

DECEMBER 10, 2021
Friday of the 2nd Week of Advent
Matthew 11: 16-19

“LISTEN AND ACT.”

When we hear something good about others, what they do or what happened to their lives, we are excited, happy and feel gratified. We would like to feel and do the same by emulating the person, an inspiration to uplift ourselves. When we say to us what we must do, we try our best to follow what he/she says. The theme of our readings today centered on listening to God.

According to Prophet Isaiah, if Israel “had remained faithful, their prosperity ‘would have been like a river’ and their integrity ‘like the waves of the sea’ – symbols of free-flowing abundance. If they had remained faithful, they would have enjoyed the promises made long ago by Yahweh. Instead of being a dwindling remnant, ‘your children would have been numbered like the sand, your descendants as many as its grains.’”¹

Even our gospel, Jesus compared the generation during His time of not listening to what the prophets, especially St. John the Baptist and His messages of repentance, of coming back to God, and abundance with God if they only submit themselves to their teachings. Jesus is chastising and reprimanding the people, the crowd for not listening to the message of austerity of John the Baptist, and to Him who preached about the message of compassion and inclusiveness.

My sisters and brothers, let us take this Season of Advent as an opportunity to look at ourselves, to hear the voice of God and respond to it with total acceptance and integrate or incorporate it in our daily lives. Listen to the Words of God, ponder it in our hearts and act on it everyday through good words and deeds.

¹ livingspace.sacredspace.ie