



Monday, December 1, 2025

- 7:30 AM John de Almeida
- 12:30 PM Bradley Ely (Birth Remembrance)
- 7:30 PM Spanish Mass

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

- 7:30 AM Joao & Elisa Fernandes
- 12:30 PM Antonio Peixoto

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

- 7:30 AM Modesto Mavilon Jr.
- 12:30 PM Antonio Barbosa
(Birth Remembrance)

Thursday, December 4, 2025

- 7:30 AM Souls in Purgatory
- 12:30 PM Kathleen Halston

Friday, December 5, 2025

- 7:30 AM The Unborn Children
- 12:30 PM Josephine Avarello

Saturday, December 6, 2025

- 5:00 PM Leroy & Isabel Barroca
Carlos & Celia Costa
Ana Santos
John & Katherine Maksanty
Manuel Paulo
Fr. Patrick Callan
Jose Francisco Magalhaes

Sunday, December 7, 2025

- 7:00 AM Alzira dos Santos
- 8:30 AM Portuguese Intentions
- 10:00 AM Bob & Mary Fitton
- 11:30 AM People of the Parish
- 5:00 PM Spanish Intention
- 7:00 PM Mary DiMartino



CMA Numbers for 2025

Goal = \$95,900
 Pledges = \$42,210 Payments = \$41,890
 Donors = 159 Average = \$266

Thank you to all the families who already have made a sacrificial gift. Please consider a yearly offering.



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." MATTHEW 24:42

Stewards who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

Due to the early submission of this bulletin, collection and attendance figures will be posted next week.

Church Parking

With more people coming to Masses on weekends (Thank God), parking can be a challenge! In addition to parking on both sides of Garfield Avenue, please use our Church parking lot, our school lot, or the **large parking field** owned by the Chancery building on Willis Avenue across the street (thanks to their generosity!).



Recently, **no-parking/tow-away signs** have been posted on the small lot by the Red Cross north of us, as well as the small lot by the new Korean Baptist Church south of us. You may run the risk of having your vehicle towed during Mass (God forbid!). Please park properly, so that you can participate peacefully in the Eucharist.

Altar Server Schedule



- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Sat., December 6 | 5:00 PM | G.Lamme-Damas |
| Sun., December 7 | 10:00 AM | A.Granados/B.Reyes |
| | 11:30 AM | A.Baker/C.Baker/E.Healy |



*Please Pray For
The Deceased*



Souls in Purgatory

Honoring Mother Mary during Advent



**Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception**
(Holy day of Obligation this year)

**Mass Schedule
Monday, 8 December
7:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:00 PM &
7:30 PM (Spanish)**

Honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe

**As a united community of faith let us rejoice
in celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

**Friday, 12 December
7:30 PM (Spanish Mass)**

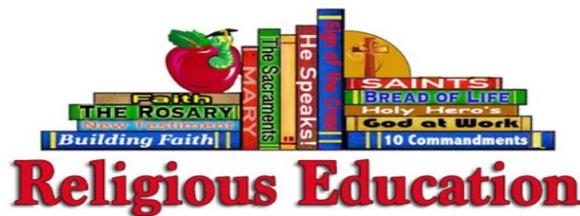
**With an outdoor procession to follow.
All are welcome!**





For many people, the holidays are extremely difficult. This year the Christmas season looks difficult for many. Hunger, poverty, unemployment, loss of a loved one prevent many people from experiencing the joy of the Christmas season. The Church of Corpus Christi helps bring the miracle of Christmas spiritually and materially to families that are in need through our Giving Tree. Please take an ornament off the tree and purchase the requested gift card which is inside the stocking and return the gift card to us by December 20th. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts

for your wonderful kindness and generosity by making this Christmas season a little brighter for those in our community who are in need.



