

**SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2023**  
**LOW MASS PRAYERS**

**12 SUNDAYS HONORING OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL (WEEK 8)**

*Priest & People:* Happy art Thou, / O Holy Virgin Mary, / and worthy of all praise, / for from Thee is risen / the Sun of Justice, / Christ Our God, / the Angel of Great Counsel.

*V.* Pray for us Our Mother of Good Counsel.

*R.* That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

*Priest: Let us pray:* O God, by whose gift she who bore thy dear Son is our Mother too, and who wast pleased to make a beautiful picture of her famous for its miraculous appearance, we pray thee grant that by following her counsel always we may be enabled to live as thou wouldst have us live, and happily to reach our heavenly home: through the same Christ Our Lord. *R. Amen.*

**AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING**  
**FOR THE BLESSING OF THE PAST YEAR**

*Priest & People:* O God, / the beginning and the end of all things, / Who art always the selfsame, / and Whose years fail not, / we now, / at the close of another year, / kneel in adoration before Thee, / and offer Thee our deepest gratitude / for the fatherly care / with which Thou hast watched over us / during the past, / for the many times Thou hast shielded us / from evils of soul and body, / and for the numberless blessings, / both temporal and spiritual, / which Thou hast showered upon us. / May it please Thee to accept the homage / of our grateful hearts / which we offer Thee / in union with the infinite thanksgiving / of Thy Divine Son, / Our Lord Jesus Christ, / who with Thee liveth and reigneth / forever and ever. Amen.

**CHRISTMAS OCTAVE PRAYER TO ST. SYLVESTER**

*Priest:* O Great Saint Sylvester Pope and Confessor, under whose pontificate the Church began to enjoy the great boon of liberty: obtain for us a great love for and devotion to the Divinity of Christ which thou didst defend so ardently. Amen.

## PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

**Priest & People:** ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, / defend us in battle; / be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. / May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, / and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, / by the power of God, / cast into hell, Satan, and all the evil spirits, / who wander about the world, / seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

V. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. **R. Have mercy on us.**

V. Holy Child Jesus, Doctor of the Sick. **R. Have mercy on us.**

V. Our Mother of Consolation. **R. Pray for us.**

V. Immaculate Heart of Mary,

**R. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V. Pure Heart of St. Joseph, **R. Pray for us.**

V. St. Sylvester, **R. Pray for us.**

V. May the Divine assistance remain always with us.

**R. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

### CLOSING HYMN:

#### JOY TO THE WORLD

1. Joy to the world! the Lord has come.  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room.  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns.  
Let men their songs employ.  
While fields and floods, Rocks hills and plains.  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.