

# 堂區通訊

卡城永援聖母堂  
暨華人天主教牧民中心

電話 403-265-7926 傳真 403-234-8480

電子郵件 olph@telus.net

堂區辦事處時間  
星期二至星期五  
上午 10 時至下午 4 時

主任司鐸

阮明聰神父

鄺維揚執事

林偉良執事

堂區牧民議會主席

何漢輝

Website 網址

www.myolph.org



# Bulletin

Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Catholic Church

400 Edmonton Trail N.E. Calgary, Alberta  
Canada T2E 3S4

Tel 403-265-7926

Fax 403-234-8480

Email olph@telus.net

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Pastor

Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Deacon John Wu

Deacon Edward Lam

Parish Pastoral Council Chairman

Arthur Ho

December 3, 2017 二零一七年十二月三日

First Sunday of Advent

將臨期第一主日

Last Sunday Collection

上主日奉獻

\$3,030



彌撒時間

主日彌撒

星期六 下午五時 國語主日提前彌撒

星期日上午八時三十分英語彌撒

上午十時英/粵語彌撒

上午十一時三十分中文彌撒

平日彌撒

星期一至星期六上午九時

公唸玫瑰經及敬禮聖母英語彌撒

星期二晚上 6 時 30 分

Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass

Saturday : 5:00 pm Mandarin mass

Sunday : 8:30 a.m. English Mass

10:00 a.m. Bi-lingual Mass (English and Chinese)

11:30 am Cantonese mass

Weekday Mass

Monday to Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Rosary and English Marian Devotion mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
1st Saturday of each month 10:00 a.m.

顯供聖體

每月首個星期六 上午十時



## Theme Sharing



### A Christian's Vigilance

(First Sunday of Advent)

The liturgical theme of the First Sunday of Advent is on the second coming of Christ. In the gospel, Jesus portrays himself as a man going on a journey. Before he leaves home, he entrusts his servants with different tasks. He makes no mention as to when he will return, because he wants them to be vigilant, to be ready. However, we should bear in mind that the essence of vigilance on the part of a Christian is not fear of death but rather trust in the Lord our God.

In the first two scripture readings, both Isaiah and Paul stress on the positive meaning of vigilance. Isaiah acknowledges our own weaknesses and praises God's mercy. He reminds us that God is our Father and that we are simply clay; and he pleads with God to be merciful on us, not to turn his face from us and not to forsake us for our sinfulness.

According to Paul, a Christian receives sufficient grace at his baptism to be prepared for the second coming of Christ. God is trustworthy; and, as long as we are faithful to his calling and persevere to the end, we will be reunited with Christ at his second coming.

Let us end this Sunday's sharing by following today's Entrance Antiphon and putting our trust in God: "To you, my God, I lift my soul; I rely on you and will never be disgraced. Don't let my enemies laugh at me, for no one who waits for you is ever put to shame." (Psalm 24:1-3)

## Diocese & Other News



### REJOICE IN GOD'S MERCY REFLECTION - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

It is easy to become complacent, doing things the way we have always done them and making excuses for the things we do not want to change. Life is hard and we can become rigid and obstinate out of self-defense. Yet, in the loving creative hand of God, we are to be like clay is to the potter.

The sacrament of Reconciliation is a safe place to put aside the armour of our stubbornness and be strengthened by the grace of God given in Christ Jesus.

Action Item: Each evening this week identify three ways God has shown you kindness and gentleness.

Rejoice in God's Mercy! The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at parishes throughout the Diocese of Calgary all the Wednesdays of Advent from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

### LIVING NATIVITY

Please join us for a moment of spiritual reflection in preparation for the birth of Jesus. St. James Parish in Okotoks is building the Town of Bethlehem in the field next to the church. There, you will see real people interacting in elements of that time; a bakery, a pottery booth, a wine shop, a spice shop, a wool shop, an inn, a prison, a Roman Soldier hut (with real horses), a carpenter's workshop, a blacksmith, a tax collector's office, a candle shop, shepherds, and a stable with the Holy Family. There will also be choirs singing carols to add to the festivities. Food and beverages will be available for a small price, and donations will be accepted to help cover the costs of the event. Mass will be celebrated at 5:30pm. Invite your family & friends, and follow the signs to the "Town of Bethlehem" to join us for an evening of fellowship and spirituality. Saturday, December 16th, 2017 from 4:00pm – 9:00pm at St. James Church (338060-32nd Street East, Okotoks, Alberta). For more information or questions call the Parish office at 403-938-3122.

