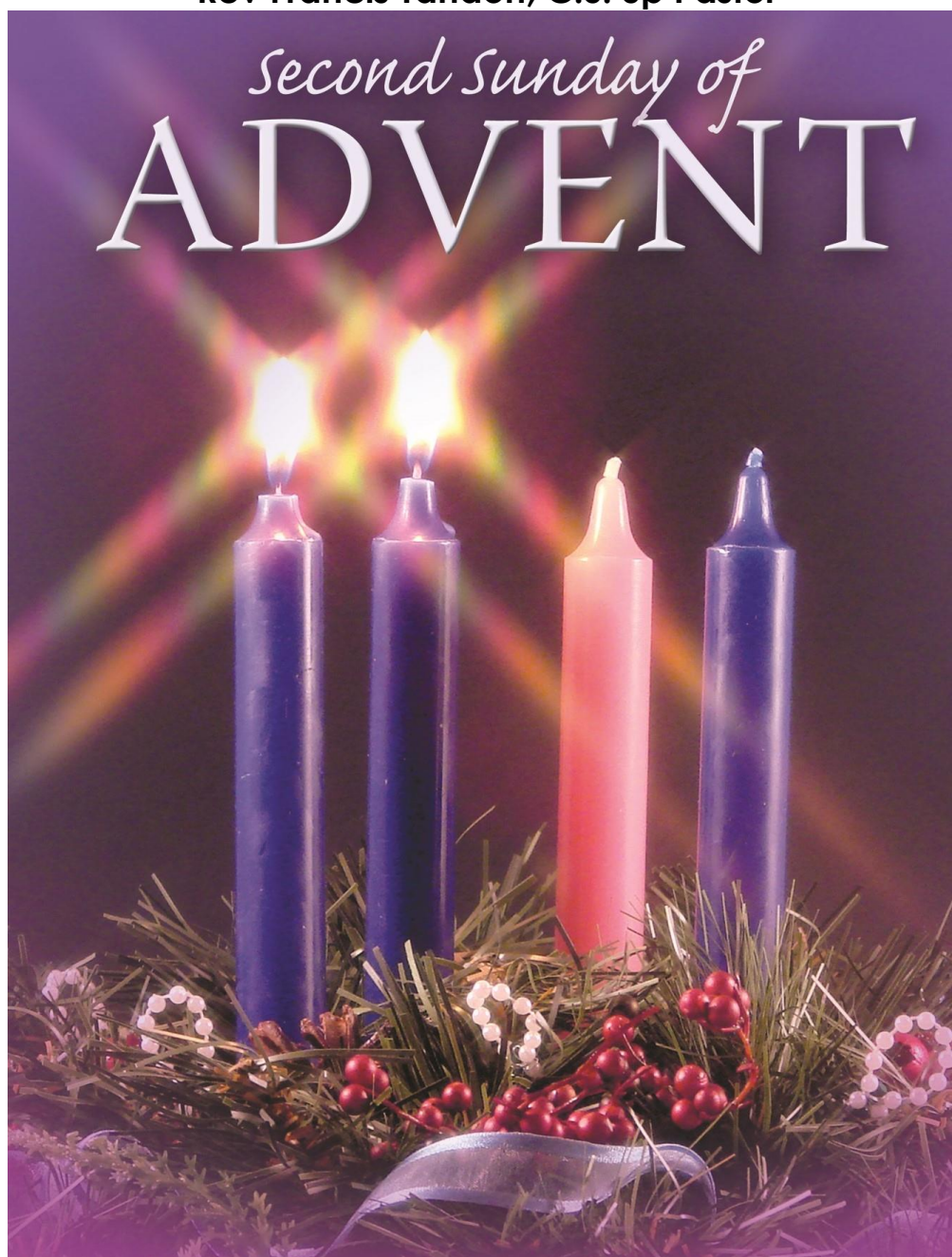


PASTORAL REGION ONE

United in Faith, Hope and Service to the Community
Rev Francis Tandoh, C.S. Sp Pastor



St. Augustine Church (SA)
6939 Weaver Road (Church)
Germantown OH 45327
937-855-2289
csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com

St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)
519 Liscum Dr.
Dayton, OH 45427
937-268-6697
info@unitedinhope.org

St. Mary Church (SM)
310 Allen St
Dayton, Oh 45410
937-256-5633
stmaryparish@stmarydayton.org

