



Daily Reflections

December 3, 2017

Scripture

Mark 13: 33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!"

Our Scripture Reflection

Today we begin the holy season of Advent. The word Advent comes from the Latin "Adventus" which means "coming." We actually celebrate two "comings" during Advent. The coming of Our Lord at the end of time and the coming of Our Lord at Christmas. During the four weeks of this season, we are called to be vigilant and prepared. That we may use our time wisely and in a holy manner, let us petition Our Lord for His Grace.

Food for your Journey

Some years ago, a young man who wanted to change his life went into a church and sat down in the sanctuary for awhile. He took out a piece of paper and a pencil and began writing down a long list of things that he promised he would do to change his life — a whole page of things — and he signed his name at the bottom and took it up and placed it on the altar, and sat down again in the sanctuary.

As he was sitting there, however, he began to sense the voice of God speaking softly in his own soul. And the more he listened to it, the more he heard God saying to him, "You've done it all wrong. I want you to go back up there and get the piece of paper and tear it up. And then I'll give you another instruction."

So, the young man got out of his pew and walked up to the altar and did as the Lord told him. And then he went back to sit down in the pew and waited for the Lord to instruct him. It did not happen immediately, but finally the message came through. The Lord said to him, very gently, "Now take a piece of paper and sign your name to it at the bottom and let me fill in all the rest!"

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, During this holy season of Advent, I ask for Your Grace so that I may make the difficult but necessary changes that will enable me to receive You with joy on Christmas. Amen.