

DECEMBER 2, 2021  
Thursday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent  
Matthew 7: 21, 24-27

“WITH JESUS, NOTHING CAN SHAKE US.”

I always encounter people asking how they will be saved or be with Jesus. Is it enough to hear mass everyday or fulfill Sunday obligations? Is it enough to do works of charity and serve the poor to be saved? How can I be a disciple of Jesus? Prophet Isaiah in our first reading talks about trusting the Lord everyday and every moment of our lives: “Trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.”<sup>1</sup> A disciple always trust the Lord whatever happen to him/her. All his/her life secured in Him and any difficulties and problems will be nothing because the Lord is the rock of one’s life and nothing will separate us from Him.

“Today’s Gospel reading reminds us of what true discipleship means. People often confess that they have not said their morning and evening prayers or that they have not been to Mass. Perhaps they should remember the words of today’s Gospel: ‘It is not those who say to me, ‘Lord, Lord’, who will enter the kingdom of heaven...’ On the other hand, those of us who always do say our morning and evening prayers and never miss a Mass also need to remember them. Something more is needed than just being a pray-er. What is needed is that we ‘do the will of the Father.’ What is that will? It is that we be filled with the spirit of the Kingdom and work to make that Kingdom a reality in our world. It involves constant outreach beyond ourselves. We have to go to God by finding him present in the world around us and helping others to be aware of that loving presence also. We will not do that by piously calling on God’s name while ignoring the needs of our brothers and sisters. To do that is to build our house on sand. That is not to say that prayer is not important. We cannot effectively do God’s work unless we spend time listening to and responding to his Word in times of undisturbed quiet. But our prayer is

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<sup>1</sup> Isaiah 26: 4 Holy Bible NRSVCE Canadian Bible Society

only genuine when it becomes the spur for us to go out and bring something of God's love and compassion into our world."<sup>2</sup>

My sisters and brothers, how do we prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus into our lives? We must pray unceasingly, have a constant dialogue with God, be kind and loving to those people around us as we do the will of God. Let us make our Lord Jesus and His word of life, the rock and foundation of our lives and with that nothing can stumble and shake us from His presence, love and protection. May the Lord see us ready and awake as He comes today and in the future.

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<sup>2</sup> [livingspace.sacredspace.ie](http://livingspace.sacredspace.ie)