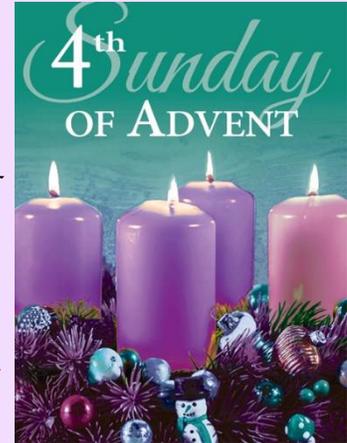




From the Desk of Father Peter

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

When a woman is pregnant, we say that she is “expecting.” This is exactly the state of being that Advent invites for all believers. As Christmas draws near, each of us should think of ourselves as “expecting.” Advent is a season for us to anticipate the birth of whatever new life is forming within us. We might be pregnant with a new idea, a developing virtue, a new relationship or even a fresh perspective. Faith proclaims that all these forms of life are conceived by the spirit and manifestations of Emmanuel, God with us.



Advent is a season to rekindle our hope in the good news, our belief that God still speaks to us in varied and wonderful ways. It is a time to remember that the guiding voices we hear, the holy impulses we feel, and the hopeful messages we receive are God's good news delivered by angels we have heard on high.

It is true that God has given each of us wonderful gifts. But these gifts do not work in isolation. There are some things that we simply cannot do on our own, and that is exactly the way God planned it. God wants us to learn how to interact with each other and depend on each other through God's grace. Our human nature tells us we are self-sufficient, but God's word tells us something different, “There are many parts, yet one body...You are Christ's body.” ¹

Corinthians 12:20, 27.

This Advent we have tried to help each other celebrate the season. For many years our parish has served the needs of others. Now is

our turn, if we feel somewhat disconnected from the Church, or from our faith, or you know someone who is unattached to a church home/parish, maybe the spirit is calling you to take one more step to become more engaged. The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to bring the message of the good news to Mary. Just as God had a plan for humankind, God also has a plan for each one of us to be part of his Body—the Church! It takes the eyes of faith to see them and courage to announce it to others. We need all God's people to come home to the Lord. During this Advent season, we strive in faith to make ourselves holy so that, like Mary the mother of our Savior, our souls may magnify with the Lord all the time. I hope and pray that your season is a blessed one in God's name.



*HAPPY Merry Christmas to all,
Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*