



NOVEMBER 27, 2016 First Sunday of Advent Gospel MT 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Spiritual Reflection: Every minor league baseball player dreams of the day that he or she will be called up to the majors despite the fact that they do not know if that day will ever come. All they are able to do is prepare themselves for that day is by practicing and developing the skills necessary to play on the professional level. In much the same way a good Christian desires to one day to enter into heaven despite not knowing the time that this will happen. All he or she is able to do is prepare for that day by practicing and developing the skills necessary to live on that level of existence by loving, forgiving, and serving others.

Spiritual Questions

1. What can you do to make this Advent different?
2. What skills do you need to develop in order to be allowed into heaven?
3. What bad habits do you need to get rid of in order to get to heaven?
4. What sort of dedication do you need to become a professional Catholic?
5. Are you ready for Jesus to return?