

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

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: [Isaiah 11:1–10](#) | [Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17](#)
Second Reading: [Romans 15:4–9](#) | Gospel: [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 7th – December 15th, 2019

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
Monday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 9th	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Filippo Fortunato Di Iorio – RIP – by the family
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 10th	Weekday Damiano Durinzi – RIP – by his sister
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 11th	Saint Damasus I Nicholas and Ida Gang – RIP – by the family
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 12th	OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Antonio Sia and Apolonia Francisco – RIP – by the family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Dec. 13th	Saint Lucy Joan Power and Jose Mourelo Sr. – Special Intentions – by Jose Mourelo Jr.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Dec. 14th	Sunday Vigil Helen Annett – RIP – by her mom
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Dec. 15th	Third Sunday of Advent <i>Pro Populo</i> Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the 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:
December 1, 2019 - **\$2,373.10**
Thank you for your generosity.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 9th is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be a mass on **Monday, December 9th at 9am** to celebrate the great Marian solemnity.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

December 24th (Christmas Mass)	-8:00pm and 10:00pm
December 25th (Christmas Mass)	-11:00am
December 26 th (Weekday Mass)	-9:00am
December 27 th (Weekday Mass)	-9:00am
December 28 th (Holy Innocents)	-10:00am
(Sunday Vigil)	-4:30pm
December 29th (Sunday Mass)	- 9:00am and 11:00am
December 30 th (Weekday Mass)	-9:00am
December 31st (Mary Mother of God Mass)	- 4:30pm
January 1st, 2020 (Mary Mother of God Mass)	- 11:00am

*~Note: masses in **Bold**: Holy Days of obligation*

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

Operation Christmas Child - Thank you for filling up the “shoe boxes”! This year, our parish filled and sent out 127 boxes and backpacks and \$110.00 from separate donations (not money included in the boxes). Thanks to your great generosity and kindness, 127 children will be so happy to receive these gifts from caring strangers from across the world, “in the Name of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on this very SPECIAL Christmas Day. He will bring, PEACE, HOPE, FAITH AND LOVE during this very special time that is Christmas.” Thanks to everyone for all the ways that you have supported this wonderful project.

ADVENT CHRISTMAS TREE ornaments – Last Sunday, December 1, the first Sunday of Advent, a few parishioners were at the doors of the church selling the “Christmas tree ornaments” to benefit CHALICE and their many good works in various developing countries. Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$266.00! 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. During the week, there will be a basket at the entrances to the church. Please take an ornament and leave your payment. You may take your ornament home with you and hang it up on your own tree.

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 bring non-perishable food items, or appropriately-marked gifts by Sunday, December 15th (specify gender and age) for OASIS. Please mark the date on your calendars!

ENVELOPES FOR 2020 SUNDAY OFFERINGS

Envelopes for 2020 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.