### SYNOD 2018 SURVEY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Hello young people! If you are between 16-35, Catholics or non-Catholics in the Diocese of Calgary, you are invited to offer feedback for Pope Francis through an online survey. In January 2017, Pope Francis wrote a Letter to Young People and the Vatican released a Preparatory Document with questions for reflection, and asked that dioceses throughout the world provide feedback on their local experience. We want to hear your voice: If you have one question to ask Pope Francis, what would that be?

Please fill this brief survey at:  
<http://yellowtree.ca>

### THE JOY OF LOVE MARRIAGE CONFERENCE & RENEWAL OF VOWS WITH BISHOP MCGRATTAN

The Joy of Love Marriage Conference & Renewal of Vows with Bishop McGrattan will take place on December 8-9 at St. Peters Parish (541 Silvergrove Dr. NW Calgary). Dr. Edward Sri a theologian, author and well-known speaker who appears regularly on EWTN will be the conference keynote speaker. Register online at [st-peters.ca](http://st-peters.ca) or for more information contact Kusum Di Marco at [events@st-peters.ca](mailto:events@st-peters.ca)

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION "FOR BETTER & FOR EVER"

"For Better & For Ever..." Marriage Preparation, accepts all couples preparing for marriage. Due to the small group setting it allows us to focus on couples in one or more of the following circumstances: living together, previously married, beginning marriage with children, couples 45+, or those who wish to have their marriage blessed in the Church. Upcoming Dates: Jan 15 / Feb 2-3, and Feb 12 / Mar 2-3. For more dates, registration or information, contact 403-218-5505 or email [lifeandfamily@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:lifeandfamily@calgarydiocese.ca)

## Parish Activities



The Sacrament of Reconciliation – will be available at parishes throughout the Diocese of Calgary all the Wednesdays of Advent. December 6, 13, 20 from 7:30pm–8:30pm.

You shall confess your sins at least once a year

The Second Precept of the Church ("You shall confess your sins at least once a year.") ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness.

For the Sacrament of Reconciliation, our Parish will follow the Diocese's schedule, and we will cancel the Advent Penitential Service.

### Light up for Christmas

To celebrate the start of a new liturgical year and the Christmas Season, our Church will hold a Light up for Christmas Ceremony on the first Tuesday in December (Dec 5), after the 6:30pm Marian mass.

Parishioners, friends and families are cordially invited to come out to help celebrate this happy occasion.

### 2017 Youth and Young Adults Advent Retreat

For Advent this year, Youth Group and Young Adults Group will be having a joint retreat. The theme for this retreat is: "HOTSPOT: Jesus".

Come join us in learning how to be the "Ultimate Hotspot", connecting others to Jesus during this Advent season. All parishioners in Grade 6 to university are welcome to join. For details and registration please contact Jenny (403) 869-9462 or Jason (403) 554-1557.

Date: December 9th, 2017 (Saturday)

Time : 5:00pm- 9:30pm

Location: FCJ Centre

Cost: \$10 per person (Light dinner included)

### Mission Mexico Day(December 12)



On December 9-10 we will take up a special collection.

Mission Mexico is an outreach project to marginalized mountain communities in southern Mexico. We are asking every parishioner in the diocese to support this missionary outreach.

### OLPH Church Parish Retreat

Lead by: Bishop Henry

Date: Dec 16, 2017, Saturday 9am - 4pm

Place: Church

First Talk : "The Meaning of Advent"

Second Talk : "Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of Believers"

Third Talk : "Mothers in Faith"

All parishioners are welcome to attend. For further details please visit the OLPH web site and posters.

### New Year's Eve Dinner (Father's Kitchen)

Fr. Joseph will host a Father's Kitchen New

Year's Eve party at OLPH Upper Hall.

Everyone is welcome.

