

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent C cycle 12-2-18**

**Creation is falling apart**

**Genesis is being reversed.**

**The lamps God hung in the sky to light the earth --- the sun, moon and stars--- are now sending out alarm signals. The waters which once covered everything at the beginning and which God had siphoned off into containers (oceans) were now making a comeback. The seas are seething and roaring threatening the very order of creation.**

**Today's experiences:**

- **Fires in California: Paradise, city of 27,000**
- **Sunamis**
- **Floods along the East Coast: flooding in Florida; New Jersey; water threatening subway in New York City.**

**Happening in our own personal lives:**

- **Young adult in our parish goes to check on his 49 year old mother and finds her dead in bed.**
- **14,000 people in Michigan and Ohio are notified their jobs are gone; their plants are being closed.**
- **A young man who is nearly homeless has his car stolen with all his id and documents inside.**
- **A woman mourns the loss of her husband**

**Reminds me of the story of Noah. But what about the promise of the rainbow and that flooding would never again destroy the world? Jesus says that the rainbow is the Son of Man. This one appears when all things seem to be falling apart. His appearance banishes fears and allows his followers to stand up straight. The Son of Man is the new earth, a new place to stand. The waters cannot cover him. HE is the redemption that is offered in the midst of a perishing world.**

**So do not turn to dissipation, drunkenness and orgies; or be overwhelmed with the worries of this life. We need to find the high ground.**

**This is the Advent season: In the midst of the turmoil of our lives, the son of God is coming. Jeremiah announces it in the first reading. He is our justice. Our parish advent theme: Jesus arrives with justice!**

**We gather to pray:**

- **Daily prayer;**
- **blue books;**
- **prayer card;**
- **Tuesday prayer intercessory prayer.**

**Pray that we may gain the courage not only to survive the challenges of life, but to engage it.**

**Invite others who are overwhelmed with life, whose hearts are weighed down. For we proclaim:**

**the LORD is our justice.**

**Our God is our justice.**

**Jesus is arriving with justice for his people.**

**Let us stand up this Advent season and be ready to welcome him.**