

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2022



Advent Week 1:
We wait with hope

Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

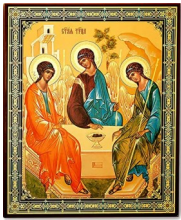
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Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
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Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



November 27, 2022
1st Sunday of Advent

We can embrace and relish each moment of our lives as a sacred sacrament or nonchalantly and robotically attend to what life presents. We have our feet in two worlds. One is holy and sacred, and the other is profane and secular. Which one has the greater claim on us? To what do we devote most of our energy? We can easily be consumed with the particular demands and essentials of daily life: family, work, obligations, and the like, that we don't really notice anything more than what is right before us. We become masters at "doing" and neglect our need to "savor." Jesus reminds his friends that "as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away."

While certain things require our daily attention, we cannot become so consumed with them that we fail to see the larger picture of what is coming. For the Christian, Advent is the time to pause, reflect, and savor. It is a time to see life as a sacrament of the moment and not just an investment in secular interests, pleasures, and personal obligations. It is easy to get distracted, lazy, preoccupied, and tired. Apathy can quickly wreak havoc on the most dedicated of souls. Whatever we can do this Advent season to be more attentive, focused, alert, and watchful will serve us well. It will make us eager and well-prepared to meet our Lord when he comes. It is for certain that he will come.

Who made me? What is my purpose? What will happen to me when I die? These are pivotal questions that, in life's busyness, we hardly find time to ask and answer. They define who we are, and the answers we provide serve as guideposts and anchors in the seas of our lives. Advent is the perfect time to make friends with our souls. It is a time to perk ourselves up, open our eyes, ears, and hearts and seek God's presence in the simple moments of our lives. God is with us. Ask God to grant you a deeper appreciation for His presence and the gift of attentiveness.

Readings for the week of November 27, 2022

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44 [1st Sunday Advent]
Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22 [St. Andrew]
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5-8 [St. Francis Xavier]
Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12 [2nd]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Sue (450-2987).

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray (882-1032).

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Nov. 28th - Private Intention
Tues., Nov. 29th - Joseph Ward (H. Angeloff)
Wed., Nov. 30th - Dec. Mem. of Immaculate Conception (Paul & Renee Gambill)
Thurs., Dec. 1st - Gilbert Burke (H. Angeloff)
Fri., Dec. 2nd - Frank Plizga (Sulecki Family)
Sat., Dec. 3rd, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Sun., Dec. 4th, 9:00AM - Clarence Mikolajczak (Family)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **SOULS IN PURGATORY**, as gifted by Kay Stankiewicz.



HOLIDAY SCRIP ORDER SCHEDULE

Order On: December 10th & 11th
Pick Up On: December 17th & 18th

NO SCRIP on December 24th & 25th

BABY ITEMS COLLECTION

Our Pro-Life Community is collecting various baby items (such as diapers, wipes, baby bottles, etc.) through the month of November. If you have items you would like to donate, please bring them over the weekend and leave them in the foyer of the church, or drop them off at the Parish Office during regular business hours.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Women's Society Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 4th at the Third Street Polish Falcons from Noon—3PM. Members, parishioners, and guests are welcome to attend. The cost for the meal is \$15 per person. Call Sharon or Tom at 814.790.1226 for reservations. Reservations are needed by Tuesday, November 29th.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Women's Society is sponsoring a Christmas Raffle — two \$500 cash prizes will be drawn on Sunday, December 4th at their annual Christmas party. Tickets are available from member of the society, at the church, and in the Parish Office. Tickets are \$5 each. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

BEING SURPRISED BY CHRIST

Some people hate surprise parties. There are those who are uncomfortable with a last-minute vacation or even an unexpected travel upgrade. If it wasn't part of the plan, it's a cause for consternation. There is a temptation to view these folks as curmudgeonly — sticks in the mud, obsessed with predictability. But I think if we're being honest, there's a little bit of the surprise-averse in all of us. Deep within the very heart of the element of surprise is a kernel of shock. And shock, in the moment, can feel similar to trauma. If we reflect on the most traumatic occurrences of our lives — a loss, an accident, a calamity — it is likely that we will say this: "It was the shock more than anything that got to me." Grief or fear, those feelings were overwhelming as well, but they came later. In the first moment, all we knew was we were going about our lives on one path until we were thrust on a different one and then the whole future changed. This is the natural rhythm of our life here on earth. We never know what is coming — which is to say, in a beautiful way, we always know what is coming. More importantly, we know Who is coming. Like the early riser who sets the "pre-alarm" (the one on which he knows he's going to hit snooze just to take the edge off the disappointment of waking up), we are always being given a heads-up in Scripture. From the earliest prophecies of the Messiah to Jesus' reminders in the Gospel to the very last words of Revelations, God has communicated to His stewards: You know the time. The time is now. We are called to constant vigilance, perpetual renewal, steadfast accountability. In the end, the coming of Christ may be the only event in history that was a surprise, but not a shock — and so it will only be beautiful, even for those who hate surprise parties.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WEEKLY OFFERING (NOVEMBER 20, 2022)

