



“FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN”



DECEMBER 13, 2015

The Advent hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is one of my favorites. It is a reminder that we are not yet celebrating Christmas, but that there is already reason for great hope and joy because our Savior, Jesus Christ, will be faithful to his promises of dispelling the darkness of the world and of death itself.

Here is the verse that I find particularly inspiring:

"O come thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel."

This week I am using this verse in my daily prayer, and have memorized it so as to pray it throughout the day.

Whenever I come across a challenge I say it silently and it brings great peace.

Maybe you would like to try it as well. Imagine if our whole parish were to pray this verse over and over again at our places of work and our homes!

**God Bless
Father Jonathan**

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