Second Sunday of Advent — December 7, 2025

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

I came across a prayer which I would like to share with you, for you to think about as you stand in line at the Post Office, sorting out your cards and juggling your packages: "God, our Father, may everything we do be First Class. Imprint your own loving zip code upon our hearts so that we may never go astray. Provide in your gracious Providence special handling for those of us who are fragile and keep us in one piece. And when our days draw to a close and we are marked "Return to Sender," be there to greet us at Heaven's Door so that no one here might say "Unknown at this Address,' Amen." Too bad we can't tack this up on the Post Office wall.

In the First Reading, we heard the prophet Isaiah's promise of a great leader who would lead God's people to justice and peace. A peace that is almost unbelievable. We believe that person is Jesus the Christ. Our readings go on to tell us though, if we want to share in that peace we will not do so unless we follow this great leader and king. And so, lest we get too wound up in all the sending and spending, this weekend's Gospel, with its message from St. John the Baptist, tries to make us aware that more involved in preparing for the coming of Jesus rather than sending and spending. Three times in the Gospel, St. John uses the word "Repent" or "Repentance." When we hear that word, we often think of some terrible sinner who needs a total make over spiritually. If we think this message about repentance does not apply to us, we need to hear again what St. Paul told us in this weekend's Second Reading: "Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction."

In other words, the word "repent" is meant for all of us, not just for bad people. The Greek word for repent in its original meaning meant "to change our mind". As time went on it came to mean "to change our mind to be a different person, indeed, a better person." The prophet St. John the Baptist is telling us if we haven't been as good as we would like us to be, or as we know God would like us to be, then we need to decide to make a change. Our attitude may need to change or our behavior. Or it could be we're not doing anything too bad but we're not doing anything really good either.

It's part of normal conversation around this time to ask "Are you ready for Christmas?" Wouldn't we be surprised if we asked someone that question and they answered: "I still need to do a few things to make myself better spiritually." that kind of an answer would leave us speechless. The media is working overtime telling us how to get ready for Christmas. Let us listen also to St. John the Baptist, the herald God sent to tell us how He wants us to prepare for His coming.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**December 9**	**11:00AM**
Judy Pereira †		Donna & Dennis
Wed.	**December 10**	**11:00AM**
Vicente B. Pena †		Gina
Thur.	**December 11**	**9:00AM**
Thanksgiving		Ed & Mae
Fri.	**December 12**	**11:00AM**
Rogelio Arcega Sr.		Jong & Alma
Sat.	**December 13**	**4:30PM**
Ted & Steve Gallo †		June
Sun.	**December 14**	**9:00AM**
Edgar Allan (birthday)		Mom & Dad
Port Costa		**11:00AM**
NO MASS		

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