Date: December 31, 2017 ( Sunday)

Time: 6pm

Ticket : \$25 per adult, \$10 per child.

Tickets are available on sale starting Sunday, December 3 at the church entrance or Contact Sr. Chan or Parish Office.

### Together in Action 2017



The theme this year is:

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will obtain MERCY."

(Matthew 5:7)"

Our parish's target is \$22,607 as designated by the Diocese. As of September 20, our campaign has received a total of \$41,809.65.

We plead for your ongoing support.

### Weekly Activities



Wed, Fri December 6, 8

OLPH Senior Centre

Time: 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

Fri December 8

OLPH Scout

Time: 6:30pm.-9:30pm

Place: Upper Hall & Lower Hall

Sat December 9

Legion of Mary ( meeting )

Time: 9:45 a.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Tai Chi Lesson

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00a.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Yoga beginner class

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:45p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

R. C.I.A (Mandarin)

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Young Adults Band practice

Time: 4:00p.m.-6:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Young Adults Choir Practice

Time: 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Faith Sharing Group ( N.W.)

Time: 7:30p.m.-10:00p.m.

Sun December 10

R. C.I.A (Cantonese and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School

Time: 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Office Building

Christmas Play Practice

Time: 2:00p.m.-4:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

### Stories Faith Sharing



### Satan's Sale

Some time ago I heard a story about Satan's garage sale. On display stood many large, shiny, complicated tools. Each was labeled with a tag such as: MURDER, ADULTERY, HATE, STRIFE, etc. Yet in one corner sat a tiny, dull, simple tool with a very high price attached. When asked why that worn out tool was so expensive, Satan replied smugly, "That one is called DISCOURAGEMENT. I can use that one on everybody."

The Apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:8-10, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;" In other words discouragement may creep in occasionally but it need not be permanent nor overpowering. So long as we keep our focus on our Source Jesus Christ and continue to get up each and every time we are knocked down.

Have you ever been discouraged? Consider this account: There was a man who failed in business in '31. He was defeated for the legislature in '32. He failed again in business in '34. His sweetheart died in '35. He suffered a nervous breakdown in '36. He was defeated in election in '38. He was defeated for Congress in '43, '46, and '48. He was defeated for the Senate in '55. He was defeated for the Vice-presidency in '56. He was defeated again for the Senate in '58. Yet in 1860 Abraham Lincoln became President of the United States of America. Discouragement is Satan's most effective tool. Don't let it keep you from becoming all God intends for you to be. ....



## Read More Know More



## Advent

The word "advent," from the Latin *adventus* (Greek *parousia*), means "coming" or "arrival." The season of Advent is focused on the "coming" of Jesus as Messiah (Christ or King). Our worship, scripture readings, and prayers not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his eventual second coming. This is why the Scripture readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus' second coming as judge of all people. Also, passages about John the Baptist, the precursor who prepared the way for the Messiah, are read. All of these themes are present in Catholic worship during Advent, which The Catechism succinctly describes:

When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor's birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: "He must increase, but I must decrease" (524).

Since Advent looks forward to Christ's birth and Incarnation, it is an appropriate way to begin the Church Year. However, Advent is *not* part of the Christmas season itself, but a preparation for it. Thus, Catholics do not sing Christmas hymns, or use Christmas readings, in Mass until December 25th, the first day of the Christmas season.

The liturgical color for Advent is violet (except for the Third Week of Advent, often called *Gaudete Sunday*, in which rose may be used), and the season is somewhat penitential, similar to Lent, although not so explicit and emphatic. The character of worship during Advent is more solemn, quiet, and less festive than during other times of the year. In the Catholic Church, for example, the *Gloria in Excelsis* is not used. The use of violet reflects the general themes of Advent: penitence (generally expressed more in terms of expectant hope) and royalty. Some prominent feasts fall within the Season of Advent, including the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Secular culture and many non-Catholic churches celebrate the day of Christmas, but take it outside of the context of Advent and Christmastide. However, Christmas is not meant to be an isolated day, but a festival of the Incarnation in the midst of the Church year. Christmas is only properly understood after having the preparation provided by Advent. In the midst of the secular excesses leading up to Christmas, Advent provides a welcome solace and an opportunity to continually re-orient ourselves to God's will as we expectantly wait with patriarchs, prophets, and kings for the true meaning of Christmas: the Incarnation of God the Son.



