

Second Sunday of Advent

Produce Good Fruit as Evidence of your Repentance

This is John the Baptist's challenge to those who were faking repentance.

Many bible scholars say that Mathew was talking to his Christian audience when he wrote this Gospel. They had fallen into the trap of thinking that their religious practices would save them. Just going to church is not enough. **God is calling his children to produce the GOOD FRUIT.**

So, what represents the good fruits that we are called to produce in Irvine today.

Strange as it may seem, God expects our co-operation in carrying it out.

God is the author, Christ is the agent and we are the ambassadors of reconciliation.

(2 Corinthians 5)."

Our Lord Jesus came so that the children of God would know that they have a major part to play in His plan of RECONCILIATION.

But Advent means "coming" and, if this season is to be meaningful, there has to be a genuine coming of Jesus into our lives both as individuals and as community. It is a time to remind ourselves of our **constant need for *metanoia* which a life changing event.**

Many have given toys and gift cards for the poor among our community. We have contributed to the good fruit of charity. Hopefully those who have received will know that the gifts were **given in Christian charity as a response to Christ's great gift of salvation.**

Beyond the material gifts we are called to share our spiritual gifts we have received which are a little harder to measure. The gift of our faith. We live by the Spirit of God who guides us to the right paths. The paths where the poor of spirit are. That can be our parents, children, our longs to be close to His creation. When we are witnesses to that loving Father it can produce a nourishing fruit that we need to be ambassadors for Christ.

Lastly we heard about the Lord gathering the wheat which provide nutritious bread for strength but rejecting the chaff which resembles the wheat, but is useless and unable to nourish.