

JESUIT CENTRE FOR THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

"Promoting Faith and Justice"

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Greetings from JCTR in the peace and love of Christ Jesus, our Saviour!

It is that time of the year, Advent, when we joyfully celebrate the coming of our saviour and liberator of the whole human family and the whole of nature, which God so marvellously created through him and for him so that all may participate in the fullness of God's own life and love.

We are very happy to send you the 2007 Advent Homily guidelines trusting that the Catholic Social Teaching dimension of these homilies will be able to add value to other dimensions of homilies during this blessed Season of Advent. We recognise that these guidelines will be enriched by the perspectives and experiences of local pastoral leadership.

It has come to our attention over the years that these homily guidelines are quite useful not only in Church services, but also in meetings of Small Christian Communities, youth groups, study groups and private prayers.

The main focus of the 2007 Season of Advent, which the JCTR is inviting Christians in Zambia to reflect on concerns: staying wake and ready for the coming of Jesus, the liberator and saviour, repent and produce good fruit, taking heart since our liberator is coming and not to be afraid because God (Emmanuel) is always with us.

We are grateful to Fr. Bernard Mallia, S.J, currently on sabbatical from Sudan and working part-time with the JCTR, for preparing these Advent homily guidelines. We are also grateful to seminarians at St. Dominic's Major Seminary who helped us with the translations.

We will be very happy to hear from you as well about your evaluations of these homily guidelines. Your reactions to these homilies will help us to improve the future ones! Should you need these homilies on soft-copy, e-mail us at: jctr@jesuits.org.zm, or infojctr@jesuits.org.zm.

We at JCTR wish you a very blessed and joyful Season of Advent. You are in our prayers and we ask your prayers. May our faith really promote justice!

Thank you, and Peace of Christ!

Sincerely,

Simson Mwale

Coordinator

JCTR Church's Social Teaching Project