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come"

-- Mark 13:33

## 主日分享



## 將臨期第一主日

將臨期是一個等待的時期：在這時期中，我們要為基督的再度來臨做好準備。基督要在聖誕節時再來，我們應該準備好來迎接祂。今天彌撒中的三篇讀經說的正是如何等待基督的來臨。在第一篇讀經中，依撒意亞先知表達了對主的來臨的熱切期待，他這樣說：「求你爲了你的僕人，爲了你產業的各支派，回心轉意吧！啊！望你衝破諸天降下，諸山在你面前震盪。」在第二篇讀經中，保祿邀請我們等待「主耶穌基督的出現」。今天的福音中，耶穌則要我們警醒，好能在祂再度來臨時已經準備好來迎接祂。第一篇讀經表達了對主的再度來臨的強烈期望。依撒意亞先知使我們明白人民正處在極度艱難的境況中：似乎天主已經拋棄了他們，任由他們在遠離祂的道路上流蕩。在第二篇讀經中，我們看到保祿所面對的，是一些信仰積極的格林多的教友，這令他不斷的爲此而感謝天主。他說：「我時時爲你們，對天主在基督耶穌內所賜予你們的恩寵，而感謝我的天主，因爲藉著祂，你們在一切事上，在一切言論和知識上，都成了富有的。」由此可知，基督信徒常沐浴在天主的恩寵中。我們今天所聆聽的天主聖言推動我們做出必須的舉動，來誠心誠意地迎接主，與主相會，也令我們的生活因著這個具決定性的相會而轉變。

## 堂區活動



## 將臨期悔罪禮

卡加利教區內所有教堂在將臨期內逢星期三(12月6、13、20日)

晚上7時30分至8時30分，將開放給教友辦告解聖事。

根據教會規條的第二規，「該告解、每年至少一次」，是爲督促信友們通過修和聖事妥當地準備領聖體。教友應盡量參加與天主修合，以準備主基

督的來臨！本堂將臨期告解聖事時間將如教區所定，集體悔罪禮將取消。

### 聖誕亮燈儀式

為慶祝將臨期及剛踏入新的禮儀年，本堂將在十二月第一個星期二，即十二月五日晚上六時三十分敬禮永援聖母英語彌撒後舉行亮燈儀式。請各教友熱烈支持參加這個慶典。

### 墨西哥傳教日(十二月十二日)



在我們的墨西哥福傳計劃中，從我們教區每一位教友的捐獻，我們就可以在墨西哥的一個受貧窮折磨

的社區，令到文盲、體弱的人，得到適當的醫療照顧及牙齒醫護。為繼續此一重要的福傳工作。請在十二月九日或十二月十日捐出你的一分力吧！

### 卡城永援聖母堂—堂區避靜

主講：亨利主教

日期：2017年12月16日（星期六）上午9時至下午4時

地點：聖堂

第一講：將臨期的意義

第二講：瑪利亞，耶穌的母親及信徒之母

第三講：信仰之母

歡迎所有教友參加

詳細資料，請留意本堂區網頁和海報

### 2017 青年/大專青年將臨期避靜

為準備聖誕的來臨，永援聖母堂青年及大專青年團將舉行避靜。主題為：無線熱點：主耶穌 (Hotspot: Jesus) 當晚會有不同的講座，遊戲，Praise and Worship，修和聖事，和 Eucharistic Adoration。歡迎堂區所有青年（六年級以上）及大專青年來參加。

讓我們來學學如何變成一個獨一無二的“無線熱點”去幫助別人與主耶穌聯繫吧！若有興趣報名參加或查詢請與 Jenny (403) 869-9462 或 Jason (403) 554-1557 聯絡。

日期：12月9日（星期六）

時間：晚上5時至9時30分

地點：FCJ Centre

費用：每位 \$10 (包晚餐)

