

December 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## The Road Home: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn  
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First Reading: Baruch 5:1–9 | Psalm 126:1–6  
Second Reading: Philippians 1:4–6, 8–11 | Gospel: Luke 3:1–6

Today's Psalm paints a dreamlike scene—a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion (Jerusalem), mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing.

It's a glorious picture from Israel's past, a "new exodus," the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It's being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety. But the psalmist isn't waxing nostalgic.

Remembering "the Lord has done great things" in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope—that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He'll do even greater things in the future.

This is what the Advent readings are all about: We recall God's saving deeds—in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as today's Epistle puts it, "the one who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it" until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile—led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration and conversion by the Word of the Holy One (see Baruch 5:5). The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin if we turn to Him in repentance.

That's the message of John, introduced in today's Gospel as the last of the great prophets (compare Jeremiah 1:1–4, 11). But John is greater than the prophets (see Luke 7:27). He's preparing the way not only for a new redemption of Israel but for the salvation of "all flesh" (see also Acts 28:28).

John quotes Isaiah (40:3) to tell us he's come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It's a road we'll follow Jesus down, a journey we'll make, as today's First Reading puts it, "rejoicing that [we're] remembered by God."

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### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

<b>December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Mass)</b>	<b>- 7:00pm &amp; 9:00pm</b>
<b>December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Mass)</b>	<b>- 11:00am</b>
December 26 <sup>th</sup> (Weekday Mass)	- 9:00am
December 27 <sup>th</sup> (Weekday Mass)	- 9:00am
December 28 <sup>th</sup> (Holy Innocents)	- 10:00am
<b>December 28<sup>th</sup> (Sunday Vigil)</b>	<b>- 4:30pm</b>
<b>December 29<sup>th</sup> (Sunday Mass: Holy Family)</b>	<b>- 9:00am &amp; 11:00am</b>
December 30 <sup>th</sup> (Weekday Mass)	- 9:00am
<b>December 31<sup>st</sup> (Mary Mother of God Mass)</b>	<b>- 4:30pm</b>
<b>January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 (Mary Mother of God Mass)</b>	<b>- 11:00am</b>

*Note: masses in **Bold**: Holy Days of obligation*

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### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office is closed on the following dates:

December 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

January 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

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### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. However, because it falls on a Sunday this year, the mass will be celebrated on **Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 8am** to celebrate the great Marian solemnity.

### MARY: A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER

Please join us for a Biblical Study of our Blessed Mother Mary (An 8 session Video Series presented by Dr. Edward Sri / Ascension Press). **Fridays from 7pm-8:30 pm every two weeks**, beginning November 22<sup>nd</sup> in the parish hall. These videos will be followed by Sharing/Discussions and some Fellowship (coffee/snacks). Cost: No Fee.

In this Biblical study, you will: 1) experience an extraordinary pilgrimage through Mary's life and see why she is an essential part of our faith; 2) see the significance of Mary as we explore the biblical roots of our beliefs about her; 3) deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way; 4) be drawn closer to Christ as Mary leads us to a more profound and personal relationship with her Son.

Mark your calendars for the remaining evenings:

Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>, Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>

To join, please register online ([www.olof.ca](http://www.olof.ca)), email [emiltirona@gmail.com](mailto:emiltirona@gmail.com), or call 514-617-4021.

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS:  
Warden Elections**

There will be Warden Elections on Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 after the 11:00am mass. Nominations of new wardens must be made at the meeting (which will be in the Parish Hall) at which time the election will take place.

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**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS**

If you would like to donate money to buy flowers to beautify our Church, you can place the money in an envelope (marked Christmas flowers) and put it in the collection basket with your name and address (for your income tax receipt at year end). Thank you for your generosity.

**SUNDAY MISSALS**

The new 2025 Sunday Missals have arrived. They go into effect the first Sunday of Advent (December 1st). \$5 each.

**ENVELOPES FOR 2025 SUNDAY OFFERINGS**

Envelopes for 2025 Sunday offerings are at the front of the Church. **PLEASE TAKE ONLY THE BOX WITH YOUR NAME AND NUMBER ON IT.** If you have never used the envelopes and wish to start, please ask for a new box at the Rectory or call (514) 747-4226 during office hours (9am to 2pm) to register. **We request all users to please put your name and address on the first few envelopes for the New Year to ensure proper recording. Thank you.**

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA ONLINE MINISTRIES**

**The Rosary**

Emil & Irah Tirona are hosting an online interactive rosary, Mondays at 7:30pm. For those interested, kindly send an email to Emil and Irah (irahtirona@gmail.com), so you may be added to the online invitation. Please call 514-617-4021 if you need any online technical assistance or have questions.

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### **ADORATION**

**Come spend some time with Our Lord.**

Tuesdays 6pm to 7pm (*mass at 7pm*)

Thursdays 8am to 9am (*mass at 9am*)

Fridays 9:30am to 10:30am (*mass at 9am*)

First Saturday of the Month 10:30am to 11:30am (*mass at 10am*)

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### **ADVENT ADORATION**

Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup>, from **7pm to 8:30pm**

Adoration beginning with praying Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary,  
followed by silent adoration.

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### **SAINTLY WISDOM**

“Anger never travels alone.

It is always accompanied by plenty of other sins”

- *Saint John Vianney*

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Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.

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**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**December 7<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Ambrose</b> Judith James – RIP – by Anton Tisseverasinghe & family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m..	<b>Dec. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Ana Depa – RIP – by Marilyn Chin
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year C)</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>
11:00 a.m.		Bobot Palanca - Thanksgiving
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Dec. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Judith James – RIP – by Anton Tisseverasinghe & family
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Raymond Jack – Special Intention
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> Jerry Roy – RIP – by Ofelia Roy
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Lucy</b> Kathleen Seguin – RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Dec. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Lionel Romea – RIP – by the family
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year C)</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>
11:00 a.m.		Mitchie Palanca - Thanksgiving
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Dec. 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Dec. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Irma Pili – RIP – by the family
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Marie Simmons – Special Favor
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> The Dager family – Blessings and Thanksgiving
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Marie Simmons – Good Health
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m..	<b>Dec. 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Albert E. Piper – RIP – by Kevin and Linda Piper
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year C)</b> Felix Manzanal – RIP – by Ofelia Roy
11:00 a.m.		<i>Pro Populo</i>

## THE FIVE PRAYERS OF FATIMA

### **The Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer**

*(Mary told the children that people should add this prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary.)*

“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen.”

### **The Sacrifice Prayer**

*(Mary gave the children this prayer, as well as the Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer, on June 13th, 1917. The prayer is meant to be recited when you are offering up suffering to God.)*

“O Jesus, it is for the love of Thee, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners [that I do this].”

### **The Pardon Prayer**

*(This prayer was given to the children by the angel that visited them in 1916, the year before Mary appeared to them.)*

“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for all those that do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.”

### **The Angel’s Prayer**

*(This is another prayer given to the children by the angel. There was a Eucharistic host and chalice suspended in the air, and the angel led them in kneeling before it and praying this prayer.)*

“O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary I beg the conversion of poor sinners.”

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*(When Mary appeared to the children for the first time on May 13, 1917, she said, “You will have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort.” According to Lucia, a bright light shone all around them, and without thinking about it, they all started reciting this prayer.)*

“Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament.”