

30 November 2014

First Sunday of Advent

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in
great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

My brothers and sisters: ³Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because
of the grace of God that has been given you in
Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been
enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of
every kind – ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has
been strengthened among you – ⁷so that you are
not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the
revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also
strengthen you to the end, so that you may be
blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the
fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
(NRSV)

Gospel

Mark 13.24-27

Jesus said to his disciples: ²⁴In those days, after
that suffering,

the sun will be darkened, and the moon will
not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and
the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in
clouds” with great power and glory.

²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his

elect from the four winds, from the ends of the
earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its
branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves,
you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when
you see these things taking place, you know that
he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this
generation will not pass away until all these things
have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass
away, but my words will not pass away.

³²‘But about that day or hour no one knows,
neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but
only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do
not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a
man going on a journey, when he leaves home
and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work,
and commands the doorkeeper to be on the
watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake – for you do not
know when the master of the house will come, in
the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at
dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he
comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to
all: Keep awake.’ (NRSV)

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await
the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his
service and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.