



## Thoughts Along The Way

Bishop Liam Cary  
"Be Watchful"

Advent invites us to take stock of the times of our life, because each year for a month it throws our spiritual clocks out of synch. Chronological time, governed by the rising of the sun from the darkness, has still a month to go before its year ends; but the rhythm of time that shapes our worship, liturgical time, begins the new year a month early, on the First Sunday of Advent, because it is governed by the Rising of the Son from the dead. "Behold," He says, "I make all things new."

Chronological time predictably follows the same relentless rhythm: sunrise, sunset; tide in, tide out; people come, people go. The ultimate purpose of this ceaseless repetition exceeds our mind's capacity to grasp. For all we can tell, it's time going nowhere—time empty of meaning, with no purpose or point of arrival, time with no one waiting in welcome.

Throughout the liturgical year, by contrast, we go out to meet the One Who Is to Come to gather us into the Fullness of Time that He is. Advent is the time to decide which time we shall live in.

According to the Prophet Isaiah, if empty chronology is all we know how to live in, we must call on God to come down to meet us in our journey through time. "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down . . . Would that . . . we were mindful of You in our ways."

To make ourselves mindful, we should heed the voice of Advent: "Be watchful! . . . You do not know when the time will come."

I thought sure I knew when our train to Madrid



would come that December eve in Toledo thirty years ago as the cold, fog-choked day turned to cold, fog-filled night. In the frigid gloom of the street it brought comfort to think of the warmth we'd sit down to on our 6:00 p.m. northbound.

Only it *wasn't* the 6:00, we suddenly realized; it was the 5:30, and my watch showed 5:15 with well over a mile yet to walk (and two hands full of luggage). That train from Toledo was the last of the day to Madrid. If we missed it, we'd never make our 5:00 departure the next morning for Rome.

Suddenly it was all or nothing. We had not heeded the hour, and we desperately feared that time had run out. It seemed too late to try to make it, but it never occurred to us to give up hope that we could. So we took off running faster than I have ever run before or since. Down the dark narrow streets we raced to the station. There our train was still sitting, poised for departure. We had run in hope; we boarded breathless with joy; we rode in the complete satisfaction of peace.

Those cold Toledo streets come to mind every year on the First Sunday of Advent. In the opening prayer we ask the Father for "the resolve to *run forth* to meet" His Son with deeds worthy of His coming.

# Pensamientos A Lo Largo Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

“¡Estén Atentos!”

El Adviento nos invita a hacer un balance de los tiempos de nuestra vida, porque cada año durante un mes echa nuestros relojes espirituales fuera de sincronía. Tiempo cronológico, gobernado por la salida del sol, todavía tiene un mes para que termine su año; pero el ritmo del tiempo que da forma a nuestro culto, el tiempo litúrgico, comienza el año nuevo un mes antes, en el Primer Domingo de Adviento, gobernado por la venida del Sol de Justicia. “He aquí”, dice, “hago nuevas todas las cosas”.

El tiempo cronológico sigue predeciblemente el mismo ritmo implacable: amanecer, atardecer; marea adentro, marea baja; la gente viene, la gente se va. El propósito final de esta repetición incesante excede la capacidad de nuestra mente para comprender. Por lo que podemos decir, es tiempo que no va a ninguna parte—tiempo vacío de significado, sin propósito ni punto de llegada, tiempo sin nadie esperando.

A lo largo del año litúrgico, por el contrario, salimos al encuentro de Aquel Que Ha de Venir para reunirnos en la Plenitud de los Tiempos que Él es. El Adviento, entonces, es el momento de decidir en qué época viviremos.

De acuerdo con el Profeta Isaías, si sabemos vivir solamente en el tiempo vacío, debemos pedirle a Dios que baje a nuestro encuentro en nuestro viaje a través del tiempo. “O, si rasgaras los cielos y descendieras. . . . Ojalá. . . nos acordamos de ti en nuestros caminos”.

