

## Advent /Christmas Message 2023



As we began our Advent journey 2023 on the weekend of December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> : My hope was that “Moderate” followers of the God of Islam, the God of the Tribes of Israel, the God of Jesus Christ & the Holy Spirit are asking themselves: How do we break the cycle of “Violence begetting Violence”.

Our Advent Season helps us prepare for a Hope filled renewal in our belief in the birth of Jesus into our lives, our parish and our Church. Some of our Scriptural images over the four weeks of Advent can help us break the cycle of violence and place our hope in the birth of Jesus.

Isaiah 64:8 Yet O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 1Corinthians 1.9 God is faithful; by him you were called into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. Mark 1.3 Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Isaiah 61.2 he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.

For the sake of our parish, our children, grand children & great grandchildren: May the Nativity of the Lord, break us out of the cycle of darkness and see as Isaiah saw “the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light”.

Locally as you return St. Veronica’s for the Birth of Jesus Eucharist / Mass celebrations on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; May you & your family renew your faith in God Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Merry Christmas to all of you as you visit family & friends during the Christmas Season!

Keep well in mind- body- spirit

Fr. Fred

