
Advent

Dear parish family,

We have arrived at the beginning of the new liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent. For my message this week, I just wanted to briefly encourage us to see it as a new beginning for our lives with new opportunities. Such a rich season in the coming weeks, and the Church offers us many excellent ways to enter into it in all its fullness, to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ in glory to judge the living and the dead, to become more aware of the gift of his continual presence with us in many ways, especially in the sacraments, and finally to renew our wonder and awe at his first coming among us as an infant with the celebration of Christmas.

Our own parish has a few events planned to help us enter this season well. Firstly, a pancake breakfast after the Sunday morning Masses to feed not only ourselves but others in our community with the proceeds going to our time-honoured tradition of Christmas hampers by SSVP. Following the noon hour, we have a time organized to learn more about the Jesse Tree Advent devotion, recalling the anticipation for Christ's first coming to deepen our waiting for his second, and this event is open to all ages. On December 10th, we have our first Advent retreat as a parish in a while. The morning and afternoon will be a good time to gather for talks by our speakers, group sharing, and times of prayer. Shortly after this retreat, on the 11th, we will have multiple priests from our deanery available in our parish for our Advent penitential liturgy as another great way to prepare our hearts this season. In addition to all these events in our parish, there are plenty of great resources and help to enrich your Advent journey so please explore them.

I look forward to beginning this Advent with you.

I am, in our Lord, yours.

Fr. Brian Trueman