Hace treinta años yo estaba seguro de saber cuándo llegaría nuestro tren a Madrid esa noche de Diciembre en Toledo, cuando el día frío y ahogado por la niebla se convirtió en una noche fría y llena de niebla. En la noche frígida de la calle, se trajo consuelo pensar en la calidez a la que nos sentaría-



mos a las 6:00 p.m. en dirección norte.

Solo que *no eran* las 6:00, de repente nos dimos cuenta; eran las 5:30, y mi reloj marcaba las 5:15 con más de una milla todavía por caminar (y dos manos llenas de equipaje). El tren de Toledo era el último del día para Madrid. Si nos lo perdimos, nunca saldríamos para nuestra salida a las 5:00 de la mañana siguiente hacia Roma.

De repente era todo o nada. No habíamos prestado atención a la hora y temíamos desesperadamente que se nos acabara el tiempo. Parecía demasiado tarde para intentar lograrlo, pero nunca se nos ocurrió perder la esperanza de poder hacerlo. Así que empezamos a corriendo lo más rápido de lo que he corrido antes o desde entonces. Corrimos por las calles estrechas y oscuras hacia la estación. Allí nuestro tren todavía estaba parado, listo para partir. Habíamos corrido con esperanza; abordamos alegres sin aliento; viajamos en la completa satisfacción de la paz.

Esas frías calles de Toledo me vienen a la mente todos los años en el Primer Domingo de Adviento. En la oración de apertura le pedimos al Padre por “la resolución *de correr adelante* al encuentro” de Su Hijo con obras dignas de Su venida.

## Bishop Cary's Schedule

6:00 PM Penance Services in Central Oregon

December 14 Redmond  
December 15 Madras  
December 16 Prineville  
December 17 Bend  
December 18 LaPine  
December 21 Sisters





## A Light Among Us

Vincent and Maria Treviño are members of Our Lady of Angels Church in Hermiston where they have dedicated themselves to God's greater good for more than 20 years. While they have devoted their lives to serving the parish in many capacities, their devotion to its youth group is most profound. They began their journey as ministers of Holy Communion, and then became involved with the Spanish prayer group.

As the years passed, Vincent began volunteering with the Hispanic Ministry Council and the Youth Ministers. Maria worked at the parish office during the day, while Vincent worked afternoons and evenings at youth meetings and other activities. They heard God's calling to shepherd young lives and have responded mightily.

“ . . . They have devoted their lives to serving the parish in many capacities, but especially the youth of the parish. Whenever there is a need, they are always the first to offer assistance or leadership in their parish community. In their stewardship, they have been beacons of light, leading many people to Christ by their inspiring life. Vince and Maria are always looking for ways to help the parish through ministry, prayer, example, and trust in the Lord. They share a solid understanding of the faith, which has been crucial to the growing evangelization of the Hispanic community.”

Most Reverend Liam Cary, Bishop of Baker

“The Treviños have spent so much of their time over the years working with our youth and bringing them to Christ. Vince often rushes between here and his work in Pasco (40 miles away) in order to be present. They have a special rapport with the staff and the youth alike, and they always go the extra mile for people in need.”

Fr. Daniel Maxwell, Pastor, Our Lady of Angels

Vincent and Maria are an example to many in the Hermiston parish community. Throughout the years, they have become closer both as a couple, but more importantly as individuals in their faith. Like many couples they had struggles that they have now overcome. Maria says that in time of despair, she started praying the “Cinco Minutos de Oración en el



Hogar” (Five minutes of prayer in the home). This constant prayer and trust in the Lord and our Blessed Mother gave her strength to keep her family together through difficult times. Through her continued prayers, she was able to bring Vincent back into the church and they began getting involved in parish ministries.