SORRY
TEMPORARILY
UNAVAILABLE

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

It is hard to imagine, but our Environment Committee is already beginning to plan our Christmas decorating! It is their desire to "update" some of our decoration that have been used for years. If you are interested in contributing to this endeavor, simply mark and envelope "Christmas" and drop it in the collection basket.

Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in **THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS ON OUR CHURCH AND PARISHIONERS.**



12/03 - Roman Luniewski & Mary Ann Merski

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Nov. 28th - Charles & Theresa Brasington (Family)
Tues., Nov. 29th - Daniel Patalita (Linda DiRienzo)
Wed., Nov. 30th - All Souls
Thurs., Dec. 1st - All Deceased Mothers
Fri., Dec. 2nd - All Deceased Fathers
Sat., Dec. 3rd, 5:15PM - All Souls
Sun., Dec. 4th, 10:30AM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)

MERCY CENTER FOR WOMEN GIVING TREE

This year we will again have a giving tree for the Christmas season to benefit the Mercy Center for Women. Starting the weekend of November 26-27, the tree will be up with cards to take with gift ideas for the women and children in residence there. Please feel free to place unwrapped items under the tree and they will be delivered promptly for the holiday season. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

In today's gospel Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful;" fear cripples! Instead "pray for the strength" to be courageous.

PARENTING POINTERS

The Friday after Thanksgiving is often called "Black Friday" because it starts the frenzy of holiday shopping. It's especially challenging for kids not to get sucked into Christmas wish lists. Ask your children one gift they might like for Christmas that doesn't cost any money.

Ready for His Return

So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. Matthew 24:44 (NIV)
The puzzle is based on Matthew 24:36-44 (NIV).



U Q Q Y G R I N D I N G X I O
H E A V E N C Y S F I C J W Q
H E X P E C T O O J I U J C B
M A R R Y I N G N R E A D Y I
C D G Z R H Y M T H I E F P Y
A Z E I A F C J K S E M O Z T
A O H O K A Y P I M T P A O H
D N N E L T F K O R Y Z M C R
R S G Q U H L C M J P F T U Y
I R W E Y E O R B K E A O A Z
N B O S L R O S L Z W H D G I
K Y M M L S D I C D R D Z M V
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G T J Y K G E P E O P L E E F

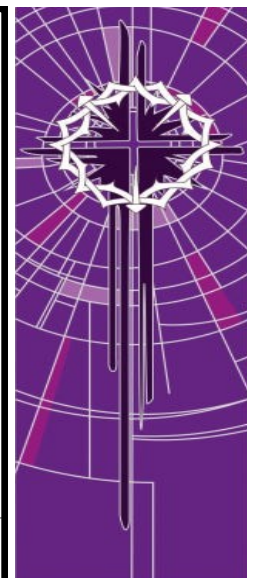
WATCH
NOAH
GRINDING
FLOOD

FATHER
DAY
WOMEN
EXPECT

PEOPLE
DRINKING
ANGELS
SON

HEAVEN
COME
MEN
EATING

READY
MARRYING
THIEF
HOUR



WEEKLY OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2022

SORRY

**TEMPORARILY
UNAVAILABLE**

"... for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

— Matthew 24:44

News for Our Partnership

CENSUS 2022: A NOTE FROM FR. JASON

Dear Parishioners,

In the early part of 2020, Parish Council approved a census form that had been months in the making. Since it has been well over 15 years since our parishes last held a census, it was our intention to distribute the forms at the end of March, 2020.... and then the pandemic struck, thus foiling our plans. We feel it is now time to finally conduct the census. Although the forms are entitled "Census 2020," we are still going to use them, given the amount of time and effort it took to develop and print them. If nothing else, the errant date is a stark reminder of all that we have endured these past 2+ years.

