

In a Dark Hour: Scott Hahn Reflects on the First Sunday in Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Isaiah 2:1–5 | Psalm 122:1–9
Second Reading: Romans 13:11–14 | Gospel: Matthew 24:37–44



Jesus exaggerates in today's Gospel when He claims not to know the day or the hour when He will come again.

He occasionally makes such overstatements to drive home a point we might otherwise miss (see [Matthew 5:34; 23:9](#); [Luke 14:26](#)).

His point here is that the exact "hour" is not important. What is crucial is that we not postpone our repentance, that we be ready for Him—spiritually and morally—when He comes. For He will surely come, He tells us—like a thief in the night, like the flood in the time of Noah.

In today's Epistle, Paul too compares the present age to a time of advancing darkness and night.

Though we sit in the darkness, overshadowed by death, we have seen arise the great light of our Lord who has come into our midst (see [Matthew 4:16](#); [John 1:9](#); [8:12](#)). He is the true light, the life of the world. And His light continues to shine in His Church, the new Jerusalem promised by Isaiah in today's First Reading.

In the Church, all nations stream to the God of Jacob, to worship and seek wisdom in the House of David. From the Church goes forth His word of instruction, the light of the Lord—that all might walk in His paths toward that eternal day when night will be no more (see [Revelation 22:5](#)).

By our Baptism we have been made children of the light and day (see [Ephesians 5:8](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:5–7](#)). It is time we start living like it—throwing off the fruitless works of darkness, the desires of the flesh, and walking by the light of His grace.

The hour is late as we begin a new Advent. Let us begin again in this Eucharist.

As we sing in today's Psalm, let us go rejoicing to the House of the Lord. Let us give thanks to His name, keeping watch for His coming, knowing that our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
November 30th – December 8th, 2019

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Nov. 30th	Sunday Vigil Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 1st	First Sunday of Advent Thanksgiving by the Kramer family <i>Pro Populo</i>
Monday	Dec. 2nd	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 3rd	Saint Francis Xavier Fructouso and Zenona Lanzaderas – RIP – by the family
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 4th	Saint John Damascene Concetta Di Iorio – RIP – by Ron and Carolyn
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 5th	Weekday Joan Power and Jose Mourelo Sr. – Special Intentions – by Jose Mourelo Jr.
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 6th	Saint Nicholas Stanley Tait – RIP – by Linda Piper
Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Dec. 7th	Saint Ambrose Thanksgiving and Blessings - by Carlos and Marichus Miras and family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 7th	Sunday Vigil Ernie Morelli – RIP – by Frances and family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 8th	Second Sunday of Advent <i>Pro Populo</i> Ricardo Timbol and Luisa Garcia – RIP – by the Timbol-Garcia family

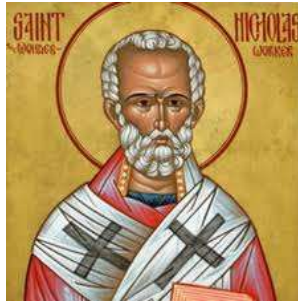
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.**

Collection:
November 24, 2019 - **\$2,664.65**
Thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY MISSALS

The 2019-2020 Sunday Missals are available starting November 24th, 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.

SAINT NICHOLAS



Little is known about the early life of Nicholas. In the early 4th century he was made bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey). Famous for his charity, he became the focus of popular cults and devotions in the early Middle Ages. He was so popular that he was chosen joint patron of Russia with Saint Andrew; he is also a patron of sailors and children. In many parts of the world, he still plays a role as Santa Claus.

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

CHRISTMAS TREE ornaments – On Sunday, December 1, the first Sunday of Advent, young people 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. Please buy some ornaments and contribute to the giving of hope to those in great need.

Christmas Pageant – Saturday, December 21st. This event is put on by Be My Disciples and includes all the children in the program. It 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 mark the date on your calendars! Thank you for your wonderful support!

HOLY HOUR



Silent adoration every Tuesday evening, following the 7:00pm mass (from 7:30pm to 8:30pm) Also, Adoration every Friday, following the 9:00am mass (from 9:30am to 10:30am). Come and spend some time with the Lord!

"Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace." - St.Alphonsus Ligouri

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.