

Kingdom Come: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Romans 15:4-9;
Matthew 3:1-12



"The kingdom of heaven is at hand," John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring.

The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today's Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today's First Reading and Psalm. He is the king's son, the son of David—a shoot from the root of Jesse, David's father (see Ruth 4:17).

He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit (see 2 Samuel 23:1; 1 Kings 1:39; Psalm 2:2), endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel—but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage.

In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham (see Genesis 12:3), renewed in God's oath to David (see Psalm 89:4,28), will be fulfilled in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever.

In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel's patriarchs, Paul tells us in today's Epistle. But no longer are God's promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in "the covenants of promise" (see Ephesians 2:12).

John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God's chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham (see Isaiah 51:1-2). Now, God will raise up living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5)—children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit.

This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings—making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
December 3rd – December 11th, 2016

Sat. Dec. 3rd 10:00 a.m.	Saint Francis Xavier In Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit – by the Kebe family
Sat. Dec. 3rd 4:30 p.m.	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Olga and Fawzi Bichai – RIP – by the family
Sun. Dec. 4th 9:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent Florence Gadwah – RIP – by Janet Prasad
11:00 a.m.	Damiano Durinzi – RIP – by the family
Mon. Dec. 5th	NO MASS
Tues. Dec. 6th 7:00 p.m.	Saint Nicholas Thanksgiving by the Castro-Lopez family
Wed. Dec. 7th 9:00 a.m.	Saint Ambrose Adoracion Buguis Borlaza – RIP – by Elena
Thurs. Dec. 8th 9:00 a.m.	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Elizabeth Csaki – RIP – by her loving family
Fri. Dec. 9th 9:00 a.m.	Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin Bill Yvorchuk – RIP – by the family
Sat. Dec. 10th 4:30 p.m.	Sunday Mass of Anticipation Sylvio Durinzi – RIP – by the family
Sun. Dec. 11th 9:00 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent Ada Boisvert – RIP – by Pauline
11:00 a.m.	Rodolfo Vinet – RIP – by Irene & Rene Vinet

Called Home To The Father

*Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Louis Ottoni**. May his soul and the
souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Collection:

November 27, 2016 - **\$2,566.64**

...Thank you for your generosity.



IF YOU ONLY HAVE 5 MINUTES...

- Take one minute to be quiet.
- Take one minute to thank God for something in your life.
- Take one minute to say sorry for something you regret.
- Take one minute to pray for another person.
- Take one minute to pray for yourself.

Then continue with your day knowing Jesus is with you.

HOLY HOUR

Every Friday, following the 9am mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for one hour of Holy Adoration, Rosary, silent prayer, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, concluding with Divine Praises and Benediction. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

SAINTLY WISDOM

“The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Love; It signifies Love, It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life.” - Saint Thomas Aquinas

NOTICE OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS: Warden Elections

The terms of our wardens Rose de Souza and Elizabeth Machny end December 31. Nominations of new wardens must be made at the meeting (which will be in the Parish Hall) on Sunday December 11, after the 11:00am Mass, at which the election will take place. A parish warden must live within the parish boundaries. He or she is a parishioner elected to be a director, or administrator, of the church corporation whose object is to acquire, possess, hold and administer property for the practice of the Roman Catholic religion. Therefore the warden is not a pastoral agent directing the spiritual and pastoral life of the parish. Professional or business experience and ability to work in a team are also important. A warden should be a Catholic in good standing with the Church and ideally have a track record of active involvement in the parish.

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – Saturday, December 17th. This event, put on by Be My Disciples and including all children, will remind us of the **real** meaning of Christmas. The Pageant will be held after the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend. Please bring non-perishable food items, or appropriately-marked gifts (gender and age) for OASIS.