### 除夕聚餐(神父廚房)

阮神父將會12月31日(星期日)晚上在上禮堂舉行神父廚房聚餐。歡迎堂區教友及其朋友參加。由於數量非常有限，售完即止。務請預早購票。

日期：2017年12月31日（星期日）

時間：晚上6時正在上禮堂舉行

票價：成人每位 \$25 小童每位 \$10

售票日期：12月3日起每台彌撒後於教堂入口處發售，亦可聯絡陳修女或堂區辦事處

### 2017 教區公益金，齊來獻愛心

2017年教區 TIA 籌款的主題為：『憐憫人的人是有福的，因為他們要受憐憫。』瑪竇福音：第五章七節  
截至9月20日，捐款已累積至41,809.65元。

懇請各位教友繼續支持，慷慨解囊！

### 活動一週



星期三、五 12月6, 8日

永援聖母松柏軒

時間：上午9時至正午12時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期五 12月8日

永援聖母堂童軍

時間：晚上6時30分至9時30分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂及下禮堂

星期六 12月9日

聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)

時間：上午9時45分(開會)

地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室

楊式太極班

時間：上午10時至11時

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

瑜珈初班

時間上午11時30分至12時45分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

成人慕道班(國語)

時間：下午3時至5時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

大專青年團樂隊練習

時間：下午4時至6時

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

大專青年團練習聖詩

時間：下午6時至7時30分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

信仰小團體(西北區)

時間：晚上7時30分至10時

星期日 12月10日

成人慕道班(粵語及英語)

時間上午9時30分至12時30分

地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

主日學

時間：上午10時至12時30分

地點：寫字樓大廈，聖堂騎士會室

聖誕話劇排練

時間：下午2時至4時30分

地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

### 心靈小品



### 凡事自有安排

有一尊耶穌被釘在十字架上的苦像，大小和一般人差不多。專程前來這裡祈禱的人特別多，幾乎可以用門庭若市來形容。

教堂裡有位看門的人，看十字架上的耶穌每天要應付這麼多人的要求，覺得於心不忍，他希望能分擔耶穌的辛苦。

有一天他祈禱時，向耶穌表明這份心願。

意外地，他聽到一個聲音，說：

「好啊！我下來為你看門，你上來釘在十字架上。」

但是，不論你看到什麼、聽到什麼，都不可以說一句話。」這位先生覺得，這個要求很簡單。

於是耶穌下來，看門的先生上去，像耶穌被釘在十字架般地伸張雙臂，本來苦像就雕刻得和真人差不多，所以來祈禱的群眾不疑有他，這位先生也依照先前的約定，靜默不語，聆聽信友的心聲。

來往的人潮絡繹不絕，他們的祈求，有合理的，有不合理的，千奇百怪不一而足。

但無論如何，他都強忍下來而沒有說話，因為他必須信守先前的承諾。

有一天來了一位富商，當富商祈禱完後，竟然忘記手邊的錢便離去。



他看在眼裡，真想叫這位富商回來，但是，他憋著不能說。

接著來了一位三餐不繼的窮人，他祈禱耶穌能幫助它渡過生活的難關。當要離去時，發現先前那位富商留下的袋子，打開，裏面全是錢。窮人高興得不得了，耶穌真好，有求必應，萬分感謝地離去。

十字架上偽裝的耶穌看在眼裏，想告訴他，這不是你的。但是，約定在先，他仍然憋著不能說。

接下來有一位要出海遠行的年輕人來到，他是來祈求耶穌降福他平安。

正當要離去時，富商衝進來，抓住年輕人的衣襟，要年輕人還錢，年輕人不明究理，兩人吵了起來。

這個時候，十字架上偽裝的耶穌終於忍不住，遂開口說話了... 既然事情清楚了，富商便去找冒牌耶穌所形容的窮人，而年輕人則匆匆離去，生怕搭不上船。

偽裝成看門的耶穌出現，指著十字架上說：「你下來吧！那個位置你沒有資格了。」

看門人說：「我把真相說出來，主持公道，難道不對嗎？」

耶穌說：「你懂得什麼？那位富商並不缺錢，他那袋錢不過用來嫖妓，可是對那窮人，卻是可以挽回一家大小生計；最可憐的是那位年輕人，如果富商一直纏下去，延誤了他出海的時間，他還能保住一條命，而現在，他所搭乘的船正沉入海中。」