Census forms will be distributed November 27-28 and December 4-5. If you know someone who is unable to come to Mass, considering taking a form to them so we can save on postage costs. Parish Council Members will be available to assist anyone who may need help in completing the census, or are unsure how to answer some of the questions, following Masses on December 10-11 (sweets and coffee will be provided as we assist you). Thank you for participating in this important endeavor.

- Fr. Jason

HOLIDAY REMINDER: AMAZON SMILES

As the holidays draw near, we just wanted to remind you of our participation in the "Amazon Smile" program. "Amazon Smiles" let's you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping. The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, the "Amazon Smile Foundation" will donate a percentage of the purchase price directly to our respective parishes. To start, simply follow the link:

Saint Stan's: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0967487>

Holy Trinity: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1091810>

WEEKLY ADVENT WREATH PRAYERS

1st: *Hope* (Is. 2:1-5; Rom. 13:11-14; Matt. 24:36-44)

2nd: *Peace* (Is. 11:1-10; Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 3:1-12)

3rd: *Joy* (Is. 35:1-10; Jam. 5:7-10; Matt. 11:2-11)

4th: *Love* (Is. 7:10-16; Rom. 1:1-7; Matt. 1:18-25)



Holiday Extravaganza BINGO All CASH prizes!!!

*** Instants * 50/50 Game**

- Sunday, December 11th
- Polish Falcons Club, 431 E 3rd St.
- 1:00pm, Doors Open at Noon
- \$25 Admission (1pk), \$5 each add'l pk.
- Kitchen Food Available
- Holiday Auction
- Door Prizes
- Call 814-456-5300 to reserve your seat!

Walk Ins Welcome

All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity PCEP program

HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS MARKET

Order taking for the 2022 Holy Trinity Christmas market is underway! We will be taking orders through December 5, 2022. If you would like to order by phone, please call Liz at (814) 722-0015 or complete an order form and mail it to Holy Trinity Church, 2220 Reed Street, Erie, PA 16503. Order forms are available on Holy Trinity's website or at the bulletin stations at Holy Trinity Church. Thanks for your support!

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

IS RCIA FOR ME? If you answer yes to any of the following questions, then Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults may be for you. A non-baptized person? Baptized as Catholic but were never confirmed or received Holy Communion? Baptized, made First Communion never had any religious instruction beyond these sacraments? Non-Catholic interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith? RCIA will begin soon. If you or anyone you know is an adult and in need of First Communion or Confirmation, or interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Fr. Jason at 814-452-6606.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

11/28) [OPEN]; 11/29) Msgr. Bernie Urbaniak & Janis Leretsis; 11/30) [Open];

12/1) Kathy Smith, Debbie Majewski, & Mary Speice; 12/2) [Open];

12/3) Jeannie McGinley, Judy Tucceri, & Jackie Vargo; 12/4) Patty & Ed Czulewicz, & Marie Przepierski

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

11/27) Bishop Persico; 11/28) Fr. Alex Amico; 11/29) Fr. Jason Glover; 11/30) Fr. Greg Passauer; 12/1) Fr. Chris Barnes;

12/2) Fr. Bill Barron; 12/3) Fr. Joe Gregorek; 12/4) Fr. Chris Hamlett

Sunday, Nov 27, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

"You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep."

The most wonderful time, indeed

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" as some popular lyrics go, and a lot of us agree. Andy Williams made the tune famous, but composers Eddie Pola and George Wyle wrote it. Ironically, Pola and Wyle were Jewish. Yet they assisted Williams in earning the title "Mr. Christmas" with their composition. The song celebrates holiday parties, caroling, mistletoe, good cheer, and loved ones near. But for believers, the season beginning today is really about anticipation and Incarnation, light illuminating the darkness, and God coming near. We know what time it is. Make this Advent a genuine celebration of hope.

Monday, Nov 28, 2022

Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11

"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith."

Time to get ready!

Catholics yesterday began the Advent journey to Christmas. The word advent comes from Latin for "to come." All the days from now until the celebration of the birth of Jesus are preparation for his coming. Preparation in this case means remembering to be ready with a spirit of both penance and joy. Did you set out an Advent wreath on your dinner table yesterday? For many, it's the first of many Christmas decorations to come out—with festooned trees not far behind. The wreath is more than just a pretty adornment but also a daily reminder to pray as you count down each week with a new candle. Start the season out right by blessing your wreath with a prayer.

