



Ask, Father James:

"The Necessity for Advent Watchfulness."

Today, the first Sunday of Advent, we light the HOPE candle. The Gospel reading calls us to “watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming (Matthew 24:37-44). We are not to be like the people in the time of Noah (Genesis 6-7) when the people were going about their lives, not heeding the prophetic warnings from Noah. Advent texts serve dual purpose: They shock us out of our complacency and wake us up from our resignation to the status quo. We light the Hope candle to remind us to keep the Hope alive. Jesus tells us in today’s text: Therefore, you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Jesus’ call on all to watch-to “be awake” (v.42), is not just to watch out for who is to come, but to continuous preparedness for the one who is already in our midst. There's nothing wrong with hope in the not yet, but it begins with gratitude for the already. So, this year, instead of trying to compete with the urgency and volume of commercial Christmas advertisements, we are invited to try the put-Christ-in-Christmas alternative.

Our Lady of Peace Parish



425 Broad Street North
Regina, SK S4R 2X8



306.543.5355



frjowolagba@gmail.com



www.ourladyofpeaceregina.com