Dayton Hispanic Ministry Office
310 Allen St. Dayton OH 45410
937-258-1309

St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School
138 Gramont Ave.: 937-268-6391
www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org

Second Sunday of Advent -

PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp.

pastor@stmarydayton.org; pastor@unitedinhope.org

Hispanic Chaplain: Fr. Clement Uchando, C.S.Sp

Deacons: Kenneth Stewart (SA); William Saluke (SM)

Music Ministers:

[SA]: Denise Jasek

denisejasek@gmail.com

[SB] Myrtle Miliner

[SM] Kathy Maresca

kmaresca@twc.com

[SM] Jeff Hecht

Parish Administrators:

[SA] Fran Delegato

[SB] Janice Kwofie

admin@unitedinhope.org

[SM] Mark Bruggeman,

mbruggeman@stmarydayton.org

Admin. Assistants:

[SA] Sylvia Hess

[SM] Anita Wagner

awagner@stmarydayton.org

[SM] **Bookkeeper:** Fran Delegato

Regional Council Presidents:

Chair: Ken Marcellus **Vice:** Bonnie Doepker

Dayton Hispanic Ministry:

Director: Mary Alice Ordoñez

mordonez@catholiccinainnati.org

Admin. Assistant: Maria Leticia Castillo

Prayer Chains, Sacrament of the Sick

Weddings, Baptisms, RCIA/RCIC

Call the offices 937-256-5633, 937-268-6697

REGION ONE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

[SA] St. Augustine [SB] St. Benedict [SM] St. Mary

Dec 9 6pm [SM] Spanish Mass

Dec 10 6pm [SM] Spanish Mass

Dec 13 8:30am [SM] SM Parishioners

Dec 14 4:30 [SB] SB Parishioners

4:30pm [SM] Werner Bruggeman,
Pauline Centers

Dec 15 **3rd Sunday of Advent**

7am [SM] Spanish Mass

8:15am [SA] Ron Fetzer

9:45am [SM] Dan McQuality,
Fr. Bill Myers

11am [SB] SB Parishioners

1:15pm [SM] Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS PASTORAL REGION ONE:

[SA] St. Augustine [SB] St. Benedict; [SM] St. Mary

Mon 12/9 11am Prayer Group SB

6:30pm Fellowship of Work SM

Wed 12/11 7pm Bible Study SB

Sat 12/14 Regional Euch Minister workshop 1:30pm SB

Sun 12/15 10:45am Bible Study SMC

My sisters and brothers in the Lord,

Whether we formally call it a “vision” or not, each one of us has a vision. For example, when a couple gets married, they imagine life to go a certain way. They have a vision. When a child is born, parents imagine how they would like the child to grow up. They have a vision. When someone gets a new job, they imagine how the new role brings meaning and purpose to life. In very simple terms, a vision is how we think something should go long-term, and the effort we put to make it happen. Vision allows us to have a plan and then put our effort into making the vision a reality. Without a vision, we have nothing to look forward to.

The season of Advent reveals a vision. It’s about God’s vision for humanity. Advent is a time when we connect with God’s vision for the world. After all, it is God’s world.

1. God’s Vision for Jesus. Today’s first reading begins with the words: “On that day....” There is no better way to talk about vision than the words, “On that day....” What about “On that day?” “On that day,” God envisions through Isaiah, “a shoot shall spring from the stem of Jesse.” Jesse was king David’s father. The shoot Isaiah refers to is Jesus since Jesus was of the family of Jesse. On that day... On that day, when Jesus comes, “the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra’s den, and the child lay his hand on the adder’s lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, (Is 11:6-8). On that day... the world will look different that it is now. This is a powerful vision. Jesus came to make God’s vision a reality.

