

Anima Women's Network
On Line Advent Retreat 2017

Reflection Sheet

Gospel of the day

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!' "

Reflections on the teaching for this week.

Do we see Advent as a time of preparation? Or just an extension of Christmas?

How can we prepare our hearts at this time?

What is the work that God has called you to do this week, in this moment?

Do we waste this time? Do we think that it isn't important? Do we spend it worrying about what we think other people should be doing, instead of focusing on ourselves?

Do we sometimes resent what we have been given and do our tasks joylessly?

Do we do our tasks seeking approval of others instead of doing it for God?

What can we do to help build the kingdom of love this week?

In his encyclical "The Joy of the Gospel" Pope Francis says that 'acedia' or, sloth, is the number one vice of modern times. Can we focus on making sure we are not taking part in this "selfie culture" and be awake to the needs of others?

Do we make time for daily prayer? Is this something we need to focus on during this time? Do we need to ask God to help us find this time in our day? Do we get to know Christ in His Word?

Prayer for the Week

Let us pray that this week we can be awake to the promptings of love from the Holy Spirit.

That we, like Mary, might see the needs of others and serve them with joy.

