

St. Mary's Catholic Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Have you ever notice how much **waiting** we do as we journey through life? Expectant parents anxiously wait for the birth of their child. Elderly folks residing in a nursing home wait for a visit from a family member or friend. Children wait in hope for a visit from Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. All of us wait in lines at the post office, bank, toll booth, supermarket and gas station. At times, we anxiously wait for news about our test results from our doctor or professor. We wait in anticipation of the arrival of a loved one at the airport or at the bus/train station. Yes, much of our time is spent in **waiting** and often, our **waiting** tests our patience and the quality of our hope. We are powerless to bring about what we hope for, so all we can do is wait.



Waiting is part of life and there is no life without **waiting**. All of us waited to be born, waited to be nourished, and waited to be loved. We learned soon enough that the fullness of life is not available to us like instant coffee. There is always more to life and to people than we can ever manage to absorb, comprehend, and understand at any one time. Therefore, we have to wait.

The liturgical season of Advent that begins today is a time of patient, hopeful, reflective **waiting** for the Coming of the Lord. Advent is the time when we are reminded that we have to wait for our God. We cannot grasp God, we cannot possess God, we cannot see God; we can only **wait** for God to reveal His very being and allow Himself to be known to us. When we wait for God we confess our own incompleteness. We acknowledge that there is always more to God than what we know. We proclaim our hope in a God that we can never have. When we wait for God, **our waiting** is our prayer; we testify to God's greatness and our own poverty.

In today's first reading from Isaiah we get a glimpse of the difficulty people face when their **waiting** for God seems to be in vain. In today's reading the Israelites are lamenting and crying out to God because they are in Babylonian Exile, their temple has been destroyed and their homeland is in ruins and it is now occupied by foreign powers. The Israelites have become exhausted with their **waiting** for God to help them. They are in despair, feeling abandoned by God, having grown tired of hearing nothing from Him. However they do hold onto a sliver of hope that God would once again act in some miraculous way as He did when He freed their ancestors from slavery in Egypt: "You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name... Oh that you tear the heavens open and come down."

Continued...

Weekend Masses

Sat Nov 28	4:00 p.m.	Rosemary Meyer
Sun Nov 29	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Nov 29	10:00 a.m.	Dennis Warren
Sat Dec 5	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention
Sun Dec 6	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Dec 6	10:00 a.m.	Dolores Hermiller + James Trenkamp

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,360.00	Loose \$298.00
	Total	\$2,658.00

37 envelopes returned = 18%



*Thank you for your generosity!
Thank you also to those who give
electronically!!*

Assignments for December 5 & 6, 2020

Money Counters: Deb Goldenetz, Barb Galvan
4:00 p.m.

Cantor: Dave Roby
Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer
Lector: *Volunteer*
E.M.: Basil Meyer
Servers: Grace and Greta Myers

8:00 a.m.

Cantors: Kevin Vance
Ushers: *Volunteer*
Lector: *Volunteer*
E.M.: *Volunteer*
Server: *Volunteer*

10:00 a.m.

Cantor: Kevin Vance
Ushers: John Schlumbohm and Debbie Bullman
Lectors: Jenia Freewalt
E.M.: Wes Lovett
Servers: Lovett Boys

Readings for December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

