

Advent 2018

“EXPECTATIONS”

First Sunday of Advent: Shaken or Secure?

In Advent we remember the history of Israel, who longed for a promised messiah to save them. Their expectation was that the messiah would overcome Israel's enemies – Jerusalem would be safe and secure. Christ fulfills this expectation in unexpected ways, above all by overcoming the dominion of sin and setting us free from insecurity.

Reflection and Discussion Questions:

1. Do you feel more “shaken” or “secure” in your life right now? What was the last big life event that affected this sense?
2. At the level of the heart, where within do you find insecurity or unbelief that God has chosen you, favored you, anointed you, and made an eternal covenant with you?
3. How is God inviting you to know his unshakeable security for you this Advent? What kind of actions or attitudes will you take on?

Virtue for the week: *Serenity*

When I feel shaken or insecure, I will choose to call to mind the secure and unshakeable victory of Jesus in me.

For personal prayer:

Meditate on this passage from Sunday's first reading, “I will fulfill the promise I made... In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure.”

(Jeremiah 33:14, 16)