

My Dear Parishioners,

Praised be Jesus Christ and Happy New Year! On this first weekend of our new Church Year, I share with you first words of Jesus as recorded in Mark's Gospel 1:15: ***"This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and Believe in the Gospel."***

Certainly the words ***"Fulfillment"*** and ***"At Hand"*** resonant in this Season of Advent: Jesus is at hand, the fulfillment of every human heart! Alleluia! But the verbs ***"Repent"*** and ***"Believe"*** call forth our attention as well and even more our action! While the word "believe" is common in this season, we are foolish to overlook the word "repent". So a word on this word!

The word "Repent" is a significant. Not only is it the first word of Jesus to us but it is the doorway to salvation. In fact, we cannot fully believe without first repenting. To repent is to recognize our need. And it's only in recognizing our need for God that we can receive Him!

Consider the beauty of Paragraph 1432 from the Catechism. Does this not resonant in you?

"The human heart is heavy and hardened. God must give man a new heart. Conversion is first of all a work of the grace of God who makes our hearts return to him: "Restore us to thyself, O LORD, that we may be restored!" God gives us the strength to begin anew. It is in discovering the greatness of God's love that our heart is shaken by the horror and weight of sin and begins to fear offending God by sin and being separated from him. The human heart is converted by looking upon him whom our sins have pierced:


Let us fix our eyes on Christ's blood and understand how precious it is to his Father, for, poured out for our salvation it has brought to the whole world the grace of repentance."

My friends, as this Season of Advent begins and we ready ourselves to see God. Let us allow His closeness to shake us – wake us -- out of our sluggishness and into faith!

Peace,
Fr. Rogers

ADVENT CONFESSION SERVICES


- Monday, December 11: 7:00 PM St. Maximillian, West Chester
- Thursday, December 14: 7:00 PM Sacred Heart, Oxford
- Tuesday, December 19: 11AM & 7PM St. Cornelius, Chadds Ford
- Thursday, December 21: 7:00 PM St. Patrick, Kennett Square



St. Patrick Parish
Rosary
Sunday Evenings
7:00 PM
via Zoom

To join us online visit www.zoom.us. Select Join and enter
Webinar ID: 859 4073 5946
Passcode: stpatsksq

Additional login details and to submit your prayer requests
can be found on the parish website.



Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule

Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 7 at 5:00PM

Friday, December 8 at
7:30AM, 9:00AM, and 12:00PM

236