

Evidence of Repentance!

Advent season, like the Lenten season, invites us in a unique way to repentance-metanoia-change of heart in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. This repentance begins with a spiritual introspection, which fruits must reflect in our relationship. Thus, St. Paul asks us in today's second reading (Romans 15:4-6) "to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

In our first reading, Prophet Isaiah, the prophet of hope and promise, calls our attention to the peace and harmony the coming Savior will bring to our lives. The Savior, "Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips." Thus, our Responsorial Psalm (Psalm) reiterates that "Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever." especially touching our hearts to be people of Justice and peace. Similarly, in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, John the Baptist invites us to today's gospel (Matthew 3:1-12) to prepare the way for the Lord by repentance and to be able to "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance."

In this Advent season, there are many fruits we can bear as evidence of our heartfelt repentance. First, consider what aspects of your spiritual life God calls you to pay more attention to. For example, finding time to pray, meditate, read spiritual books, participate in programs to assist the less privileged, and other ways. It could also be an invitation to be an instrument of peace and harmony in one's family. Harmony should begin from oneself and flow to others. Let the good Lord help us pay attention to the different ways he calls us to show evidence of our repentance. Amen.

Blessed Cyprain Iwene Tansi- Pray for us!