

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

"Your redemption is near"

Opening song: While singing, we light the first candle

Luke 21:25-28.34-36

"... At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Reflection: *Dear ACI Family, the Sunday Readings present us with a beautiful Gospel, as a call to live the style of Jesus in this beautiful time of waiting that prepares us for the arrival of the Savior. It is a magic word. VIGILANCE, simply a call to live adherence to Christ in a responsible and lucid way right now, before it is too late. Each one will know what he has to take care of.*

It is a mistake to live our membership in the Church complacently, without intending a true conversion to evangelical values. It is irresponsible to consider ourselves followers of Jesus, without "entering" into the project God wanted to set in motion.

In these moments when it is so easy to "slacken", we find only one way to be in the Church: by converting to Jesus Christ.

The message is clear and urgent; we cannot confess Jesus Christ with a snuffed-out life, empty of his spirit and his truth: that would be to wait for Jesus without being "prepared, vigilant". Jesus may delay, but we cannot delay our conversion any longer.

What does it mean to be vigilant? Is Jesus talking about spiritual fervor, love, baptismal grace ...? Is there anything that can ignite our faith more than the living contact with Him?

We urgently need a new quality in our relationship with Him. Taking care about everything that helps us focus our lives on His Person. Do not waste energy on what distracts or deviates from his Gospel. Enkindle our faith each Sunday pondering his words and communing with Him. No one can transform our ACI Family like Jesus can.

Pray in silence

Spontaneous petitions: I ask Jesus for whatever comes from the depths of my heart, for my family, for my group and for myself.

Prayer: Our Father.

Final Song: (according to each country)

