

Homily Themes

Advent and Christmas Seasons, Year B

Advent Theme: Awake!

Hymn for Advent: #399 (Gather) Awake to the Day
No special Hymn for Christmas Season.

Dec. 2/3 First Sunday of Advent

“Keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come.” Mk 13: 35b

We all live busy lives. Advent is the time to take a pause for the cause, to think about how we’re spending our time on this earth and the priorities we’ve made. Sometimes, we don’t have a lot of control over how we spend our time. Advent is a time to consider the precious value every minute of every day affords us to be witnesses to God’s kingdom and the new life God brings to all who believe. How Precious is the time we give to the Lord? How Precious is the ministry we do according to our charism?

Dec. 9/10 2nd Sunday of Advent

“...what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God.” (2 Peter 3: 11b)

If we’re asleep spiritually, then we won’t be ready when the Lord returns. The Christian spiritual life is one of constantly being ready and awake, fully responsive to the grace of the Spirit that enables us to grow in holiness and godliness each day by discerning the Will of God in our day to day interactions. The Precious Blood of Christ enables us to immerse ourselves fully in God’s grace and to do his Will, even when it may seem difficult or beyond our abilities.

Dec. 16/17 3rd Sunday of Advent

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thess 5:16-18)

Being awake means being persons who are regularly experience joy! That’s why we rejoice! (make joy again) That’s why we can be in a continual state of communion with God (prayer). That’s why we can continually give thanks to God each and every day! The Precious Blood of Christ is a great source of joy for all believers, as it announces the Lord’s unconditional love for all sinners.

(LAE: Flowers may decorate the sanctuary this weekend.)

Sat. Dec. 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

NOTE: Only 7pm Saturday Dec. 23rd will celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent.

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.” (Luke 1:35)

Being awake means being able to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives and being willing to be a sacred vessel of the Holy Spirit’s action in our world, just as Mary was in agreeing to be the Mother of God. Let us turn to the Mother of God, whose blood nourished Jesus’ growing life in her womb and lift up all mothers as Precious in God’s sight.

Sun. Dec. 24/ Mon. 25 Solemnity of Christmas (No Sunday morning masses on 24th. Masses for Christmas Eve will be at 5, 8 and 11pm, Sun. 25th at 11 am)

We have learned how to be awake during Advent so that we may fully embrace the Christ Child and his message of peace for our world. At all masses in the Christmas season, we will concentrate our focus on the implications of God becoming Man and how that incarnation is meant to impact our world. Let us treasure the life of the Christ Child whose Precious Blood redeems the world!

Sat. Dec. 30 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sun. Dec. 31 Feast of the Holy Family (regular morning mass times), Vigil of Mother of God at Sunday evening mass at 5pm.

At all masses in the Christmas season, we will concentrate our focus on the implications of God becoming Man and how that incarnation is meant to impact our world.

Monday January 1 Solemnity of the Mother of God

Only One Mass today, to be celebrated at 11 am.

At all masses in the Christmas season, we will concentrate our focus on the implications of God becoming Man and how that incarnation is meant to impact our world. Let us lift up the gift of motherhood and discuss ways we can support this vocation in our churches.

January 6/7 Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

At all masses in the Christmas season, we will concentrate our focus on the implications of God becoming Man and how that incarnation is meant to impact our world. Let us discern the gifts we can offer to the Lord as his Missionary disciples of the Precious Blood.

Mon. Jan. 8th Baptism of the Lord

As this is the last feast of the Christmas Season, we will celebrate mass at 11am. Let us reaffirm our commitment to our baptismal consecration, the basis of all our other vocations.