

Stewardship Messages for Advent 2017

Option 1 messages come from the International Catholic Stewardship Council

Option 2 messages come from Dr. Jerry Martinez

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First Sunday of Advent

“Be watchful! Be alert.” Mark 13:33

The season of Advent is upon us, and in today’s Gospel, Jesus delivers a simple message through the pen of St. Mark: “Be watchful! Be alert!” Christian stewards understand what Jesus meant when he said, “It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task.” Good stewards realize that to each one a task is assigned by God. They have been set in a particular place and station in life, and have been gifted with unique relationships. How do we respond to the tasks or honor our relationships in a way that keeps us alert for the return of Christ?

...OR...

“What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’” (Mark 13:33-37)

Watch Out! Don’t cry or pout. He’s making a list and checking it twice so he’s gonna find out who is naughty or nice. He sees you when you’re sleeping and he knows when you’re awake. He knows who is bad or good, so be good for goodness sake. Have you figured out who “HE” is? There is going to be a celebration of his birth, including singing and eating and drinking. People will visit family and friends and exchange gifts, some of great value and usefulness. Do you know who HE is? It is JESUS, of course! The First Sunday of Advent is the beginning of a brief time for us to reflect on the incredible miracle and mystery of God Incarnate, God become man. It is a time for us to contemplate why the God who created us became one of us. His unconditional, unlimited love for us is certainly one reason. The celebration, the food, and the gifts are nice. But spending time to comprehend the magnitude of God’s love for us is the real purpose of Advent. That is a gift we can give to God who created us and became one of us.