

The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ, December 13, 2020

IDENTITY



We are in time of Advent, time of preparation to welcome Christ in his definitive coming in the last times in the history of humanity; time of preparation, while this moment does not arrive, we prepare to remember and celebrate the first coming of Jesus into the world with his incarnation. We are already in the third week of Advent and can now reflect on our personal journey and reflect on the "identity" of our Advent.

The biblical readings of this Sunday have as a theme identity: the identity of Jesus. The first reading of the prophet Isaiah is the text that the evangelist Luke presents as the reading that Jesus proclaimed in the synagogue of Nazareth (cf. Luke 4: 16-30), stating that that prophecy was fulfilled in Him. The Gospel of St.

John presents to us the testimony that John the Baptist gives to the Jews, who came from Jerusalem on the banks of the Jordan River, about his identity. John Baptist, bearing witness of who he is and who he is not, presents the identity of Jesus indirectly. The relationship that each Christian establishes, starting with faith, with Jesus, is changing and deepening in the circumstances that shape our own life. Thus, this relationship of friendship and discipleship is shaping into double identity: the identity of each person as a believer and the identity that is discovered in Jesus Christ. It is fundamental that we reflect on our identity as believers, as members of the Christian community and about the identity of Jesus at this time of Advent.

Attentively at your service in our Lord,

Father John Carlos