in our Church. But Jesus also advises that spiritual life requires commitment: "Pray constantly." Live in God's presence and then you will "stand secure before the Son of Man" when he comes in full glory.

The church's liturgical year are ends this very day. It does so with the message that the Lord Jesus will come soon in glory. We have been gifted many ways over the past year. We will now be further graced with four weeks of special awareness during Advent, starting tomorrow. With the help of God, we will lay aside every hindrance of sin, and with eyes fixed on Jesus, persevere in his way, until we reach the place he has prepared for us.