Sun., Nov. 30 First Sunday of Advent
 9:30 AM Gr. 3-4 (Fitzgerald Hall)
 10:00 AM Class Mass

Wed., Dec. 3 Due from Mrs. Kelly's Class IC-6 & Ms. Acevedo's Class IC-4:
Sponsor's Name & Confirmation Name

Fri., Dec. 4:00-6:00 PM Fitting and practice for "Journey to Bethlehem" (church)

Sun., Dec. 7 9:30 AM Gr. 5-6 (Fitzgerald Hall)
 10:00 AM Class Mass

	Junior Lectors	10:00 AM Mass
Sunday, December 7, 2025	Ashley Ferreira and Jasmine Ferreira	
Sunday, December 14, 2025	Delaney Moura and Brie Moura	
Sunday, December 21, 2025	Diana Lima and Alcina Lima	

Sunday, December 7, 2025	<i>Twenty Minutes with the Director</i> Gr. 5, 6
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Advent

Sunday November 30th is the beginning of Advent which lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. The Advent season not only symbolizes the waiting for Christ's birth but also for his final return. Advent candles shine brightly in the midst of darkness, symbolizing and reminding us that Jesus came as Light into our dark world.



The first candle symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.

The second candle represents **faith** and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David.

The third candle symbolizes **joy** and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, unimportant people like them, too. In liturgy, the color rose signifies joy.

The fourth candle represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace--He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.

The (optional) fifth candle represents light and purity and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.

For You Too Were Once Aliens...

A STATEMENT BY THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF NEW YORK STATE
November 13, 2025 | Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini



Leviticus 19:33-34

"When an alien resides with you in your land, do not mistreat such a one. You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt."



In September, a striking mural depicting immigrants of the past and present was dedicated at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. Among the multitude of those immigrants now gracing the narthex walls of our venerable metropolitan cathedral – nameless men and women who came to this land often "tired...poor...[and] yearning to be free" – stands a young Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini.

Mother Cabrini, a woman consecrated to the Lord, was an indefatigable advocate, protector, and educator of newly arrived immigrants to New York. A native of Italy, she overcame anti-Italian prejudice in her adopted country of America and established, with God's grace, numerous charitable institutions and schools to serve those finding their way in a new land.

Mother Cabrini reminds us of the Church's longstanding care and concern for immigrants, as the mural itself, stunning in its scope, illustrates an indisputable fact: New York was and is a land of immigrants whose contributions have enriched and transformed, indeed built, our society.

Contemplating this magnificent mural at a moment when our nation considers again the plight of the immigrant, we recall that Christian charity, as lived so powerfully by Mother Cabrini, demands we welcome the stranger and treat every individual with respect and dignity.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* makes this clear.

"The more prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the foreigner in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. Public authorities should see to it that the natural right is respected that places a guest under the protection of those who receive him."

"Political authorities, for the sake of the common good for which they are responsible, may make the exercise of the right to immigrate subject to various juridical conditions, especially with regard to the immigrants' duties toward their country of adoption. Immigrants are obliged to respect with gratitude the material and spiritual heritage of the country that receives them, to obey its laws and to assist in carrying civic burdens." (n. 2241)

Pope Leo XIV, like his predecessors, has already taught this truth and shown particular solicitude towards migrant refugees—those who leave their homes not simply to seek a better life abroad, but who are forced to take flight because of violence and oppression in their own nations. In his first apostolic exhortation, *Dilexi Te*, proclaimed on October 4, 2025, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, he wrote:

"The Church, like a mother, accompanies those who are walking. Where the world sees threats, she sees children; where walls are built, she builds bridges. She knows that her proclamation of the Gospel is credible only when it is translated into gestures of closeness and welcome. And she knows that in every rejected migrant, it is Christ himself who knocks at the door of the community." (Section 75)

In recent years, many such refugee migrants have come to New York. Some have arrived from war-torn countries like Ukraine and Afghanistan; others from Central or South America have fled poverty, authoritarian governments, and drug cartels that made life in their country of origin dangerous for themselves and their families. Some have been granted refugee or temporary protected status, while others have no legal status. Most of these migrants – the majority, our neighbors – are good people who arrived on our shores seeking a better life.

Sadly, as in any group, some have exploited the system and committed serious crimes and other misdeeds. Those immigrants or refugees who commit crimes should face the appropriate criminal and civil penalties, including deportation. At the same time, general enforcement of the immigration laws must be carried out in a humane manner that does not target the hard-working and law-abiding; that does not permit the wanton and unnecessary separation of families; and that does not rely on campaigns of fear that cripple whole communities.

