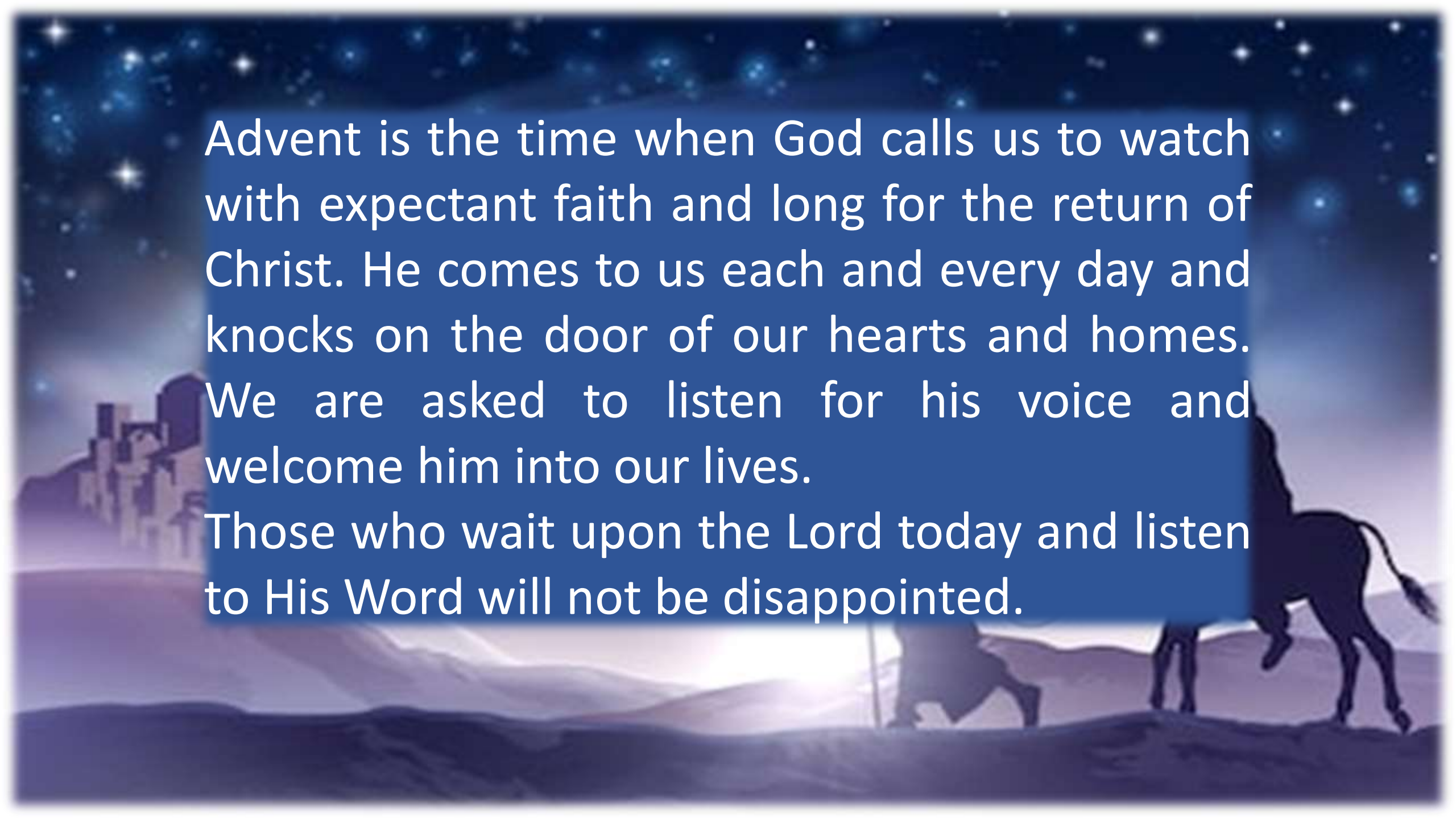


Week beginning 2nd December (Monday)

WE ARE WAITING

ADVENT INCREASES OUR HOPE, A HOPE WHICH DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. THE LORD NEVER LETS US DOWN.

