

Dear sisters & brothers,

Advent Begins with a Wake-Up Call. St. Paul tells us: “It is now the hour for you to awake from sleep.” Advent is not just about preparing for Christmas decorations or gifts—it is about waking up spiritually. The Church begins the liturgical year by shaking us from routine, reminding us that Christ is coming.

Isaiah offers a breathtaking prophecy: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares.”

- God’s future is one of peace, reconciliation, and justice.
- Advent is a season of hope because it points us toward this promised kingdom.
- We are invited to walk in the light of the Lord, to live as if that kingdom is already breaking into our world.

Jesus compares his coming to the days of Noah: people were eating, drinking, marrying—living ordinary lives—until the flood came.

- The point is not fear, but readiness.
- Christ’s coming will be sudden, and so we must live each day alert, faithful, and prepared.
- Advent is about cultivating watchfulness: not anxious waiting, but joyful expectation.

As we light the first candle of Advent, let us ask:

- Where do I need to wake up spiritually?
- Where can I bring peace instead of conflict?
- How can I live today as if Christ were coming tonight?

Advent is not just waiting—it is walking in the light. It is living with hope, choosing peace, and staying awake. As Isaiah says: “Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.”

So let us begin this Advent journey with open eyes, open hearts, and open hands—ready to welcome Christ who comes to us in mystery, in mercy, and in glory.

Fr. Edmond