

# BREAKING OPEN THE WORD



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**December 1, 2013**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Lectionary: 1**

**Gospel [Mt 24:37-44](#)**

Jesus said to his disciples: "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 that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

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## **Spiritual Reflection:**

A few years ago there was a group of Chilean miners who were trapped underground in a collapse mine. After many days of wondering if anyone was trying to rescue them a small hole opened up in the dirt ceiling above them and a small canister was lowered down. The miners were able to read the note that told them that help was indeed on the way and they were able to write a note informing those above that they were alright. A special advent began for the miners as they waited for their rescue with a new hope.

## **Spiritual Questions:**

1. What do you need to be saved from this Advent?
2. How can your relationship with God deepen this year?
3. How does it make you feel to know that God has not abandoned you?
4. Can you name a time in your life when God powerfully came into it?
5. Have you shared your story with others?