

## Pastor's Column

### **“Prepare the Way of the Lord!”**

As we continue to journey through this Season of Advent, we are mindful that we are a people of “the Second Coming.” We are a people waiting for the return of Jesus, God’s “Word Made Flesh.” The One who once came to us as the babe in Bethlehem is to return as the Prince of Peace who will bind all our wounds and bring all things to their final end.

Advent is meant to remind us to ready for this Return. We do not know the day or the hour, so each day is a new challenge to be prepared so that we are blameless in the sight of the Lord.

In these days, we are challenged to ask ourselves, “How do I wait? What keeps me busy? Where do I expend my time, my talent, and my treasure? How do I prepare the way of the Lord?”

Spending time in reflection and prayer answering these questions will help us to fruitfully and joyfully celebrate the Feast of the Incarnation, Christmas, in which we remember the first coming of Jesus, as the babe in Bethlehem.

This year we have scheduled our Parish Mission in the midst of Advent to help all of us prepare for the “Day of the Lord.” Yes, it is a busy time of year, but the question remains: “With what are you busy?” As in so many areas of our lives, it is about making choices and setting priorities.

Mark Price will lead us, through dramatic, theatrical presentations of biblical persons (Simon Peter and Joseph), to come closer to Jesus and to know more intimately the One whose return we await.

Mark is speaking at all the Masses this weekend to introduce us to the Mission. The Mission itself will be Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm on the upper level

The Mission is for everyone, young and old. Families are not only invited, but also encouraged to attend. Regular Religious Education Classes on Sunday have been cancelled. In their place, we have scheduled the Mission for that evening. What a wonderful opportunity for the family to be as one and to celebrate Advent together!

On this Second Sunday of Advent, with John the Baptist we cry out: ***“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths!”***

*F. Mike*