Pope Francis



Advent is the time when God calls us to watch with expectant faith and long for the return of Christ. He comes to us each and every day and knocks on the door of our hearts and homes. We are asked to listen for his voice and welcome him into our lives.

Those who wait upon the Lord today and listen to His Word will not be disappointed.



Let us ask Our Father in Heaven to help us keep watch and keep our hearts open for the coming of Christ as we say together;

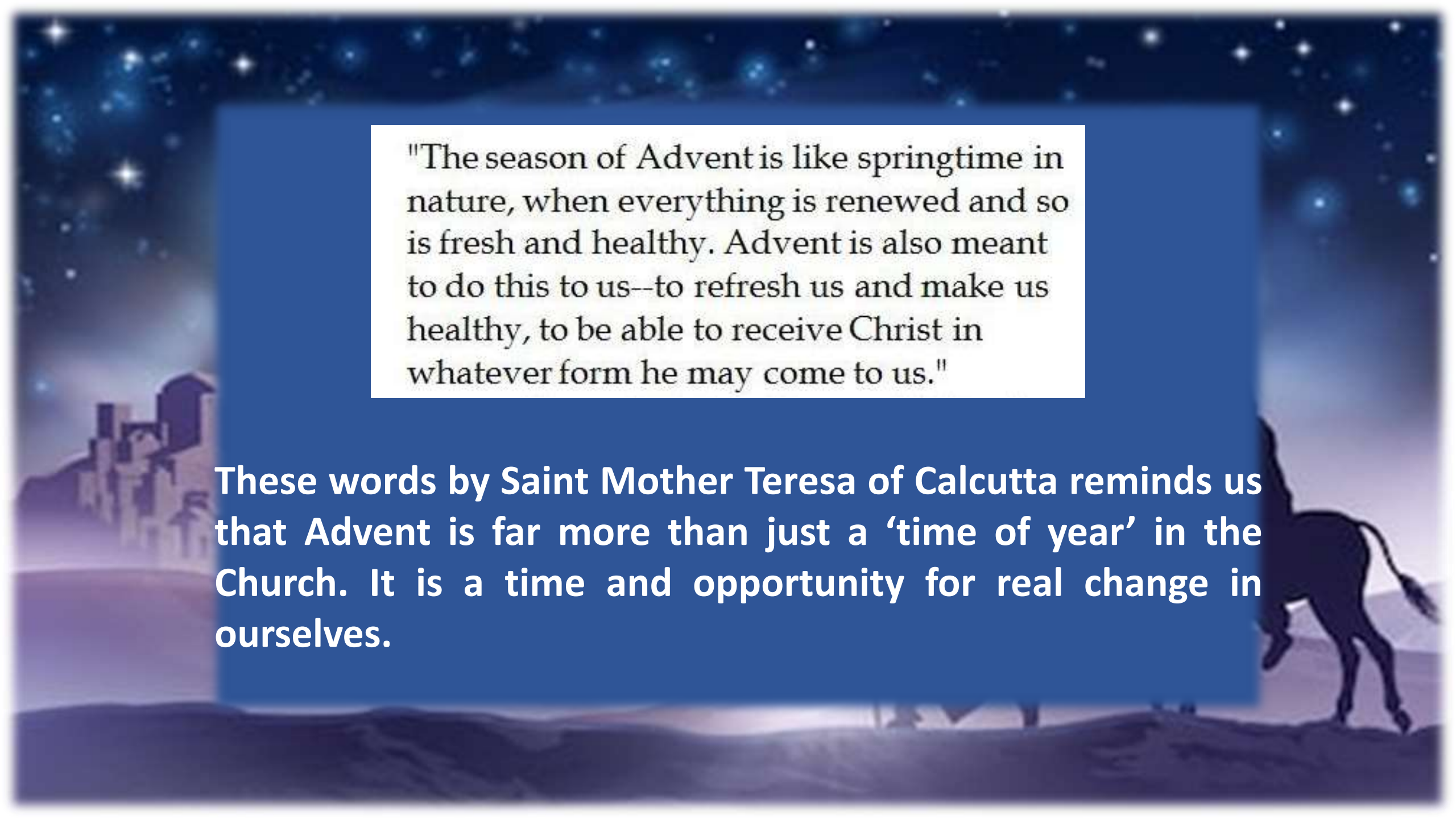
**Our Father,
Who art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

