

First Sunday of Advent  
November 25-26, 2011 - Cycle B

*"Invisible Universe"*

Each year, at this time of year, at the end of November, and the beginning of December, we recall ancient messages from the scriptures. We sing "O Come Emmanuel." We light the Advent candles. We hear ancient words from ancient prophets.

I would suppose that most of us have a difficult time trying to understand our prophetic messages that are perhaps three thousand years old, maybe older, say four or five thousand years old. What do all those ancient words have to with us? In answer to our question, the great Catholic Church tells us that those ancient words relate that God was taking charge of the Universe.

During Advent we remember that the plan of God's love for us unfolds more clearly with the advent of a saviour, God's own Son.

It is so beautiful that a Supreme Being would desire that His only begotten Son should visit this planet, should adopt us as brothers and sisters, and should give our human nature an eternal dignity. It's a wonderful thought to think that this planet is now joined to an unseen Universe; joined to invisible beings called Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; joined to angelic beings and joined to other saints who have made the crossing from life through sin and death, and back to life.

So we pray: *Lord Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, help us to prepare our hearts for the great celebrations of Advent and Christmas. We believe that the coming of Christ changed everything. We believe that through Christ we have a destiny and a reason to live, and to live beyond human life in what is the world to come. Lord, as Your prophets prepared a waiting world for the First coming of Jesus, so too, help us to be ready when He comes again. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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