

A Day by Day Spiritual Journey Through Advent
With Deacon Chris

Monday of the Third Week of Advent

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

Bereavement

We all know somebody who has died and therefore we all know somebody who is bereaved and that somebody could be you or me. They say that taxation and death are the two certainties in life. Death, no matter how expected it can be, always comes as a shock. It is like the light bulb that blows. We are left in the dark until we find a new one and then we can see what is happening. The deceased gets a new life and so do the bereaved but they are different from each other.

Bereavement hits us in many ways. There is a process of shock, disbelief, anger, remorse, grief and acceptance. Not necessarily in that order. It is only right that we grieve and we have Jesus' example to follow on that score. Love is the reason we grieve and love is the cure although it may take a while, your while and nobody else's.

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

God our Father, many people have tried to ridicule your existence in different ways. With your grace to help us we can show them the error of their ways and help them to extol you and bless you. 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

Book of Numbers chapter 24 verses 2 to 7 and 15 to 17

A change of heart

Balaam was hired by Balak, who was king of Moab to curse the people of Israel. He wrote four oracles and each time he wrote one his mind was changed away from his purpose. Today's reading is his third such oracle.. He curse was supposed to bring desolation on them and heavy defeats by their enemies.

Instead his oracle was full of praise and a vision of prosperity and Israel being victorious over their enemies.

This isn't so much a case of poacher turned gamekeeper but an opening up of oneself to the sheer benevolence of God to those who follow his way.

Your Own Time.

Rosary. Let us pray for all who work on the Missions anywhere in the world so that the Good News is brought to the four corners of the world.

Concluding Prayer

Open our eyes to the beauty of your way of life so that we can prosper and overcome the evil that this world sometimes presents us with. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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