As such, we do not support the sweeping revocation of the temporary protected status that was granted to many migrants who arrived in this country to escape the horrors occurring in their own, and who have justifiably relied upon the legal protections our government offered to them. Such persons should not be subject to the arbitrary cancellation of their legal status and threatened with a sudden return to the troubled and dangerous nations from which they fled. At the same time, while we support the right to peacefully protest and witness opposition to political policies, we can never condone violence against immigration and law enforcement agents.

Before the complex questions of immigration, we maintain, without question, that our government has a duty to secure our borders and ensure that those who wish to enter the United States do so lawfully. In union with our brother Bishops across the United States, we have consistently urged our civil leaders to craft immigration laws that respect our borders and create an orderly process for those who wish to enter our nation, while offering a measure of forgiveness towards those who arrived here without legal status but who have proven their contributions and loyalty to our country over a period of time.

These are all good points to ponder. However, most important to recall is the law of Christ set down in the Great Commandments: To love God with all our hearts and to love our neighbor as ourselves. All other imperatives are subject to this law of charity, and it is concerned neither with legal status nor country of origin. As individuals and as a society, we are bound to follow this supreme command and to make all our actions consistent with it, to the best of our abilities, even in difficult circumstances.

Returning to the example of Mother Cabrini, the Bishops of the United States have called on Catholics in all walks of life to stand in solidarity with immigrants and refugees by signing *The Cabrini Pledge, an Invitation to be Keepers of Hope*. We encourage New York Catholics to sign the pledge. By doing so, you will follow in the footsteps of our beloved Mother Cabrini in acknowledging our duty to welcome, to protect, to promote, and to integrate immigrants in accordance with the guidance proclaimed by Sacred Scripture and the Magisterium of the Church.

The Cabrini Pledge

Sign the pledge today by scanning the QR code or visiting this link: www.usccb.org/cabrinipledge. Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini is the patron saint of all migrants. We seek her intercession for the concerns we have mentioned. By joining us in signing the Pledge, you commit your prayers and energy for the welcome, protection, promotion, and integration of migrants.



Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York
Most Reverend Edward B. Scharfenberger, Apostolic Administrator of Albany
Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, Bishop of Brooklyn
Most Reverend Michael W. Fisher, Bishop of Buffalo

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg
Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester
Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse

And the Most Reverend Auxiliary and Emeritus Bishops of New York State





DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

ADVENT REVIVAL NIGHT

with adoration, a talk, live music & candlelight procession

at

Saint Joseph Church

130 5th Street, Garden City, NY 11530

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025



7:30pm Holy Hour

with a reflection by
Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will
be available in the church until midnight.

**Upcoming
Revival
Nights**

Monday, December 8 (en español)

Saint John of God Church, Central Islip

Monday, December 15

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux Church, Montauk

Monday, December 22

Saint Ignatius Loyola Church, Hicksville



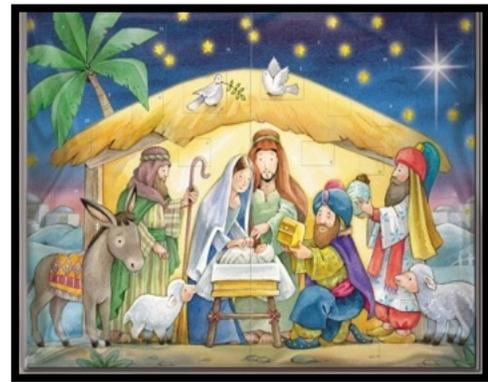
Please remember the sick in your daily prayers, including the following who have asked to be included in our list:

