



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Served by the Jesuits in Southern Africa

Sermon Outline
1st Sunday of Advent - C
1 December 2024

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Jeremiah 33:16

In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

1 Thessalonians 3:12 & 4:1

And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact, you are doing), you should do so more and more.

Luke 21:34-26

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

(Translation: New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition)

1. The Prophet offers a message of hope, insisting that the kingdom of evil has no future

'The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. (Jer 33:14)

- Advent is a season of *hope*.
- A God of recovering, rebuilding, remaking

2. How do we approach Advent?

Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man. (Luke:21:36)

- Raise your head!
- Do not flee!
- Pray – not to escape but so that you can see ALL through the eyes of God.

3. What intentional practices does Advent invite us to?

And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. (1 Thess 3:12)

- The Magis – "as, in fact, you are doing – you should do so more and more"
- Active engagement – e.g. World AIDS day

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