Week beginning 2nd December (Tuesday)

WE ARE WAITING

ADVENT INCREASES OUR HOPE, A HOPE WHICH DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. THE LORD NEVER LETS US DOWN.

Pope Francis



"The season of Advent is like springtime in nature, when everything is renewed and so is fresh and healthy. Advent is also meant to do this to us--to refresh us and make us healthy, to be able to receive Christ in whatever form he may come to us."

These words by Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta reminds us that Advent is far more than just a 'time of year' in the Church. It is a time and opportunity for real change in ourselves.



Let us ask our blessed Mother in Heaven to intercede for us. To inspire in us the will to change for the better, to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ in our hearts;

Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee.

**Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb
Jesus.**

Holy Mary Mother of God,

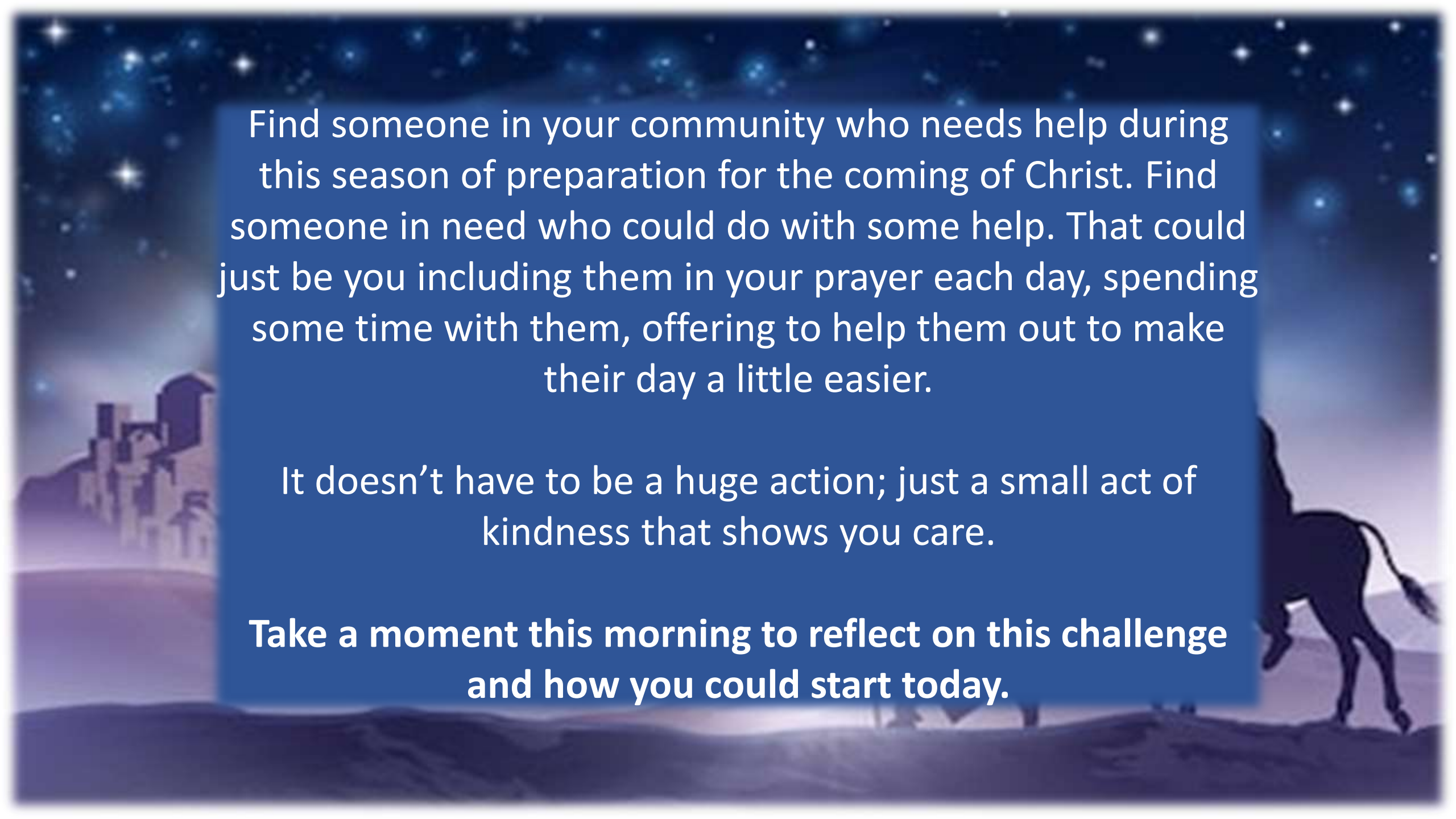
**pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death
Amen.**