Tuesday, Nov 29, 2022

Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24

"...you have revealed them to the childlike."

Listen with the ear of a child

"Advent is not a time to declare, but to listen, to listen to whatever God may want to tell us through the singing of the stars, the quickening of a baby, the gallantry of a dying man," wrote Christian writer Madeleine L'Engle, born this day in 1918. L'Engle is especially known for her children's books, including *A Wrinkle in Time*, which won the 1963 Newberry Medal. This Advent, consider what it might be like to imitate the Christ Child instead of the adult Jesus. As *A Wrinkle in Time* tells us: "To love is to be vulnerable; and it is only in vulnerability and risk—not safety and security—that we overcome darkness."

Wednesday, Nov 30, 2022

FEAST OF ANDREW, APOSTLE

Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22

"At once they left their nets and followed him."

Be first to follow the Lord

It's no coincidence that Saint Andrew the Apostle is linked to Advent (which traditionally begins on the Sunday closest to his feast day). In Eastern Christianity he is known as protokletos, "first called," because it was Andrew, who had been a disciple of John the Baptist, who persuaded his brother Simon (whom we know as Peter) to follow Jesus with his words, "We have found the Messiah!" Andrew also has a devotion linked to Advent, known as the Saint Andrew Novena. Try it out and see if it supports and deepens your living out your own call.

Thursday, Dec 01, 2022

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock."

Build on higher ground

Anyone who has followed the news over the past year has seen more images than ever of people coping with floods. Families waiting on rooftops, people stuffed in boats, neighbors wading through murky water. Jesus constantly used images to make his point, including the image of discipleship as a solid house that stands firm during storms and floods. "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies," Saint Teresa of Calcutta once said. Are you building a strong, flood-proof house in the small things you do each day?

Friday, Dec 02, 2022

Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31

"Let it be done for you according to your faith."

Walk with each other

Today, the church remembers martyrs Jean Donovan, Maura Clarke, Dorothy Kazel, and Ita Ford, brutally murdered for standing with the poor in war-torn El Salvador in 1980. Their witness still speaks profoundly to us today as we encounter our own wars, violence, and suffering, especially among the most vulnerable. And still, we struggle to know what to do. Let us take courage as we ponder the questions posed by Ita Ford in 1977: "Am I willing to suffer with the people here, the suffering of the powerless? Can I say to my neighbors, 'I have no solution to this situation. I don't know the answers, but I will walk with you, search with you, be with you?'"

Saturday, Dec 03, 2022

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS XAVIER, JESUIT PRIEST

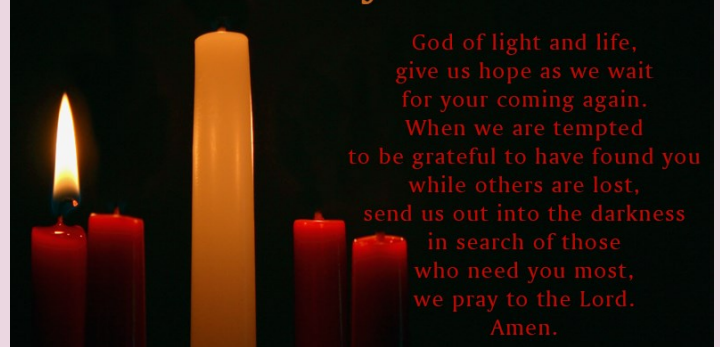
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

"the crowds... troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd."

Missionizing begins at home

Many of the practices of the great "missionizing projects" of centuries past are seen as problematic in our age, with its greater sensibility of the rights of indigenous peoples to worship freely as they wish. So, while the legacy of one of the patrons of foreign missions, Saint Francis Xavier, is a mixed one, it is significant to note that he always provided for ongoing pastoral care of the communities he missionized and also advocated for an educated native clergy (rather than foreign-born leadership). None of us acts with perfect justice, but each of us finds ourselves living in a unique historical moment, called upon to help church and society live up to the best and most noble qualities of our tradition.

First Sunday of Advent



God of light and life,
give us hope as we wait
for your coming again.
When we are tempted
to be grateful to have found you
while others are lost,
send us out into the darkness
in search of those
who need you most,
we pray to the Lord.
Amen.