Connie Altvater, Aurora Antunes, Armandina Araujo, Evelyn Athas, Violeta Bernal, Anne Boland, Diane Bombardi, Erin Burke, Marie Byrnes, Jeanne Carroll, Jackson Carvalho, Michael Castalino, Frank de Carolis, Sue Citro, Emmanuel Colon, James Cunney, Kate Donovan, Laurie Fefta, Lilly Fuentes, Anne Gallagher, Kenneth Gallagher, Elba Garcia, Vanessa Gomes, Pat Kober, Diane LaBianca, Joseph LaBianca, Lorraine Liqury, Gus Lodato, Vincent Lodato, Thomas Lowe, Christine Lucivero, Augustus & Camella Lodato, Jason Lopes, Thomas Mitchell, Susan O'Brien, Mary O'Neal, Gabriel Palhete, Livia Pascoa Pereira, Linda Pires, Charles Procaccini, Dennis Radovic, Elizabeth Rose, JoAnn Russo, Mary Santucci, Robert Santucci, Ann Schwarz, Victoria Sheridan, Lisa Simeone, Lucy Elena Sivirichi, Paul Tubito, Lorraine Verdade, and any other members of our parish who are sick at this time.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas,
Court Immaculata #444

Religious Advent Calendars
On November 29th & 30th

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be selling religious Advent calendars the weekend of the first Sunday of Advent, before and after every Mass. These beautiful calendars will have small windows to open each day of Advent, with a religious saying within.



Church Donation Envelopes



Before giving your Church donation envelopes, please make sure that the amounts of your donations are written on the envelope. Please also avoid using tape to seal the envelopes.

The money counters, thank you very much.

Mineola FD Lights Corpus Christi Tree!!

KING KULLEN RECEIPTS



If you shop at the King Kullen in Garden City Park, please save your register receipts and place them in the white basket in the vestibule or in the collection basket or together with your donation in the stewardship envelope. 1% of your total

purchase gets donated to the Corpus Christi Religious Education Program.



We are so grateful to God for the goodness of our Mineola Fire Department, whose men and truck were able to string the lights on our beautiful blue spruce Advent/Christmas tree! We should always give thanks for our fire-fighters and first-responders who

never cease protecting our community! May the Lord watch over them and their families!

Porque ustedes fueron extranjeros...

DECLARACIÓN DE LOS OBISPOS CATÓLICOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK
13 Noviembre de 2025 | Conmemoración de Santa Francisca Javiera Cabrini



Levítico 19, 33-34

“Cuando un extranjero resida contigo en tu tierra, no lo molestarás. Él será para ustedes como uno de sus compatriotas y lo amarás como a ti mismo, porque ustedes fueron extranjeros en Egipto”.



En septiembre, se presentó oficialmente en la Catedral de San Patricio, en Manhattan, un impactante mural que representa a inmigrantes del pasado y del presente. Entre la multitud de inmigrantes representados en el mural que hoy adorna las paredes del nártex de nuestra venerable catedral metropolitana – hombres y mujeres anónimos que llegaron a esta tierra, a menudo “cansados... pobres... [y] anhelando ser libres” – se encuentra una joven Santa Francisca Javiera Cabrini.

Madre Cabrini, una mujer consagrada al Señor, fue una incansable defensora, protectora y educadora de los inmigrantes recién llegados a Nueva York. Nacida en Italia, superó los prejuicios contra los italianos en su país adoptivo, Estados Unidos, y fundó, por gracia divina, numerosas instituciones benéficas y escuelas para acompañar a quienes buscaban abrirse camino en una tierra nueva.

Madre Cabrini nos recuerda el sostenido compromiso y cuidado que la Iglesia ha tenido por los inmigrantes, como lo ilustra el propio mural – impactante en su magnitud – al transmitir una verdad indiscutible: Nueva York fue y sigue siendo una tierra de inmigrantes, cuyas contribuciones han enriquecido, transformado y, en efecto, forjado nuestra sociedad.

Al contemplar este magnífico mural, en un momento en que nuestra nación vuelve a reflexionar sobre las dificultades que enfrentan los inmigrantes, recordamos que la caridad cristiana – vivida con tanta fuerza por la Madre Cabrini – nos exige recibir al extranjero con hospitalidad y tratar a cada persona con respeto y dignidad.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica lo expresa con claridad:

“Las naciones más prósperas tienen el deber de acoger, en cuanto sea posible, al extranjero que busca la seguridad y los medios de vida que no puede encontrar en su país de origen. Las autoridades deben velar para que se respete el derecho natural que coloca al huésped bajo la protección de quienes lo reciben”.

