

## Reading for Weekday in the First Week of Advent

5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### First reading

Isaiah 29:17-24

**‘In that day the eyes of the blind shall see.’**

Thus says the Lord:

Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,  
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book,  
and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord,  
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease,  
and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off, who by a word make a man out to be an offender,  
and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate,  
and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

Therefore thus says the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:

‘Jacob shall no more be ashamed, no more shall his face grow pale.

For when he sees his children, the work of my hands, in his midst,  
they will sanctify my name; they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob  
and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding,  
and those who murmur will accept instruction.’

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 27(26):1. 4. 13-14. R1a**

*The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; whom should I dread?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
only this do I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the Lord,

to enquire at his temple.

I believe I shall see the Lord’s goodness  
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong;

be stout-hearted, and wait for the Lord!

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, our Lord will come with power  
and will enlighten the eyes of his servants.

Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

### **Matthew 9:27-31**

#### **Two blind men who believe in Jesus are healed.**

At that time: As Jesus passed on from Capernaum, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, 'Have mercy on us, Son of David.' When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to him, 'Yes, Lord.' Then he touched their eyes, saying, 'According to your faith be it done to you.' And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, 'See that no one knows about it.' But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

#### **Short reflection on the reading for today**

The persistence of the two blind men was remarkable. They don't just come up to Jesus and ask him to heal them. Rather, while Jesus is walking along they follow him shouting, "Take pity on us, Son of David." They kept shouting until Jesus reached the house to which he was going, at which point Jesus turned to them and said, "Do you believe I can do this?" Their shout was, of course, a prayer of petition, an expression of their faith in Jesus. Their answer to Jesus' question was another expression of their faith, "Sir, we do"

The two blind men *repeating* their petition invites us to keep on praying for what we need. Like the two blind men, we mainly pray when we're deeply in need. Thankfully, most of us have the gift of sight, but we will have spiritual needs in other ways. There can be areas of blindness in our lives that need healing; we all struggle with weakness and disability of one kind or another, ways in which we are broken and vulnerable. The example of the two blind men encourages us to keep turning to the Lord in prayer, even when he appears not to be listening to us. Our prayer of faith will not ultimately go unanswered.