

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, A

*When the Sending of the Catechumens for Election  
and/or of the Candidates for Recognition will take place,  
see R.C.I.A. No. 114 ff., No. 441 ff., No. 543 ff.*

**Priest Celebrant** Brothers and Sisters,  
let us seek the grace and justification  
our Savior has gained for us:

### Deacon/Cantor/Reader

*An alternate response is offered for Lent, in which the assembly repeats  
“Lord (Christ), have mercy” after the deacon or reader. The petitions can, of course,  
conclude with the more familiar “For this we pray:” “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

Cleanse the hearts of your faithful, Lord,  
and strengthen the shepherds of your Church.

**Lord, have mercy:**

Wash us of guilt and sin  
in the sacrament of reconciliation this Lent.

**Christ, have mercy:**

Give the joy of salvation to the catechumens  
and candidates for full communion that bishops the world over  
are calling to your Easter sacraments today.

**Lord, have mercy:**

Purify political and economic leaders of greed and self-interest,  
to serve the common good and the poor.

**Christ, have mercy:**

Be at the side of prisoners of war and victims of terrorism.  
Rescue the abused, the homeless, the imprisoned.

**Lord, have mercy:**

Sustain the many peoples who bear the brunt of natural disasters  
or of the careless use of earth’s resources.

**Christ, have mercy:**

Keep in your presence

[ our sisters and brothers who suffer in body, mind, spirit.

and]

**Lord, have mercy:**

Let [ everyone who has died this week know the joy of your salvation.

and]

**Christ, have mercy:**

**Priest Celebrant** Have mercy on us, O God, and wipe out our offenses.  
Open our lips, O Lord, and we shall proclaim your praise  
now and for ever.