“Las autoridades civiles, atendiendo al bien común de aquellos que tienen a su cargo, pueden subordinar el ejercicio del derecho de inmigración a diversas condiciones jurídicas, especialmente en lo que concierne a los deberes de los emigrantes respecto al país de adopción. El inmigrante está obligado a respetar con gratitud el patrimonio material y espiritual del país que lo acoge, a obedecer sus leyes y contribuir a sus cargas”. (n.º 2241)

El Papa León XIV, como sus predecesores, ya ha enseñado esta verdad y ha mostrado una atención especial hacia los migrantes y refugiados – no solo hacia quienes buscan una vida mejor en el extranjero, sino especialmente hacia quienes se ven obligados a huir debido a la violencia y la opresión en sus propios países. En su primera exhortación apostólica, *Dilexi Te*, proclamada el 4 de octubre de 2025, día de San Francisco de Asís, escribió:

"La Iglesia, como madre, camina con los que caminan. Donde el mundo ve una amenaza, ella ve hijos; donde se levantan muros, ella construye puentes. Sabe que el anuncio del Evangelio sólo es creíble cuando se traduce en gestos de cercanía y de acogida; y que en cada migrante rechazado, es Cristo mismo quien llama a las puertas de la comunidad". (Sección 75)

En los últimos años, muchos de estos inmigrantes y refugiados han llegado a Nueva York. Algunos han llegado desde países devastados por la guerra, como Ucrania y Afganistán; otros, provenientes de América Central o del Sur, han huido de la pobreza, de gobiernos autoritarios y de los cárteles de droga que hicieron peligrosa la vida en su país de origen, tanto para ellos como para sus familias. Algunos han sido reconocidos como refugiados o acogidos bajo protección temporal, mientras que otros no cuentan con permiso legal para residir. La mayor parte de estos inmigrantes – nuestros vecinos, en su gran mayoría – son personas de bien que llegaron a nuestras tierras en busca de una vida mejor.

Lamentablemente, como puede ocurrir con cualquier grupo humano, algunos han abusado del sistema y han cometido delitos graves y otras faltas. Los inmigrantes o refugiados que cometen delitos deben enfrentar las sanciones penales y civiles correspondientes, incluida la deportación. Al mismo tiempo, la aplicación general de las leyes migratorias debe llevarse a cabo de manera humana, sin perseguir a quienes trabajan con esfuerzo y respetan la ley; sin permitir la separación arbitraria e innecesaria de las familias; y sin recurrir a campañas intimidatorias que paralizan a comunidades enteras.

Por lo tanto, no apoyamos la revocación masiva del régimen de protección temporal otorgado a muchos migrantes que llegaron a este país huyendo de los horrores que ocurrían en el suyo, y que han confiado legítimamente en las garantías legales que nuestro gobierno les ofreció. Estas personas no deberían estar sujetas a la cancelación arbitraria de su permiso legal para residir ni ser amenazadas con tener que regresar repentinamente a los países convulsionados y peligrosos de los que huyeron. Al mismo tiempo, si bien apoyamos el derecho a manifestarse pacíficamente y expresar oposición a las políticas públicas, nunca podemos justificar la violencia contra los agentes de inmigración ni contra las fuerzas del orden.

Ante las complejas cuestiones migratorias, sostenemos sin reservas que el gobierno tiene el deber de proteger nuestras fronteras y garantizar que quienes deseen ingresar a los Estados Unidos lo hagan conforme a la ley. En unión con nuestros hermanos Obispos de los Estados Unidos, hemos instado con insistencia a los líderes civiles a elaborar leyes migratorias que respeten nuestras fronteras y establezcan un proceso ordenado para quienes deseen ingresar al país, al tiempo que ofrezcan una medida de clemencia a quienes llegaron sin permiso legal pero han demostrado, con el tiempo, su aporte y lealtad a esta nación.

Son todas cuestiones importantes para tener en cuenta. Sin embargo, lo más importante es recordar la ley de Cristo expresada en los Grandes Mandamientos: Amarás al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón y Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Todos los demás imperativos están subordinados a esta ley de la caridad, que no se basa en la situación migratoria ni en el país de procedencia. Como individuos y como sociedad, estamos llamados a cumplir este mandato supremo y a orientar todas nuestras acciones conforme a él, en la medida de nuestras posibilidades, incluso en circunstancias difíciles.

