SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh: awake and listen for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Let every heart be cleansed from sin, make straight the way for God within, and so prepare to be the home where such a mighty guest may come.

For you are our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick, stretch out your hand, and make the fallen sinner stand; shine out, and let your light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.

To you, O Christ, all praises be, whose advent sets your people free; whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore! (C. Coffin)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

'My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that

I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.' Amen

(based on prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori)

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing,
You reign now in splendour with Jesus our King.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave Maria!
In Heaven the Blessed your glory proclaim,
On earth we your children invoke your sweet name.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave Maria!
We pray for the Church, our mother on earth
And bless, Holy Mary, the land of our birth.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave Maria!
We pray for our country, the land of our birth
We pray for all nations that peace be on earth
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave Maria!
Immaculate Mother, to You do we plead.
To ask God, our Father, for help in our need.

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave Maria!