

## **Blessed are the eyes that see what you see**

As Advent starts, try to find some quiet time every day to savour God's presence in your life. Become aware how He is leading your life, getting closer to you as we come to celebrate Jesus' birth.

### **Pray for the following grace:**

Ask God for the gift of the Holy Spirit that helps you to see His presence all around you, as you listen to this song ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPHh3nMMu-l>

### **Scripture readings:**

*Is. 11: 1-10*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD— and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

*Lk. 10: 21-24*

At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do. "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

### **Reflection:**

The eyes are the windows to the soul and we are concerned about sight enriched by faith which leads to insight. Growth in the spiritual life is the grace to move from the visible to the invisible; the material to the spiritual. The Lord searches our hearts and sees where no human love can penetrate. We need not fear having the Lord know our inmost thoughts, for the Lord searches our inmost being with the light of love.

The gift of the Holy Spirit helps us to see the presence of God all around us. The Spirit helps us to look beyond appearances and not judge others by what we immediately see or feel. Faith helps us to look deeper.

### **Questions for reflection:**

- Are you allowing God to search your heart and see where no human love can penetrate?
- Are you seeing the presence of God all around you?

### **Concluding prayer:**

Heavenly Father, as I am embarking on the journey that will lead me to Christmas, help me to open up my heart to your presence and to open my eyes to see you in everyone and wherever I am. Amen.

Adapted from: *"My Advent Journal – A spiritual journey to Christmas" – William F. Maestri*