

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Cycle B

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Ps 85:9-14  
2 Peter 3:8-14  
Mark 1:1-8

### Monday December 11

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Ps 85:9-14  
Luke 5:17-26

### Tuesday December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zechariah 2:14-17 or  
Rev. 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab  
Judith (15:9d)13:18-19  
Luke 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

### Wednesday December 13

#### St. Lucy

Isaiah 40:25-31  
Ps 103:1-4,8,10  
Matthew 11:28-30

### Thursday December 14 St. John of the Cross

Isaiah 41:13-20  
Ps 145:1,9-13ab  
Matthew 11:11-15

### Friday December 15

Isaiah 48:17-19  
Ps 1:1-4,6  
Matthew 11:16-19

### Saturday December 16

Sirach 48:1-4,9-11  
Ps 80:2ac,3b,15-16,18-19  
Matthew 17:9a,10-13

Prepare for the Lord! – for whatever he wants to give us, do for us, and ask of us. He has a plan for our lives, a divine purpose that will bring us to our full potential.

We can only do this by uniting ourselves to Christ, joining him on the straight path, the holy path. How do we know when we are on the right path? By the fruits of the journey.

Isaiah says: A voice cries out in the desert! What is barren in your life, and dry, hot, or empty? Sins dry up our potential for fruitfulness.

Advent is a good preparation for Christmas – and meeting the Lord anew – if we use it to face our sins, reconcile with God, and follow Jesus back onto the holy path. If we neglect this opportunity, our lives will be barren of the strong faith we need during difficulties..

Prepare the way of the Lord! He has more love to give you, more healing, more joy! Make straight in the waste-

land of your sins a highway for our God. Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and create a wider road into your heart that's easy for Jesus to travel, a through-way upon which he can arrive in great speed and glory.

All humankind is as frail as grass, and all our glory is like the flower of the field that withers and wilts. Only the glory of God stands forever.



What are your troubles and struggles? Here is where Jesus wants to minister to you, and here is where you are most vulnerable to sin.

What in your life is going well? What activities are you doing that seem productive? Are any of them grassy glories that can wither away? A hundred years from now, will what you're doing today still have an impact – a beneficial impact?

God has given you talents and a calling, a special purpose that requires those talents. Yes, you! We are all called to have fruitful lives that make an eternal difference. Jesus wants to come straight to us to produce the fruits of his kingdom in our lives and in others.

Prepare for the Lord to make an eternal difference through you!

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. What are you going to do to straighten a crooked path?
2. What are you spending time on that will wither up and wilt away?
3. How does thinking about eternity straighten the path that you're walking on today? What changes because of this perspective?