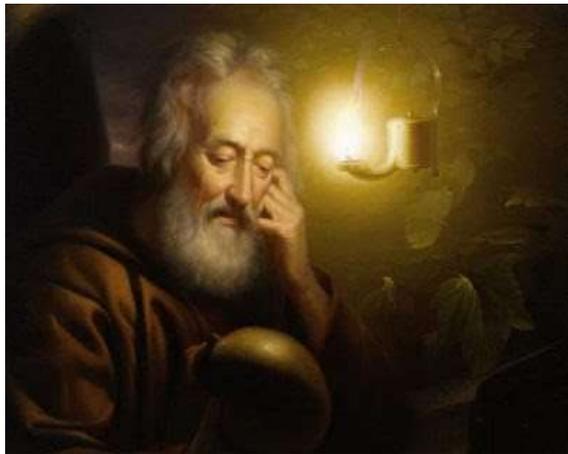


Watch for Him: Scott Hahn Reflects on the First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
Copyright 2017 www.salvationhistory.com

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 19 | Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Gospel: Mark 13:33-37



The new Church year begins with a plea for God's visitation. "Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down," the prophet Isaiah cries in today's First Reading.

In today's Psalm, too, we hear the anguished voice of Israel, imploring God to look down from His heavenly throne—to save and shepherd His people.

Today's readings are relatively brief. Their language and "message" are deceptively simple. But we should take note of the serious mood and penitential aspect of the Liturgy today—as the people of Israel recognize their sinfulness, their failures to keep God's covenant, their inability to save themselves.

And in this Advent season, we should see our own lives in the experience of Israel. As we examine our consciences, can't we, too, find that we often harden our hearts, refuse His rule, wander from His ways, withhold our love from Him?

God is faithful, Paul reminds us in today's Epistle. He is our Father. He has hearkened to the cry of His children, coming down from heaven for Israel's sake and for ours—to redeem us from our exile from God, to restore us to His love.

In Jesus, we have seen the Father (see John 14:8-9). The Father has let His face shine upon us. He is the good shepherd (see John 10:11-15) come to guide us to the heavenly kingdom. No matter how far we have strayed, He will give us new life if we turn to Him, if we call upon His holy name, if we pledge anew never again to withdraw from Him.

As Paul says today, He has given us every spiritual gift—especially the Eucharist and penance—to strengthen us as we await Christ's final coming. He will keep us firm to the end—if we let Him.

So, in this season of repentance, we should heed the warning—repeated three times by our Lord in today's Gospel—to be watchful, for we know not the hour when the Lord of the house will return.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
December 2nd – December 10th, 2017

Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Dec. 2nd	Weekday Joseph Daw – RIP – by the family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 2nd	Sunday Vigil Remedios Josue – RIP – by Emma, Edna and family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 1:00 a.m.	Dec. 3rd	First Sunday of Advent Deceased and Living Members of the Melo and Ponte families – by Maria Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda Rewers
Monday	Dec. 4th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 5th	Weekday Gisele Boisvert – RIP- by the Hebert family
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 6th	Saint Nicholas Carolynn Cornu – RIP-by Dona Hart
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 7th	Saint Ambrose Ofelia Roy – Safe Return Flight – by Jerry Roy
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 8th	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Peter and Ann Marie Leekam – RIP- by the family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 9th	Sunday Vigil Ricardo Timbol and Luisa Garcia – RIP – by the Garcia-Timbol family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 10th	Second Sunday of Advent Natividad Pasia – RIP – by the Kramer family Damiano Durinzi – RIP- by his sister

*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:
November 26, 2017 - **\$2,568.35**
Thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY MISSALS

The 2017-2018 Sunday Missals are available after every Mass. For those who would like to have a copy of their own, the cost is \$6.00 each. There is a collection plate beside the Missals for the people to put their money in.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS: Warden Elections

There will be Warden Elections on Sunday, December 10th, after the 11:00am mass. Nominations of new wardens must be made at the meeting (which will be in the Parish Hall) at which time 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 Tree Ornaments – Today, the first Sunday of Advent, young people from Be My Disciples will be at the doors of the church selling the “Christmas tree ornaments” to benefit CHALICE and their many good works in various developing countries. During Advent we will continue to sell the “tree ornaments” for \$2.00 each. During the week, there will be a basket at the front of the church. Please take an ornament and leave your payment. Please take your ornament home with you and hang it up on your own tree.

Please Keep The Date. The **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** will take place on Saturday, December 16th, immediately after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Thank you for your wonderful support!

CATHOLIC CALENDARS FOR 2018

The Ladies' Auxiliary will be selling the new calendars for 2018 starting this weekend of December 2-3. The price will be \$5.00 per calendar and will be for sale after every Mass. We are hoping to have your support to raise money for the child we support through Chalice and for the elevator fund. Please help us to make this project a success. Thank you.

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.

CATHOLIC ACTION MONTREAL

As you may know, Montreal's Catholic Community volunteer agency, Catholic Action Montreal, has re-vitalized the traditional approach to serving charitable causes. With both Bishop Lépine and Bishop Dowd as board members, the goal is to increase faith inspired charitable service. Montreal's English speaking Catholics have been a force in this city for almost two centuries, we are continuing this good work, and “serving our neighbour”. Check out their website www.catholicaction.ca , JOIN THE VOLUNTEER PORTAL, or catch up on their good work at their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/catholicaction.ca/> You may want to help our Asylum Seekers Project by contributing to our “GoFundMe” page: <https://www.gofundme.com/askingforasylum>. **Also note that starting in 2018 the Late Sunday Mass envelopes will be addressed to Catholic Action.** Pillars Trust has been acting on our behalf this year and we are grateful for their excellent work.