

Thought for the week

1st Sunday of Advent

2nd December 2018

Advent. It is not a word that I use frequently in everyday conversation, but sometimes I might hear someone mention the ‘advent’ of the motor car, television, internet, antibiotics, space travel etc. It seems to get associated with the coming of events or things that have had a significant impact on our world.

As we enter the season of Advent we are encouraged to reflect on THE most significant event that has happened to our world: the coming of Jesus. God taking on our humanity, becoming like us, so that he could restore to us the dignity of being called his sons and daughters. Advent is partly about preparing ourselves to celebrate Christmas, remembering when Jesus entered the world as a baby in the Middle East. Today’s Gospel reminds us that we should also look forward and put as much, if not more, effort into preparing for his coming in glory at the end of time. That will be when Christ’s work is completed.

Jesus hasn’t deserted us while we await his second coming. There is a bridge that spans his coming in Bethlehem and his coming at the end of time: the Church, which is Christ’s body here on earth. The Church continues Jesus’ mission to bring all people to the Father as his children. As members of the Church we are committed to playing our part in fulfilling that mission. Advent is a time for us to reflect on Jesus coming into our lives each day so that as individuals, and as a parish, we are better equipped to bring Jesus into the lives of those who have yet to meet him. He has told us how to do it: *“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”* (Jn 13: 34-35)

“YES, I AM COMING SOON! AMEN! COME, LORD JESUS!

(Rev 22:20)

Deacon Brian