

## Theme: Get Ready



*This week's theme is a message that most of us have had drummed into us from an early age. If it wasn't the cub scouts (or equivalent) telling us to 'Be prepared' and ensuring we had our emergency 10p with us at all times so that we could make that phone call if needed, then our parents were ensuring we had everything packed in our bags for school. And then the hours of readying ourselves when we're older for going out to meet friends or attend some social occasion. Time we'll never get back!*

*And so Advent is this time of 'getting ready' ... a time of preparation. This is such an important time of year for the Christian community. Christ's arrival is imminent and we should take the time to get ready and welcome Him in ... as we would any friend or guest. A good way of doing this would be to reconcile any conflicts that we have with those around us.*

[Mr Doust]

### Scripture:

Amazing things will happen to the sun, moon, and stars. On earth, nations will be afraid because of the roar and fury of the sea. They will not know what to do. People will be so afraid they will faint. They will wonder what is happening to the whole world. Everything in the sky will be changed. Then people will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to happen, don't fear. Look up and hold your heads high because the time when God will free you is near!"

Be careful! Don't spend your time feasting and drinking. Or don't be too busy with worldly things. If you do that, you will not be able to think straight. And then that day might come when you are not ready. It will close like a trap on all people on earth. So be ready all the time. Pray that you will be strong enough to escape all these things that will happen. And pray that you will be able to stand before the Son of Man."

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank You that at His first coming, Jesus came and died, so that I might have forgiveness and eternal life by receiving Him. As I prepare for His second coming in power and glory, enable me to become the person You want me to be.

Amen.

### Pope Francis:

*'I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ.'*

