

What You Do To The Least of My Brethren... You Do To Me

The joy of Advent is filled with the poignant memory that Jesus Christ came into the world as a defenseless, poor and homeless child.

What kind of world welcomes Jesus Christ this year? These weekly Advent reflections can remind us of the need to make the good news of the Gospel a reality in the human community.

THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

The homeless become our teachers since we all are sojourners waiting for the home we hope to inherit in the heart of God.

– adapted from Hebrews 11:13-16

There are approximately 14 million refugees in the world. In addition to refugees, millions are displaced within their own countries. In the United States, estimates of the number of homeless people come close to 1million!

THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

We stand before God as aliens; we are only God's guests on earth.

– adapted from 1 chronicles 29:14-15

Millions are at risk of experiencing famine, particularly those living in North Korea and Myanmar. In addition, almost 1 billion people are at risk of experiencing hunger in the world.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Those who lay up a treasure for themselves are not rich toward God.

– Luke 12:21

The United States ranks as one of the richest countries in the world, but is 37th in infant mortality and 12% of the population lives below the poverty line.

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Prepare a way for the Lord.

– Mark 1:3

Hunger on a mass scale is not necessary. World food production is such that 2,700 calories per person per day is produced each year! Yet hunger persists. Each of us must exercise our rights of citizen and work toward ending unnecessary starvation and hunger.

CHRISTMAS

And this is your sign: you will find a baby lying wrapped in his swaddling clothes, in a manger.

– Luke 2:12

Thousands of Christians have found a way to work for the Christian vision of a world free of hunger and poverty by influencing public policies through Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

For more information about Bread for the World and how to become a member visit our website at www.bread.org.