Week beginning 2nd December (Wednesday)

WE ARE WAITING

ADVENT INCREASES OUR HOPE, A HOPE WHICH DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. THE LORD NEVER LETS US DOWN.

Pope Francis



Find someone in your community who needs help during this season of preparation for the coming of Christ. Find someone in need who could do with some help. That could just be you including them in your prayer each day, spending some time with them, offering to help them out to make their day a little easier.

It doesn't have to be a huge action; just a small act of kindness that shows you care.

Take a moment this morning to reflect on this challenge and how you could start today.



Father I know that I am a special person, recreated in Christ Jesus, that I will do great things that You have prepared for me.

I pray that as I continue in my walk with You, I will also be a blessing to those I meet today.

Let the light and love of Jesus shine so brightly within me that on the outside it will illuminate for all to see.

I want to be that person Lord who others can look at and just know that Christ lives in me.

Amen.

Week beginning 2nd December (Thursday)

WE ARE WAITING

ADVENT INCREASES OUR HOPE, A HOPE WHICH DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. THE LORD NEVER LETS US DOWN.

Pope Francis

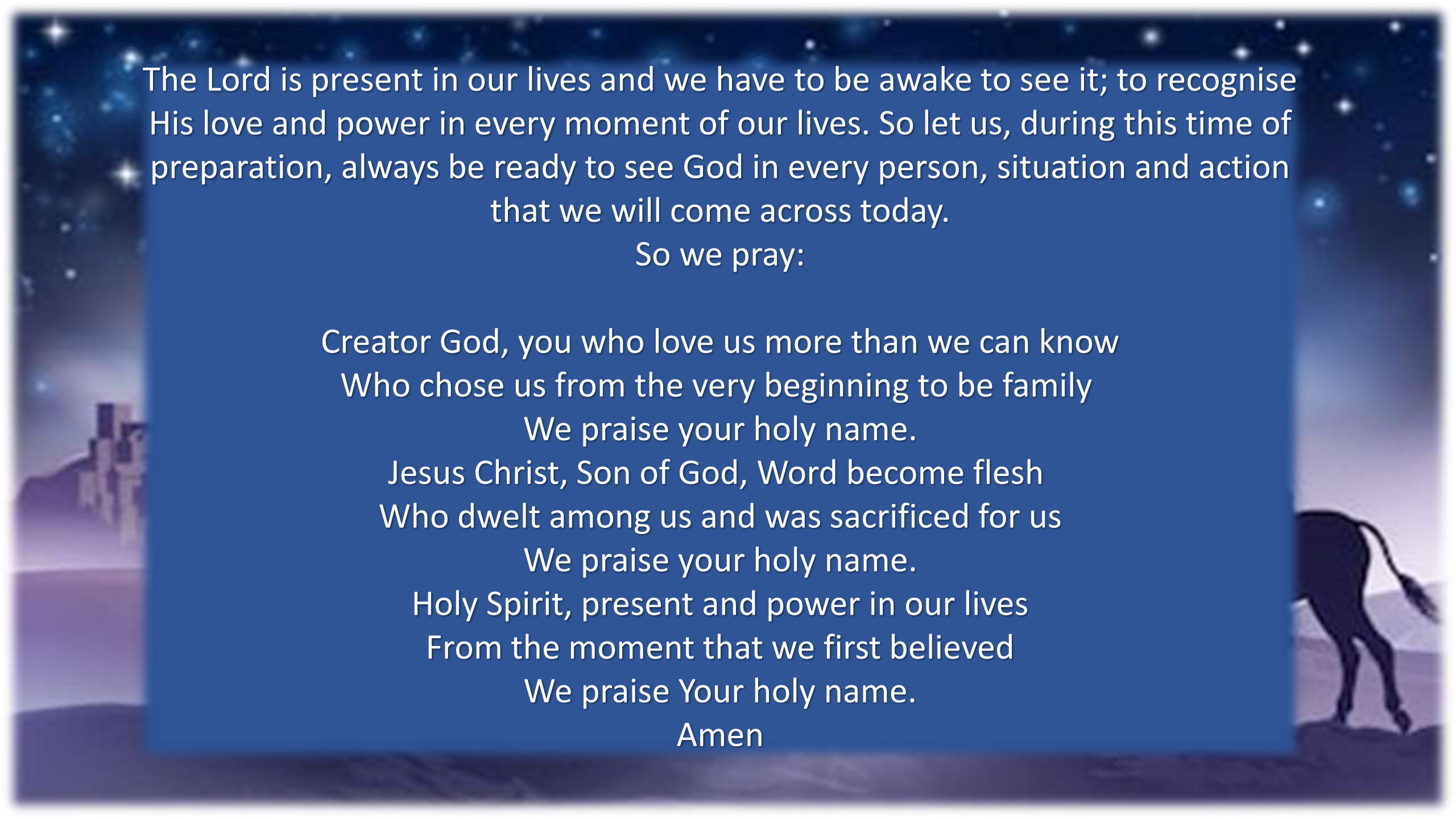


PREPARE
A WAY FOR THE LORD
LUKE 3:4

Take a moment to reflect on how your preparations during Advent are going.

Are you doing something everyday?

Are you making Christ the centre of your preparations for Christmas ?



The Lord is present in our lives and we have to be awake to see it; to recognise His love and power in every moment of our lives. So let us, during this time of preparation, always be ready to see God in every person, situation and action that we will come across today.

So we pray:

Creator God, you who love us more than we can know

Who chose us from the very beginning to be family

We praise your holy name.

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Word become flesh

Who dwelt among us and was sacrificed for us

We praise your holy name.

Holy Spirit, present and power in our lives

From the moment that we first believed

We praise Your holy name.

Amen

Week beginning 2nd December (Friday)

