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NOVEMBER 28, 2020 Saturday of the 34th Week in OT

Luke 21: 34-36

"BE ON GUARD."

Today is the final day of our liturgical year and tomorrow will be the new liturgical year as we begin the First Sunday of Advent. In today's gospel, Jesus is telling us our passing from the dark to the light is clear, sure, and certain and is coming in expected time. In the meantime, we need to trust God in His plan for us, for the world and live properly, virtuously, decently, and honourably. It is said in the First Reading, in darkness or in light, we are provided with all we need and we are not abandoned by our God: "On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."1

My brothers and sisters, our Lord cautions us of the temptation to "become spiritually idle, lazy, indifferent, or inattentive to God's presence and his word and guidance for our lives. We can fall asleep spiritually if we allow other things to distract us from the reality of God and his kingdom. It is very easy to get caught up in the things of the present moment or to be weighed down with anxious cares and concerns. The Lord wants us to be ready at all times to meet him - whether it be in our rising, eating, working, or taking our rest."<sup>2</sup>

He knows our struggles, difficulties, and shortcomings but assures us that we are not alone He is with us all the time, not carrying our problems and burdens alone and without His grace and great help. He will give us strength, support, and assistance we need to be on the course which God has set for each one of us. We need to pray for God's help, strength, and wisdom to be with Him always. With His help, we will overcome every hindrance of temptations and sins, and with our eyes fixed only on Christ, we will reach the place He has prepared for us. So, my brothers and sisters: "Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."3

<sup>1</sup> Revelation 22: 2 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA

<sup>2</sup> www.dailyscripture.net/

<sup>3</sup> Luke 21: 36 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA