

## THE DAYS OF ADVENT

### 1st Sunday DAYS OF SIGNS

*There will be signs.  
Raise your heads...*  
(Lk. 21:25, 28)

### 2nd Sunday DAYS OF HISTORY

*In the fifteenth  
year of the reign  
of Emperor  
Tiberius...*  
(Lk. 3:1)

### 3rd Sunday DAYS OF CELEBRATION AND SHARING

*Whoever has  
two cloaks  
should share  
with the person  
who has none,  
and whoever has food  
should do likewise.*  
(Lk. 3:11)

### 4th Sunday DAYS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

*Blessed are you  
among women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of your womb.*  
(Lk. 1:42)



# Look, the days are coming...

*when I shall fulfill the promise of happiness I made.* Jer 33:14

## DAYS OF CELEBRATION AND SHARING III Sunday

Zep. 3:14-17; Is. 12:2-6; Phil. 4:4-7; Lk. 3:10-18

And yet, even if we don't see you, Lord, and our tears have still not been turned into glad-ness...you yourself rejoice in us; you rejoice for us; you renew us with your tenderness and you even exult for us with cries of jubilation. When you meet us, you are happy to see us, to have us with you, even if we don't recognize you. And your happiness pervades us; your smile makes us smile because your joy is contagious. Where are you? You are in the friendly, sociable people you place on our path. You are in the little ones who laugh at us and with us. You are in the friends with whom we celebrate. You are in the poor, who often look at life with greater wisdom than we do and who teach us to hope.

Lord, you are in the midst of us but it is hard for us to see you and joy is really not our daily bread. What should we do?

Be cheerful, friendly. Celebrate life with people near and far. Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none, and whoever has food should do likewise. Don't mistreat anyone. Be content with what you have. Lift your gaze because your liberation is at hand. It comes through the breath of the Spirit who, like the wind, separates the wheat from the chaff. The good seed will remain and yield new fruit. Instead the chaff, which is useless, will be thrown into the fire and burnt.

*fr. Luca Pandolfi*

*Lord, there's good news for us every day...  
Give us eyes to see it,  
ears to hear it  
and wisdom to understand it.*

*Lord, you are in our midst every day...  
Surprise us with little things  
that make us smile  
and with small experiences  
that tickle our funny bone.*

*Lord, at times sadness wins out  
and we don't know what to do.  
Help us stop focusing on ourselves.  
Help us share our clothes and our food,  
our time and our abilities....  
Sift through the story of our life.  
Save the good seed  
and burn to a crisp everything that is useless.*

**PRAYER**