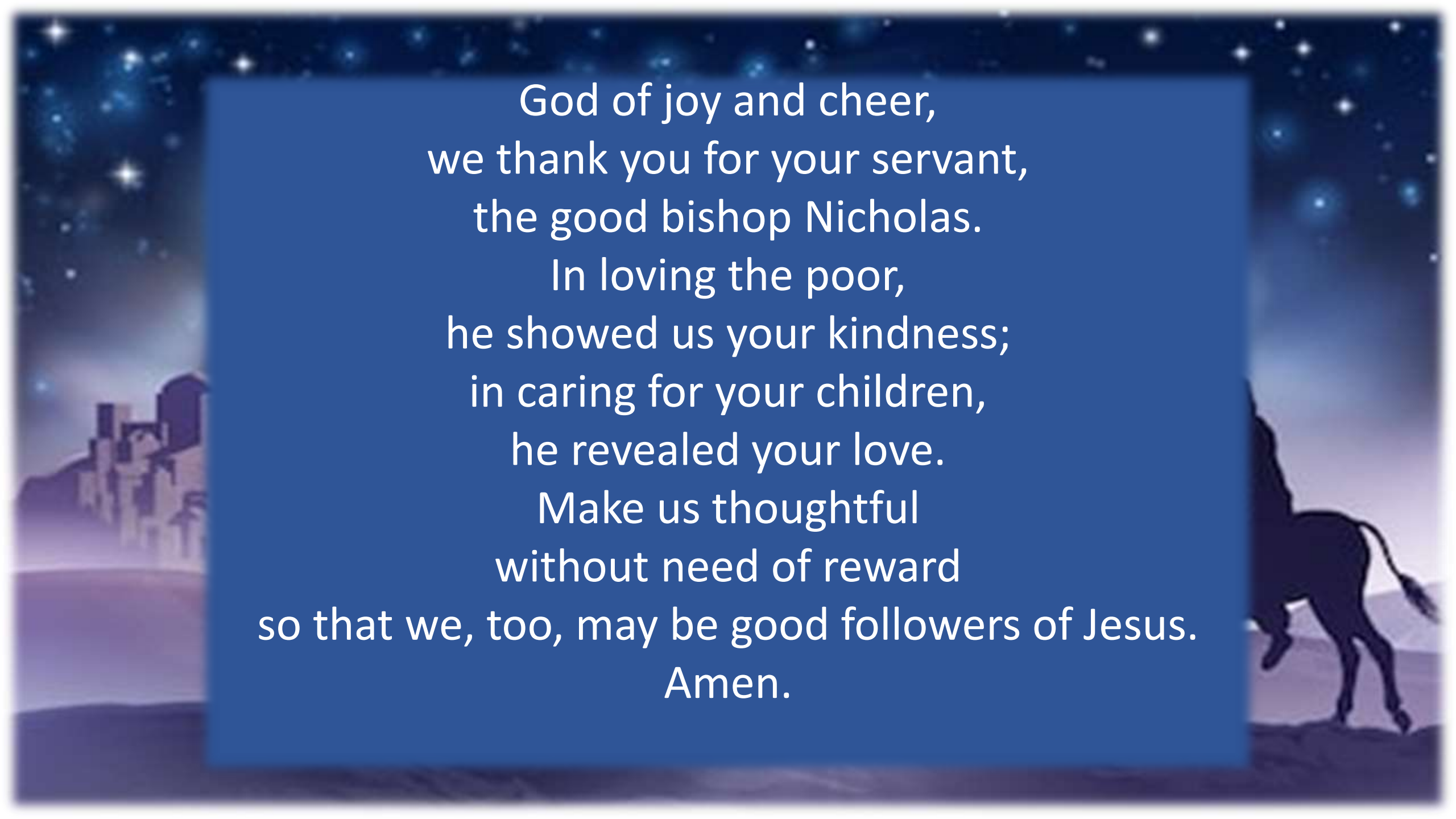
WE ARE WAITING

ADVENT INCREASES OUR HOPE, A HOPE WHICH DOES NOT DISAPPOINT. THE LORD NEVER LETS US DOWN.

Pope Francis

Today is the feast day of St Nicholas. Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, prostitutes, children, brewers, pawnbrokers, and students in various cities and countries around Europe. His reputation evolved among the faithful, as was common for early Christian saints, and his legendary habit of secret gift-giving gave rise to the traditional model of Santa Claus





God of joy and cheer,
we thank you for your servant,
the good bishop Nicholas.

In loving the poor,
he showed us your kindness;
in caring for your children,
he revealed your love.

Make us thoughtful
without need of reward
so that we, too, may be good followers of Jesus.
Amen.