



Dear Knights and Dames,

Happy New Year! Or more precisely I should say Happy New "Liturgical" Year! Yes, today is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of another year in the life of the Catholic Church. It also heralds a new start for each of us on our pilgrim journey of faith in Christ. The word 'advent' derived from Latin translates into "the coming" or even better "the arrival" because to arrive implies someone is on their way about to show up momentarily. Indeed, Jesus Christ is on His way. So our new beginning is intertwined with the arrival of our Lord Jesus at Christmas, at the end of ages, and also today in this present moment during the Eucharist as He enters into our flesh and soul. Oh, how wonderful and joyous it is to welcome our Savior's arrival!

The Word became flesh and arrived into the space and time of mankind on that first Christmas. And so today we begin with eager anticipation our wait to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Christ in just a few weeks. Likewise, we remember to watch and stand guard with our souls for the second coming of the Son of Man into our world to bring to fulfillment the salvation of humanity into the divine eternal life. Even more, today and each day we receive Jesus into ourselves we have a foretaste of that heavenly life as we participate in the welcoming celebration of His arrival with the entire universal church. Whether past, present or future our Lord is always with us!

We traditionally sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" as we light the Advent wreath in our home. May our longing for Jesus this Advent Season bring each of us even closer to our Lord as we welcome Him into our heart, mind, and soul. Glory and honor be to the One and Only True Savior of the World!

Happy Advent and Deus Lo Vult!

Sir Viktor Rzeteljski, KCHS

Chancellor

EOHSJ Western USA Lieutenancy