2. Our Invitation. The new vision coming into reality requires human cooperation. In today’s first reading, Isaiah also talks about the effort that must go into making God’s vision a reality. First of all, “the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him [Jesus]: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.” If you notice, this very spirit rests upon those who receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. In other words, the very spirit that rested upon Jesus with the gifts of Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety and Fear of the Lord, rests upon each one of us who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. In fact, as the gospel tells us, Jesus has baptized us with the Holy Spirit and fire. If this is true, then God’s vision for each one of us is to replicate what Jesus was and did for the world. God vision becomes a reality because we cooperate with God. There are two dangers to avoid: the danger to draw a vision contrary to God’s vision; and, the danger to work contrary to God’s

St. Augustine, St. Benedict the Moor & St. Mary Churches: Pastoral Region One Dec 8, 2019

vision. For example, when our vision for our families, our parish, our country or our world exclude gospel values, then, we draw a vision very different than God's. The danger of working contrary to God's vision is also real. In our families and in our world, when we fail to work for reconciliation, peace, goodness, compassion, and love, then we work contrary to the vision revealed by Isaiah in today's first reading. Here is the practical implication of this point: Advent is a time for us to align our vision with God's vision for us and for the world. Not to do so is the hamper God's vision from becoming a reality.

3. Advent: A time to Produce "Good Fruit." How can we bring God's vision to fruition? The gospel reading gives us the path. There were people coming to John the Baptist. He called them "brood of vipers." These were people working contrary to God's vision. The no-nonsense John lays out God's vision for them and the effort they must put into make God's vision take reality. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." Here, then, is what Advent is all about - producing good fruit. Wherever Jesus went, the ripple effect was good. Wherever he went, he only brought hope, comfort, life, and good. Yes, there were people who felt uncomfortable in his presence - the proud, the arrogant, the mighty, the corrupt. But his own actions only produced comfort and hope. The Spirit of God given to us must bear fruit in us. Let us produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance.

We are not only given the Holy Spirit but in the Eucharist we are also given the Body and Blood of Christ. With Christ in our heart, let us produce good fruit as evidence of our repentance. Fr. Satish Joseph

PRAY FOR OUR PARISH MILITARY MEMBERS

TSgt Timothy Scott Marcum, USAF; SSgt Justin Bentley, USAF; SrA Matthew Bauer, USAF; CPT Brian Hargis, US Army; SSG Lynn Jones, US Army; Saundra Ann Morrell, USN; Ronald Morrell Pruitt, US Army, Capt. Andrew J. Konicki, USMC.; SSgt Christopher DeWitt, USAF, Sgt Alex Zavas, US Army, US Army; PFC Michael V. Jackson, US Army, PVT Corey Taylor, US Army, Com. Ryan Jonathan Logan, USN, SGT Stephanie Lewis, US Army, SrA Candice Smith, USAF, EOD3 Aaron R. Gorby, USN; Davion A. Redd, USCG, SSgt Jennifer Wagner, USAF, LCpl Jacob Deis, USMC, Dwight Stout GM1, USN, SHSN Angelica Tomlinson, USN, PFC Mark Rimkus Jr, USMC, Kyle Gerspacher, USAF

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR PARISHES

A "Hearty Welcome" to all new members. Please call the church offices 268-6697 (St. Benedict) 256-5633 (St. Mary) or 855-2289 (St. Augustine) to register. Please notify the offices when moving or of any change in address. This will help us update our census information.

IS YOUR ESTATE IN ORDER?

If so, please remember St. Augustine, St. Benedict and St. Mary Churches. It is through the generosity of individuals like yourself who name our parishes in their will that the parishes continue to thrive and will do so for many years to come. Thank you

ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS OF REGION 1 ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A WORKSHOP ON 12/14. IT WILL BE HELD AT ST. BENEDICT FROM 1:30 UNTIL 3:30pm. THIS TRAINING IS MANDATED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE.

ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH NEWS

Thank you to the group who cut all the greens and put together our beautiful advent wreath and streamers with advent candles. Each year it is more breathtaking. Thank you so much!

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Nov 24 \$1485 CCHD: \$139 Cath Ed: \$25
Dec 1 \$1351 CCHD: \$30 Cap Imp: \$100

ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 15 Lectors: Children's Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Ken & Susie Stewart, Patrick Barnett, Kelsey Heistand, Stephanie Tozzi, Linda Moore, Sylvia Hess, Frank Kozarec

Ushers: Don Hoog, Richard Dillon, Ray Metzger

Servers: Tyler Craft, Kiersten Fornshell, Grayson Rozelle

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins: Toni Moore, and Robert Schell.

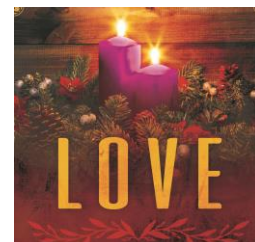
ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL/PARISH NEWS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Nov 30: \$385.40 2nd Coll: \$32
Dec 1: \$3813 2nd \$854 SVDP: \$130 St B School: \$335

ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

To fulfill the joy of the Christmas season you are invited to attend the school's free Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. Hope you'll be able to attend!