Volviendo al ejemplo de la Madre Cabrini, los Obispos de los Estados Unidos han convocado a los católicos de todos los ámbitos de la vida a solidarizarse con los inmigrantes y refugiados firmando el *Compromiso Cabrini, una invitación a ser Custodios de la Esperanza*. Animamos a los católicos de Nueva York a firmar el compromiso. Al hacerlo, seguimos los pasos de nuestra querida Madre Cabrini, reconociendo – como ella lo hizo – nuestro deber de acoger, proteger, promover e integrar a los inmigrantes, conforme a las enseñanzas de la Sagrada Escritura y el Magisterio de la Iglesia.

La Promesa Cabrini

Firme el compromiso hoy escaneando el código QR o visitando este enlace: www.usccb.org/cabrinipledge. Santa Francisca Javiera Cabrini es la patrona de todos los inmigrantes. Pedimos su intercesión por las cuestiones que hemos presentado. Al firmar el Compromiso se estará uniendo en oración y servicio a la misión de acoger, proteger, promover e integrar a los inmigrantes.



S. Em., Cardenal Timothy Michael Dolan, Arzobispo de Nueva York
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Edward B. Scharfenberger, Administrador Apostólico de Albany
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Robert J. Brennan, Obispo de Brooklyn
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Michael W. Fisher, Obispo de Buffalo

S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Terry R. LaValley, Obispo de Ogdensburg
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Salvatore R. Matano, Obispo de Rochester
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. John O. Barres, Obispo de Rockville Centre
S. E. Rvdma. Mons. Douglas J. Lucia, Obispo de Syracuse

Y Sus Excelencias Reverendísimas Obispos Auxiliares y Eméritos del Estado de Nueva York



Español

I DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO



EVANGELIO DE SAN MATEO 24, 37-44

En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: “Así como sucedió en tiempos de Noé, así también sucederá cuando venga el Hijo del hombre. Antes del diluvio, la gente comía, bebía y se casaba, hasta el día en que Noé entró en el arca. Y cuando menos lo esperaban, sobrevino el diluvio y se llevó a todos. Lo mismo sucederá cuando venga el Hijo del hombre. Entonces, de dos hombres que estén en el campo, uno será llevado y el otro será dejado; de dos mujeres que estén juntas moliendo trigo, una será tomada y la otra dejada. Velen, pues, y estén preparados, porque no saben qué día va a venir su Señor. Tengan por cierto que si un padre de familia supiera a qué hora va a venir el ladrón, estaría vigilando y no dejaría que se le metiera por un boquete en su casa. También ustedes estén preparados, porque a la hora que menos lo piensen, vendrá el Hijo del hombre”.



El Adviento, período litúrgico que comienza con este evangelio, invita a vivir el presente con la esperanza de la venida del Señor, reconociendo que cada momento es una oportunidad para el encuentro con Dios. No se trata de actos espectaculares, sino de vivir el día a día de acuerdo con las enseñanzas de Jesús, manteniendo una actitud de atención espiritual. La preparación para el retorno de Cristo se manifiesta en la vida diaria, viviendo según la fe y el amor. El pasaje usa la metáfora del ladrón para enfatizar que la venida de Dios no puede predecirse, pero sí acogerse con vigilancia.

El Adviento es para aprender a esperar con paz y con amor, al Señor que viene. Nada de la desesperación o impaciencia que caracteriza al hombre de este tiempo. San Agustín da una buena receta para esperar: «Como sea tu vida, así será tu muerte». Si esperamos con amor, Dios colmará nuestro corazón y nuestra esperanza. Con este Domingo Primero de Adviento comenzamos un nuevo Ciclo Litúrgico. El Adviento nos recuerda que estamos a la espera del Salvador. Y las Lecturas de hoy nos invitan a ver la venida del Señor de varias maneras:

- 1º. Una es la venida del Señor a nuestro corazón.
- 2º. Otra es la celebración de la primera venida del Señor, cuando nació hace unos dos mil años.
- 3º. Y otra es la que se refiere a la Parusía; es decir, a la venida gloriosa de Cristo al final de los tiempos.



