

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT:C 2024.

WATCH AND PRAY:

The readings today are too frightening and disturbing indeed especially the first and the gospel.They talk of destructions and sufferings and the end of the world,yet they contain **message of hope.**

Jeremiah(33 :14-16),people of Judah looking back to their history of kings,they see a line of **failures except king David** and they longed for those moments.All of us we have a president,leader whom we long for in our generation. Juda were desperate with what they were undergoing so too many people are disappointed with some of their political,church leaders.Jeremiah assure them there will be **new bud on that family** tree of David and he will be the messiah.There will be **a new beginning,someone greater than David.**we feel too sometimes like that,desperate,giving up, yet this reading gives us new flesh beginning.

Our lord in the gospel(Lk 21:25-28,34-36) is speaking not only about the end of the world but also describing ***a beginning,the final establishment of new redeemed creation.***When all seems collapse,they will see the son of man **coming in great power and glory.**The old world has to give way to the new world.The old had to be cleared away.This is a **message of hope as we begin the new season of the liturgical year. Time for new beginning.**

Advent is a season of **preparation for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.**It is a season of **watchfulness and adjustment** as we wait with **confidence and hope.**There are two fold aspects of advent,**preparation of his birth Christmas and preparation for his**

second coming. Jesus always comes to us in different moments within our life hence this should not shock us, Christ is always with us when **praying(Where two or three are gathered in my name am in their midst),in scripture,in all the sacraments especially Eucharist(This is my Body)** he is present in those who are **suffering and persecuted**(paul.paul why are you persecuting me.our Lord is always with us in all the moment,he is **Emmanuel,God with us**)not a god in the skies,but with us accompanying us in all,our activities. This is the person we are called to prepare this season.How are you preparing for his coming this advent? We are called today to be **participants not watchers in our preparations.we are called to be his witness in our current world,we are called to illuminate our dark world with our actions,by caring,loving one another we are reminded of the coming of messiah with power and glory which will bring,wisdom and justice.**we must live life worthy our calling like the Thesolonians (1 13:12-4:2).we must eliminate **selfishness, egoism,hatred** and reach out to others especially,the poor and the magnilised in our society.

The call is so loud and clear for this first Sunday of advent,***to be witness in our wounded world,bring Hope in the midst of despair,love in the midst of indifference,be channels of peace in the midst of hatred and give life in the midst of death.****This is our call this advent.*

(NB.Incase you wouldn't like to be receiving these reflections as we begin this liturgical year,kindly feel free to let me know)