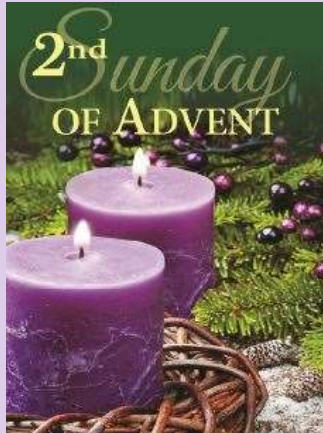




*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*This is My Advent Prayer*



*My Advent prayer is that WE ALL BECOME "THE Church that witnesses" as we journey in faith during the season and share our hearts with others through the Angel Tree.*

*John the Baptist went throughout the whole territory of the Jordan proclaiming a baptism of repentance and the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the Prophet Isaiah,*

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Advent is a time of expectation, a time of preparation and a time of renewal in the Lord. Our God, the spirit of Advent declares is a God who comes in a historical moment, in the midst of this present time, and in an unknown future time.*

*Already since our celebration of Thanksgiving, our world is ablaze with lights and the noisy clamor of commerce that the season brings. Stores and malls ring with the fervor of the busy shopper in the midst of unemployment and financial strain. Our Advent, to the contrary, is "STILL WITNESSING" even as we await in the darkness of the early dawn for the coming of the "LIGHT OF NEW HOPE, THE WORD MADE FLESH."*

*As we go about our daily lives, one day melts into the next. We may find out that the noise that competes with the inner voice has picked up the "commercialism of the season." Amid all that noise, we struggle to hear another voice. Sometimes it is difficult to hear it amid all the jingle bells around us. Advent invites us to prepare, be ready, and renew ourselves in the grace of God. Amid all the*

*noise we strive to find at least some moments with the Lord. We can do so by inviting ourselves and family members to understand this season of GRACE. All in all, the Advent voice of John the Baptist has our best interest at heart. It is not as if the voice of John is going down hard on us to make us feel guilty or to require us to make some unrealistic changes in our lives, it ONLY wants us to give equal the time we spend in shopping to the Lord. Let's face it, we all need to change, and maybe for some of us, a lot of change may be necessary if we want to get a better grip on our lives.*



*Wishing everyone a Happy and Blessed Advent season.*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*