

THE HOLY INNOCENTS

DECEMBER 28, 2025

LOW MASS

12 SUNDAYS TO 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.**

Priest: Remember, Lord, the triumphant death of the babies that were slain because of thee. Let their blood, that cries out to thee in our behalf, move thy compassion, and persuade thee to forgive us our sins. True Wisdom of God the Father, thou who openest the lips of the dumb and makest eloquent the tongues of children; keep all our utterance in perfect subjection to thy law, so that following thee with hearts undefiled, we may ever proclaim in our speech, and in our deeds reflect, that true wisdom which is thyself, and give thee ceaseless praise. **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.

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. 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.