En la primera lectura Isaías describe una visión profética de un futuro de paz universal donde las naciones de todo el mundo subirán al monte de Sion (Jerusalén) para aprender las leyes de Dios, y el Señor juzgará entre ellas. En esa era futura, mucha gente de diferentes naciones subirá a Jerusalén para aprender el camino de Dios. La enseñanza y la palabra del Señor emanarán de Sion y Jerusalén, convirtiéndose en una guía para todas las naciones. El Señor juzgará a las naciones y, como resultado, sus habitantes transformarán sus armas de guerra en herramientas agrícolas. La espada se convertirá en rejas de arado y las lanzas en hoces, simbolizando el fin de la guerra y el establecimiento de una era de paz.

Português

DOMINGO I DO ADVENTO



EVANGELHO DE SÃO MATEUS 24, 37-44

Naquele tempo, disse Jesus aos seus discípulos: «Como aconteceu nos dias de Noé, assim sucederá na vinda do Filho do homem. Nos dias que precederam o dilúvio, comiam e bebiam, casavam e davam em casamento, até ao dia em que Noé entrou na arca; e não deram por nada, até que veio o dilúvio, que a todos levou. Assim será também na vinda do Filho do homem. Então, de dois que estiverem no campo, um será tomado e outro deixado; de duas mulheres que estiverem a moer com a mó, uma será tomada e outra deixada. Portanto, vigiai, porque não sabeis em que dia virá o vosso Senhor. Compreendi isto: se o dono da casa soubesse a que horas da noite viria o ladrão, estaria vigilante e não deixaria arrombar a sua casa. Por isso, estai vós também preparados, porque na hora em que menos pensais, virá o Filho do homem.



Neste tempo de preparação para a celebração do nascimento de Jesus, sou convidado a recentrar a minha vida no essencial, a redescobrir aquilo que é importante, a estar atento às oportunidades que o Senhor, dia a dia, me oferece, a acordar para os compromissos que assumi para com Deus e para com os irmãos, a empenhar-me na construção do “Reino”... É essa a única forma de preparar a vinda do Senhor. O Evangelho que nos é proposto apresenta alguns dos motivos que impedem o

homem de “acolher o Senhor que vem”... Fala da opção por “gozar a vida”, sem ter tempo nem espaço para compromissos sérios; quanta gente, ao domingo, tem todo o tempo do mundo para dormir até ao meio dia, mas não para celebrar a fé com a sua comunidade cristã... Fala do viver obcecado com o trabalho, esquecendo tudo o mais; quanta gente trabalha quinze horas por dia e esquece que tem uma família e que os filhos precisam de amor... Fala do adormecer, do instalar-se, não prestando atenção às realidades mais essenciais; quanta gente encolhe os ombros diante do sofrimento dos irmãos e diz que não tem nada com isso, pois é o governo ou o Papa que têm que resolver a situação... E eu: o que é que na minha vida me distrai do essencial e me impede, tantas vezes, de estar atento ao Senhor que vem?



Na primeira leitura, o profeta Isaías partilha conosco o seu sonho da paz universal e da comunhão fraterna de todos os povos e nações. Trata-se de uma utopia ingénua e impossível? Trata-se de uma promessa de Deus. Pelo conteúdo estamos, provavelmente, diante de um oráculo inspirado nas grandes movimentações de peregrinos que, por alturas das festas, sobem para Jerusalém. Na fantasia do profeta, a cena transforma-se: ele vê, num futuro sem data definida, uma multidão de povos de todas as raças e nações que, atraídas por Javé, se dirigem ao encontro da salvação de Deus. É, provavelmente, um “sonho” destes que dá origem a este oráculo escatológico. Estamos diante de um dos oráculos mais inspirados e mais belos de todo o Antigo Testamento. Jesus, Aquele cujo nascimento celebraremos no final do advento, foi enviado por Deus ao nosso encontro para concretizar essa promessa.

INTENÇÕES PAARA O DIA 7 DE DEZEMBRO

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