Second Sunday of Advent -

ST. BENEDICT MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DEC 15 – 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reader: Judy Baker; 2nd Reader: Rita Ellicott;
Petitions: Deacon Ken; Ushers: Priscilla Ikharebha, Jerome Johnson, Naomi Underwood, Cyndi Hayes
Extraordinary Ministers: Tracy Henderson, Janice Allen, Mary O'Basuyi, Derek Arnold(R); Robin Craft-Bell, Victor O'Basuyi, Emmett Orr, Susan Smith (L)



PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED SICK of SB

In our prayers, let us remember those in need of the Lord's healing mercy, especially: Brenda Lewis, Mae Wilkerson, Kenneth Bronston, Zadie Buckner, Mary Helen Spanish, Lora Singleton, Jessie Campbell, Betty Jones, Pat Bell, Janis Lowery, Myrtle Truitt, Susie Roberts, Marilyn Armstrong, Angelina Martin, Ralph Reid, Clark Taylor, Nancy Green, Gregory Webster, Sr., n, Inell Johnson, Joseph Clements, Jerome Johnson.

IN THE NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING FROM ST. BENEDICT AND ST. MARY PARISHES

Eddie Weaver Mary Scott
Roberta Hickman Heartland of Kettering

ST. MARY PARISH NEWS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Dec 1 \$2800.50 Cap Imp: \$80 SVDP: \$482
Rel Ret: \$10 CCDH: \$35 Christmas Flowers: \$280

ST. MARY CARING TREE

The Food Pantry is also asking for donations of \$10 Kroger gift cards to give to our Caring Tree applicants. We need 100 cards. You can still drop them in the collection basket at Mass or drop them at the parish office during the week. Thank you!!

ST. MARY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 14 4:30pm

[S] Patty Stevens, John Ebel
[L] Bonnie Doepker, Mary Galloway
[E] Jayme & Bill Budde, Jim & Marilyn Buerschen, Sue Dempsey

Dec 15 9:45am

[S] Mark Bruggeman
[L] Julie Moorman, Russ Willoughby
[E] Ed Camacho, Sabrina Furlow, Jo North, Greg & Michele Sisson

CRECHE CONSTRUCTION

The St. Mary Fellowship of Work has begun the process of erecting the Nativity in Church. The work continues each Monday evening at 6:45pm until Dec. 23. We welcome ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET!!!

ST. MARY FOOD PANTRY OCT REPORT

Food given: 284 families equaling 723 individuals
Clothing vouchers: 11 families - 14 adults 17 children
Partial payments for utility bills: 7 families - \$513
Additional food purchases - \$2030
Non food item purchases - \$1105
Volunteer hours: 603



REGION ONE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 9 Celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception 9pm Spanish Mass **SM** – NOT a holy day of obligation
Dec 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 7pm Sp. Mass **SM**
Dec 17 Penance Service for St. Benedict & St. Mary 6:30pm **held at SB**
Dec 18 Rosary followed by Penance Service 6:30pm **SA**
Dec 22 Posada held in Beckmeyer Hall following 1:15pm Spanish Mass **SM**
Dec 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
Mass 4pm **SA**
Christmas Carols 4pm followed by Mass 4:30pm **SM**
Spanish Mass 7pm **SM**
Christmas Carols 10pm followed by Mass 10:30pm **SM**
Mass 10:30pm **SB**
Dec 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
Mass 9am **SM**
Mass 10:30am **SB**
THERE IS NO MASS AT ST. AUGUSTINE ON CHRISTMAS DAY. THERE IS NO SPANISH MASS AT ST. MARY ON CHRISTMAS DAY.
Dec 31 Spanish Mass pm **SM**
Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
REGIONAL MASS FOR ALL THREE PARISHES WILL BE HELD AT ST. BENEDICT AT 11am

OTHER AREA HAPPENINGS
LIVE NATIVITY

AT THE MANGER: "A LABOR OF LOVE"

At the Manger, the free annual exhibit of Nativity scenes in the University of Dayton Libraries, is a great way to celebrate Advent and the Christmas season. Individuals and families can explore dozens of crèches from around the world, all selected by the volunteers who work year-round to prepare the exhibit.

