

Hello,

The Church Year begins with Advent, so let me be the first to wish you a Happy New Year!

The Church readings follow a 3-year cycle, Year A, Year B, and Year C, which more-or-less follow the three synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke, respectively. An observant listener/reader might have noticed that most (all?) of the Gospels we've heard recently are from Matthew.

Well, now we begin the year dedicated to Mark, and Mark has a much more abrupt, succinct, almost stilted style. He uses the word "immediately" all the time. Everything is in a rush, in a hurry. So, buckle up for a new year of Gospel Reflection Questions 😊

Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Hans".

Fr. Hans

November 29th — The First Sunday of Advent

Mark 13: 33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.

“It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

“What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

Questions for Reflection:

- Am I ready for Jesus to come again?
 - What might I want to change before Jesus comes?

- What work has Jesus given me to do before He returns?

- What does Jesus mean by “sleeping”?
 - How am I watchful and alert in my spiritual life?

 - How am I “asleep” in my spiritual life?