

A Day by Day Spiritual Journey Through Advent  
With Deacon Chris

Friday of the First Week of Advent

*Light a candle and make sure it is safe and don't leave unattended.*

Patience.

Patience is a virtue. I have seen it described as part of the virtue of fortitude. This enables us to put up with suffering. The martyrs must have had an amazing amount of patience. Surely, though, it also means that with patience we can wait quietly for something to happen. I think as we mature patience matures at the same time. Yes, we can be quick off the mark sometimes but patience will bring us back. This lovely season of Advent gives us an opportunity to renew our patience. Our waiting will be rewarded. As a child, along with my brothers and sisters, we waited until after we had been to Mass and had had our breakfast before we saw what Fr. Christmas had brought. I don't ever remember being impatient. The mists of time may be clouding that memory.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

God, our Father, ever since you created the world, we have been in state of waiting. The world waited for the first coming of the Messiah and now we wait for his Second Coming. Grant us the patience necessary to go on working in that anticipation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Reading**

Matthew Chapter 9 verses 27 to 31

The curing of two blind men.

**Reflection**

Sometimes we have to shout to get noticed, which is little counter intuitive to yesterday. The two blind men in the gospel will have been ignored because of their predicament. How they have heard about our Lord we do not know. What does seem to a common factor though is that when a person loses one sense the others compensate.

Jesus asked the two if they believed he could make them see again. Their answer was a resounding yes. Did Jesus have a deeper meaning than just being able to see? I think it did. He wanted them to see who he really is and what he is bringing? Again, I think that they saw this because Jesus said that their faith deserved this.

We pray to God for all manner of things but do we hear him asking us if we believe he can do it? God will always answer our prayers. We may not like the answer when we get it. We have to exercise patience after we have prayed because God's time is not our time.

**Your Own Time.**

**Rosary.** Let us ask for a renewed strength in patience so that we can deal with others by showing the love that they deserve as brothers and sisters of Christ.

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**Concluding Prayer**

Lord, as we wait patiently for the second coming of your Son grant us the grace to live our daily lives peaceably with one another. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.**