



COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES

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Online Resource

Whispers of God: Humbly seek and find 2nd Sunday Advent - Year B



Prepare a way in the wilderness (Is 40)

Points for prayer – Sunday scripture

*Radiant in a waring world
May greed not impede us
Let every valley be filled in
Gathering lambs in his arms
Justice and mercy have embraced
Our Earth shall yield its fruit
Not slow to carry out promises
Wanting nobody to be lost
The Lord will come like a thief
Living holy and saintly lives
The new Heavens and the new Earth
Prepare the way of the Lord
Beginning of the Good News
Proclaiming a baptism of repentance
Baptise you with the Holy Spirit*

Fully human

The human fully alive is the glory of God said St Irenaeus. Growth for the human person means embracing our God given physical, mental and spiritual self. As a person moves through the stages of life – childhood, adolescence, young adult, maturity, wisdom and old age – they mature. It is to God's pleasure that every person has the chance to grow to fulfilment. This is our human calling.

By developing our individual, God-given capacities, an ecological conversion can inspire us to greater creativity and enthusiasm. Pope Francis Laudato Si' #220

Advent season

Advent is a time of being awake, preparing ourselves as human beings to welcome the coming of God with us - *Emmanuel*. If we want to be a sports person we have to train, put in the hours and the effort. Likewise, if we want to be a spiritual person we have to do the exercises. Hearing the Baptist's call we prepare the way. Choosing to act out of goodness and searching for meaning in life takes effort.

Prayers of the faithful

1. Our Bodies – Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. That we care for our physical health and use our bodies with respect ... we pray
2. Desires – God gave us both mind and feeling. That we temper our desires and imagine ways to be fully alive human beings ... we pray
3. Relationships – God's made us as loving social beings. That we relate to others with justice and compassion ... we pray
4. Greed – Scripture warns against the lure of money. That we curb the greed that pushes us into frantic lifestyles and exploiting Earth ... we pray
5. Common Good – God promises a new Heaven and Earth. That we be active in forming government policies carrying hope for the common good ... we pray

Caroline Chisholm (1808-1877)

On her grave stone are the words *The Emigrant's Friend*. She was a wife, convert and mother of six. Born in England she arrived in Australia with her husband in 1838. A familiar figure on the wharves she helped settle immigrant girls. She moved around the country to settle families on farms. Back in England she lobbied the House of Lords for better conditions for Australian settlers. Working closely with her husband she returned to Australia 1854-1866 setting up employment agencies. <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/chisholm-caroline-1894>

Action

- Find a style of prayer that suits your personality www.heartoflife.abundance.org.au
- Volunteer with the Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office www.acmro.catholic.org.au

Mission's wide embrace

(by) renewed encounter with God's love ... we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human. Pope Francis Joy of the Gospel #8

St Columbans Mission Society
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