- **Dates:** Dec. 2-Jan. 12
- **Weekday hours:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1)
- **Weekend hours:** 1-4 p.m. (closed Dec. 28-29 and Jan. 4-5)
- **Location:** University of Dayton Roesch Library (first-floor gallery and the Marian Library, seventh floor)
- **Parking, directions and other information:** go.udayton.edu/manger
- **Group tours and special arrangements:** 937-229-4214

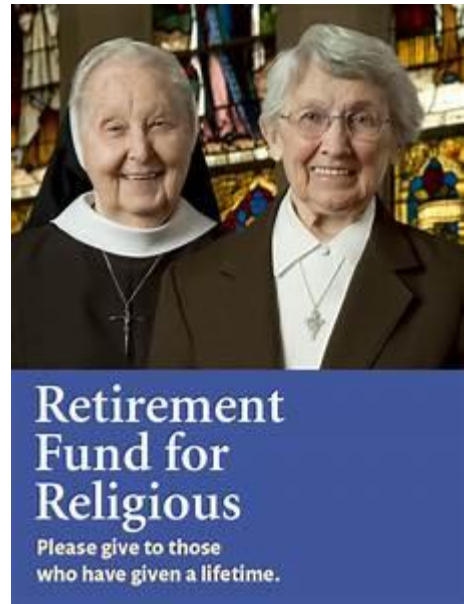
BASEBALL YOUTH CLINIC

Bishop Fenwick will be hosting a Holiday Girls VOLLEYBALL Youth Camp on Monday and Tuesday, December 30-31, 2019. Come train with the 2019 Girls Volleyball State Champs! Grades 3-6 will train from 10:00 am to noon and Grades 7-8 from 12:30 to 3:00 pm. To register go to www.fenwickssports.org. This two-day comprehensive clinic will focus primarily on serving, passing, setting and hitting mechanics. Fee is \$60 for 3rd-6th grade and \$75 for 7th-8th grade. For questions please call 513-423-0724. We look forward to working with you!



COME AND SEE SANTA

Santa will be coming to Bishop Fenwick High School on Friday, December 13th from 5:30 - 7:00 pm, sponsored by our Falcons Youth Club. Join Santa and Mrs. Claus for Cocoa & Cookies before our varsity basketball game. Crafts and refreshments provided. Please register at: fenwickfalcons.org/falcons-youth-club. If you have questions, please call 513.428.0525.



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS,

Support aging religious. Our second collection today is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE
GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
JESUS IS HEADED YOUR WAY**

One day, we heard the news that a possible tornado was heading our way. We live off of a highway, and it was traveling along that very road. My wife and kids huddled in the downstairs bathroom. Not many tornadoes surface in North Carolina, so our children were particularly worried because it was something they had never contemplated happening before. The tornado never did come into our neighborhood, but it did cause one our sons to express that he needed to go to Confession as soon as possible. He hadn't done anything too over the top sinful, but

Second Sunday of Advent -

coming face-to-face with a tornado had cause him to have some second thoughts about his preparedness for meeting God. Hopefully, a tornado doesn't make a path through your city or town this Advent.

Sometimes, reminders of our mortality find their way into life. The passing of a loved one, a car accident, or a health scare can all cause us to reflect on where we are in our relationship with God. Without those moments, we can find ourselves living daily without a mindfulness of where God is in our life and if our actions are pleasing to Him or if they drag us further away into the world.

Advent is the time to take inventory of where we are with God. How are we living as good stewards and mature disciples? What do I need to make amends for in the healing power of the sacrament of Penance? A tornado may not be coming, but Jesus will be returning someday. Hopefully, you will run outside of your home to meet him, and he won't find you huddled up afraid in your bathroom. *Tracy Earl Welliver*

GOSPEL MEDITATION – ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE



What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today's Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we "earn" our worth by adhering to the right doctrines and following the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist's words to them are strong. *"Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.'"* Of course, Jesus (and John) don't omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. *"Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance ... every tree that does not*

bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

It's a question of attitude. Of disposition. It's a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it's John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. *"The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals."* The Pharisees take pride in being "better" than others. John embraces humility in Christ being "better" than him. We don't self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we'll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his "Life of Christ": "Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity." God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

