First Sunday of Advent — November 29, 2020

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The Christopher Movement started by Fr. James Keller, M.M., has alerted many people to helping their fellowmen and women. We are again entering into the season of Advent. Advent is the time to be alert. One is alerted that Christmas is soon at hand, the birthday of the Savior. He became one of us to bring peace, joy and fellowship, to make us one family of God. All the preparations during the weeks of Advent, all the shopping, the decorating, the music and songs are directed to that happy event, even though many are no longer aware that Christ is the focal point of Christmas. One has to be alerted that Christmas has a deeper meaning, and that these preparations are meant to renew us in the true spirit of Christmas, which Christ set before the world in the proclamation of the Good News.

Yet even this is not the ultimate purpose of our Advent. Renewal in Christ, as each succeeding Advent season rolls around, has a further purpose, namely to keep us alert that this is a passing world, so it is futile to attach ourselves too strongly to it, because the world and everything in it is passing away to be transformed into a new world by the glorious Coming of the Savior when he inaugurates the end-kingdom. Then all our preparation of the present time will be amply rewarded and everyone will receive from God the praise he or she deserves. Then the just will share in the glory of the Risen Christ, when he comes to reward everyone according to his or her work.

Advent thus is a time to be alert to our purpose in life and what God expects of us in our respective calling. It is a time for sincere compunction for having neglected many times to do the will of the Father, and to take to heart the saving messages of His Son. For parents to be alert not only to the temporal and physical needs of their children but even more of their spiritual needs. It is a time for professional men and women to examine whether their dealings with their clients are honest, non- discriminatory, upright and just. A time for all workers to "give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Advent is also a time to give greater attention to those around us who are in need: the lonely, the sick and the feeble, the bedridden, the homeless and the elderly. It is a time to practice genuine Christian charity to all those in whom Christ is begging for food or shelter, provided they really are in need. How often there is a crying need among minority groups for social justice, equality, against discrimination, but their cries go unheeded as did the plea of Joseph and Mary that first Christmas as they sought shelter for the babe to be born.

Advent is a time to be alert to the missionary needs of the church. Can you make yourself a part of this activity?

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**December 1**	**N/A**
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Wed.	**December 2**	**N/A**
Special Intentions		
Thur.	**December 3**	**9:00AM**
Special Intentions		
Fri.	**December 4**	**N/A**
Medoro Pagni †		John Collins
Sat.	**December 5**	**4:30PM**
People of the Parish		
Sun.	**December 6**	**9:00AM**
Jim Dooley †		ICF #14
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
Walter Ligon †		Mary & Moira

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