Praying through the week 2nd December 2024 Prayer for First Sunday of Advent

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Matthew 24:37

"For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of man" (Matthew 24: 37)

Jesus' warning to his disciples, and to us, to be prepared for when he comes again. But as we approach Jesus' first Advent, His first coming, how are we preparing ourselves to welcome Him? Perhaps it might help to:

- Look back on and pray about the year that is passing the things we have done for the Lord and for each other and the things we have failed to do. Perhaps here, now, talk to the Lord about things you regret, missed opportunities to serve Him and others. A prayer for forgiveness? And a prayer of thankfulness for those moments when reflecting His grace, we have served others.
- Reflect on, praise and give thanks for those moments when we knew Jesus was right beside us, surrounding us with his peace, courage, and love.
- ➤ During these weeks of Advent 2024, as we prepare to welcome Jesus again into our hearts, perhaps reflect on the year ahead, the hopes and good things we are longing for God to do in our lives; the opportunities for loving and serving Jesus and each other and our communities; a deepening sense of His comforting presence in our sad times; perhaps a prayer for opening, loving, listening hearts?

As each evening draws near, and we continue to wait for the coming of the Lord, would it be good to find a quiet space and time to give thanks and praise to God as we allow the story of Jesus' coming birth to penetrate our hearts, minds and souls? And perhaps transform us? Pat

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