這是一個聽起來像笑話的寓言故事，卻透露出：『在現實生活中，我們常自認為怎麼樣才是最好的，但事與願違，使我們意不能平。

我們必須相信：目前我們所擁有的，不論順境、逆境，都是對我們最好的安排。若能如此，我們才能在順境中感恩，在逆境中依舊心存喜樂。』

人生的事，沒有十全十美。但是，我們應認真活在當下。



心若改變，你的態度跟著改變；  
態度改變，你的習慣跟著改變；  
習慣改變，你的性格跟著改變；  
性格改變，你的人生跟著改變。

在順境中感恩，在逆境中依舊心存喜樂，認真地活在當下。讓世界因為我們，而變的更美好！

## 靈修小故事



### 小瓢蟲

話說動物也知道救主誕生了，大家就一起去給耶穌送禮物，並且還要比較誰送的禮物最好和最有價值。孔雀很得意的送上牠漂亮的羽毛，花豹則送上牠的皮，犀牛送牠很值錢的角.....最後小瓢蟲也來了。牠在馬槽前猶豫了一下，因為覺得自己這麼小，怎麼比得上其他動物。然而牠很快就爬到馬槽上面，用盡全身的力氣，拔出一根稻草，然後把稻草放在小耶穌身上，讓祂暖和一點，不要著涼。

小耶穌滿意地向小瓢蟲微笑，接著伸出小手，從天上摘了一顆星星，黏在小瓢蟲的屁股上。從那時起，小瓢蟲所到之處，都用牠閃爍的螢火，給那地方帶來一絲光明。

今天在依撒意亞先知的口中，耶路撒冷 — 天主的子民就很像那被上主所寵幸的螢火虫：「耶路撒冷啊！起來炫耀罷！因為……上主的榮耀已經照耀在你身上。看啊！黑暗籠罩著大地……；但上主卻照耀著你，他的榮耀要彰顯在你的身上。萬民要奔赴你的光明，衆王要投奔你升起的光輝。」

聖保祿宗徒也清楚地表明「我的職分；就是藉著啓示，使我得知祂的奧秘；這奧秘在以前的世代，沒有告訴過任何人，現在卻藉聖神，啓示給祂

的聖宗徒和先知；這奧秘就是：外邦人藉著福音，在基督耶穌內，與猶太人同為承繼人，同為一身，同為恩許的分享人。」

今天，我們每一位基督徒，能不能達成梵二大公會議深切的期望，就是：「向萬民宣佈福音，使教會面目上所反映的基督之光，照耀到每一個人，使基督成為萬民之光。」？

## 新聞及其他



### 將臨期的意義

“將臨期”一詞按原拉丁文的意義為“來臨”，依照教會禮儀傳統，它有兩層重大的意義。第一，將臨期首先準備慶祝基督的第一次降臨（祂的誕生），第二，是期待迎接基督第二次光榮的來臨。

教會最初強調將臨期是懺悔和禁食的節期。但到中世紀初期，普遍地定為四個星期（包含四個主日）。將臨期是教會禮儀年的開始。

將臨期的重點，是準備基督的降生，並展望基督的再來，懷著希望，對教會及今日的社會有所建樹。將臨期是一種聯係，它是今日的世界與未來的國度的聯係；是舊約和新約人盼望的聯係；它更是人和天主的聯係。

此節期的顏色是採用紫色，紫色象徵懺悔罪、警醒和準備。

在大家熟悉的聖誕節來臨前，教會安排了將臨期，它的意思是“來到”、或“駕臨”。不錯，將臨期確是一段準備時期，不僅僅是準備如何歡慶聖誕，更重要的是為我們的將來做準備。我們的一切希望，祇有在基督內才得以圓滿，因此我們渴望祂的來臨。

我們的存在，我們的生活，我們所做的一切，皆是為基督的再來作準備。我們應通過我們的日常生活，將此訊息向世人宣示。將臨期的重點，是展望基督的再度來臨，懷著希望，建樹今日的教會，慶祝基督降生成人。