

1ST WEEK OF ADVENT, November 29, 2015
"The Advent stories show us lives lived on the edge".
- Sr, Fran Ryan, DC

READINGS:

Jeremiah, 33, 4-16; Psalm 25; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 ; Gospel Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

The Readings are rich with passages expressing the 'coming of the Lord' in the Old Testament, Jeremiah, the beautiful words of St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians as well as 'The coming' from the words of Jesus in the New Testament. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy". "Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength.."

REFLECTION:

My eyes caught in the readings for Advent as I meditated upon them, and remembered the words from Father Gregory Gay, CM, Superior General to the Vincentian Family these beautiful lines:

"That is why, I believe, the Church gives us Advent, in seasons of change, It reminds us of God's enduring love. Through the Incarnation of Jesus, God, Who assures us of His abiding Presence in our world. In Jesus, we have a God Who always accompanies us in times of light and darkness; in the settled center and uncertain edges of our lives. Yet, it is on the edge, ' the outer limits' of Life, that the Lord Jesus is often revealed to us."

-Fr. Gregory Gay. C. M. (Advent, 2011)

PRAYER:

In the readings of Jeremiah, he shows us "the days are coming, says the Lord". We see the genealogy in the haunting words: "I will raise up for David a just shoot; He shall do what is right". St. Paul points out what we can do in Advent to deepen our lives "on the edge" by saying "strengthen your hearts; be blameless in holiness before our God, at the coming of our Lord Jesus." Jesus assures us in the Gospel 'to be vigilant and wait.

TRY THIS TODAY:

In the 'uncertain edges of our lives" this Advent, choose just ' one Practice' in your Prayer.