



COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES

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Online Resource

Whispers of God: Humbly seek and find 3rd Sunday Advent - Year B



Hold on to what is good (1 Th 5)

Points for Prayer – Sunday scripture

*Await the birthday of Christ
Earth rejoices
Look forward with longing
Spirit of the Lord given me
Sent to bring good news
The cloak of integrity
In the sight of the nations
My soul rejoices in my God
Fills the starving with good
Be happy at all times; pray
Never suppress the Spirit
Lord will not fail you
Witness, speak for the light*

Ordinary

Generation Y (16-30 year olds) are under pressure to value the individual, consumption and global pluralism. What seemed like ordinary family and work values a few years back have to be reformulated. It means effort and negotiating. Advent offers a time to make a special effort in listening and reflection to seek what is good for us, those around us and our world. We pause; we decide on values important to us; we act.

... dare to turn what is happening in the world into our own personal suffering and thus discover what each of us can do about it. Pope Francis Laudato Si' #19

7 Day retreat

The Readings for Masses from 17-24th December can be used as a 7 day retreat. Genesis and the Prophets offer us the big picture. The human calling is compared to a love affair with God in the Song of Songs. Nature images for meditation are plentiful. The promises offered us in the birth of Jesus lead us to sing with Mary the Great Magnificat in praise of what God has done for us.

Prayers of the faithful

1. Family – Jesus grew up in the family of Nazareth. That we will look for the presence of God in the loving actions of our families ... we pray
2. Work – Jesus called his disciples when they were workers. That we work well knowing that this is our gifted moment in human history ... we pray
3. Sickness – Jesus cared for the sick. That we will accept sickness and being 'bent out of shape' as chances to grow as human and spiritual people ... we pray
4. Service – Jesus came to serve, not to be served. That we look for chances to serve others as catechists or in a local service club ... we pray
5. Celebration – Jesus joined in the joy of the Feast of Cana. That we plan Christmas as a time of shared celebration and not busy competition ... we pray

Karl Rahner

Karl was born in Germany 1904 and joined the Jesuits. A philosopher and theologian his studies ranged from patristics to mysticism. In some 4,000 written works over his life time he probed the truth until his death in 1984. Even though facing censorship he was appointed an advisor to Vatican II by Pope John XXIII (along with friends Congar, de Lubac and Chenu). His Theological Investigations explored God as Mystery and God's self-communication but always with a dedicated pastoral eye.

Action

- Join the local St Vincent de Paul Society or Catholic Youth Ministry
- Join Marriage Encounter or teach catechism in a State school.

Mission's wide embrace

The Church which "goes forth" is a community of missionary disciples ... gets involved by word and deed in people's daily lives; it bridges distances ... thus take on the "smell of the sheep" ... celebrates at every small victory. Pope Francis Joy of the Gospel #24

St Columbans Mission Society
www.columban.org.au

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