

Stewardship Messages for Advent 2017

Option 1 messages come from the International Catholic Stewardship Council

Option 2 messages come from Dr. Jerry Martinez

December 9/10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

***“Do not ignore this one fact. Beloved, that with the Lord,
one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like one day.”*** (2 Peter 3:8)

Today’s second reading is about Christ coming again, “The day of the Lord,” Peter calls it, but that day isn’t December 25th. It’s that other day, the second-coming-day about which Peter is concerned. He waits with great hope and anticipation for God to remake the earth into a place of perfect justice and peace. And he sets some demanding goals for the Christian community as it awaits the final day of accounting and reconciliation: strive to be at peace, without spot or blemish. Christian stewards work for peace. As we await the coming of Christmas, what can we do to promote peace in our homes, workplaces, community, world?

...OR...

***A voice of one crying out in the dessert” “Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.”*** (Mark 1:1-8)

The comment we often hear when someone is acting silly or goofy is, “Oh, that is just George (or whatever the person’s name) being George.” We can wonder what Elizabeth or Zachariah said when people told them that their son was living in the dessert, wearing a camelhair shirt and leather belt and eating locust and wild honey. Did they say, “Oh, that’s just John being John.” If so, they were right. John was being who and what God created him to be – a messenger sent by God to prepare the way of the Lord by making straight his path and calling people to repent for their sins. John had accepted his role and mission in life. He knew he was not the Messiah but that he was to prepare the way for the Messiah. He may have dressed a little strange and eaten an unusual diet, but he did what God created him to do. Are we doing what God created us to do? Are we preparing the way for the Lord, at least the way for the Lord to come into our heart?”