

God Is With Us: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-6; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24



The mystery kept secret for long ages, promised through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, is today revealed (see Romans 16:25-26).

This is the "Gospel of God" that Paul celebrates in today's Epistle—the good news that "God is with us" in Jesus Christ. The sign promised to the House of David in today's First Reading is given in today's Gospel. In the virgin found with child, God

himself has brought to Israel a savior from David's royal line (see Acts 13: 22-23).

Son of David according to the flesh, Jesus is the Son of God, born of the Spirit. He will be anointed with the Spirit (see Acts 10:38), and by the power of Spirit will be raised from the dead and established at God's right hand in the heavens (see Acts 2:33-34; Ephesians 1:20-21).

He is the "King of Glory" we sing of in today's Psalm. The earth in its fullness has been given to Him. And as God swore long ago to David, His Kingdom will have no end (see Psalm 89:4-5).

In Jesus Christ we have a new creation. Like the creation of the world, it is a work of the Spirit, a blessing from the Lord (see Genesis 1:2). In Him, we are saved from our sins, are called now "the beloved of God."

All nations now are called to belong to Jesus Christ, to enter into the House of David and Kingdom of God, the Church. Together, through the obedience of faith, we have been made a new race—a royal people that seeks for the face of the God of Jacob.

He has made our hearts clean, made us worthy to enter His holy place, to stand in His presence and serve Him.

In the Eucharist, the everlasting covenant is renewed, the Advent promise of virgin with child—God with us—continues until the end of the age (see Matthew 28:20; Ezekiel 37:24-28).

ANNOUNCED MASSES
December 17th – December 25th, 2016

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 17th	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Felix O. Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry & Ofelia Roy
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 18th	Fourth Sunday of Advent Leo, Rosa Maria and Anthony Borges – RIP – by the Alvares family Malcolm and Margaret Leekam – RIP – by Leah
Monday	Dec. 19th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 20th	Weekday Personal Intention – by Teresa Rico and family
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 21st	Saint Peter Canisius Deceased and Living Members of the Family – by Tammy Sunga
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 22nd	Weekday Laverne Moran – RIP – by the family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 23rd	Saint John of Kanty Bruna Alesi – RIP – by her parents
Saturday 8:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.	Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve In Thanksgiving for Blessings Received – by Leo and Lavinia Philomena Palmieri – RIP – by Ron and Carolyn
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 25th	Christmas: Nativity of the Lord In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of the Rule – by TJ and Edna Sorono For the People (<i>Pro Populo</i>)

***Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.***

Collection:

December 11, 2016 - **\$5,762.00**

...Thank you for your generosity.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

December 24 th (Christmas Eve)	- 8:00pm and 10:00pm
December 25 th (Christmas Day)	- 9:00am and 11:00am
December 26 th (Monday)	- 9:00am
December 27 th (Regular Mass)	- 7:00pm
December 28 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 29 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 30 th (Regular Mass)	- 9:00am
December 31 st (New Year's Eve)	- 4:30pm
January 1 st , 2017 (New Year's Day)	- 9:00am and 11:00am

ADVENT REFLECTION

"The one true God, 'the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,' is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes. He is a Father who never stops thinking of us and, in the extreme respect of our freedom, desires to meet us and visit us; he wants to come, to dwell among us, to stay with us. His 'coming' is motivated by the desire to free us from evil and death, from all that prevents our true happiness. God comes to save us." - Pope Benedict XVI

NEWLY ELECTED WARDENS

Congratulations and welcome **Francisco Henao and Marie-Therese Khairy**, our newly elected wardens. At the same time, we would like to extend our deep gratitude to **Rose de Souza** and **Elizabeth Machny**, for their valuable services to the parish as former wardens.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to donate money to buy Christmas flowers to beautify our Church, you can place the money in an envelope (marked Christmas flowers) and put it in the collection basket with your name and envelope number (for your income tax receipt at year end). Thank you for your generosity.

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS – During Advent, the Be My Disciples team will continue to sell the "tree ornaments" for \$2.00 each to benefit CHALICE and their many good works in various developing countries. During the week, there will be a basket at the front of the church. Please take an ornament and leave your payment. This year, you may take your ornament home with you and hang it up on your own tree or give it as a gift for a friend's tree. Thank you for your great generosity and support!

ENVELOPES FOR 2017 SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Envelopes for 2017 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (9 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording.** Thank you.

THE FOOD BANK "OASIS"

Please remember to bring non-perishable food and leave them in the bins at the doors of the church...Thank you.