It is difficult to list the ministries that the Treviños have excelled in because there are so many. They have been active within the Hispanic prayer group, arranging and presenting youth and adult retreats, organizing the annual Living Stations of the Cross with the youth, as well as the annual re-enactment of the Our Lady of Guadalupe apparitions. They have also worked with the Spanish marriage preparation team and both teach sacrament classes. Vince teaches confirmation and Maria teaches first communion. On Sundays, Maria sings with the 11:00 choir while Vince is an Acolyte and a lector. And they are both extraordinary ministers of holy communion. Vince is also an active member of the Knights of Columbus and Maria a member of the Catholic Daughters and the Guadalupanas.

Their current role is leading the youth and young adult program. Seeing that the youth attend distant activities such as Diocesan Day of the Son and Day of the Spirit Retreats, the Idaho Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC), and regional youth activities involving neighboring parishes are at the top of the list. In 2005 they went to World Youth Day in Germany alongside Bishop Thomas J. Connolly.

And at home, as they have done for many years, they continue to serve as godparents to many children and give counsel to present and past youth group members and their families. At the former Northwest Catholic Men's Conference, the couple brought the youth group to act out the living Stations of the Cross,



bearing a powerful impact to the men gathered there.

Our Lady of Angels is the largest parish in the Diocese of Baker, with almost 2,200 registered households. The religious education program has approximately 500 children, with around 50-75 attending the Treviño's weekly youth group meetings—even throughout the summer months.

The annual Living Stations of the Cross, coordinated by the Treviños, attracts hundreds of people each year, as well as media coverage, and many curious non-Catholics are drawn to this beautiful celebration. Vince sets an example for many of the over thirty youth group participants by fasting and praying during Holy Week and especially on Good Friday. He has always shared his journey back to the Catholic faith and many people know him through work and also the church. He knows that by sharing with others his and his family's imperfections and how they have overcome so much through prayer and support from each other and from the parish, they are able to have people relate to them and know that God is always working in them to help those who are struggling get closer to Him.

It is easy to see through their example of how God has worked in their lives and how our Blessed Mother has always been with them in their journey. Parishioners seek them out for advice and guidance when they are interested in joining a ministry but are not sure where they fit in or feel overwhelmed and Vince and Maria reach out to them with kindness and respect.

Having completed the training for the Diocesan

Protection of God's Children program, Vince helps to train (in both Spanish and English) at the parish and in neighboring parishes as well.

When asked why their work is important to them, the reply was a personal reflection. "As the parents to a son who left the Catholic Church in his teen years our work with the youth became important to us. We try to help them understand their faith in Jesus and how the Catholic church is His church. We can help them understand the differences in beliefs between other churches and the Catholic Church and how the church follows the truth in Jesus. This in return helps them get answers to questions that may come up so they are not easily confused. When our son left the church, I personally could not answer his questions. So, we have made it a point in our lives to help the youth get the answers they seek. Hopefully as to not lose another young person due to the lack of answers."

"Through our faith we give example of how a Christian couple is to interact. Working with the youth is a hard job at times and as we get older, it's even harder to keep up. But they help us stay young by their attachment to us and always looking for our advice. This in turn helps us grow in our faith. For we can see how God works in our youth. Bringing them to serve in his church." Vincent and Maria Treviño

For decades, Vincent and Maria have poured their knowledge, attention and love into its programs and ministries. They have set an honorable example of how God works within our lives and impacts our journeys. They aim to share their experience and inspire others. Both of them remind young people that God is in control and they must trust in him and his plan. Vincent and Maria continue to give counsel to present and past youth group members and their families. Always available to serve in ministry for the glory of God, they hope to instill that desire in the young parishioners who are just beginning their journeys in faith.

In 2020 the Treviños were nominated by the Diocese of Baker for the **Catholic Extension "Lumen Christi Award"**. Although they were not selected as finalists, we take this opportunity to say "Thank you, Vincent and Maria, for your dedicated, tireless service and devotion to your community. You are a **"Light of Christ"** in the Diocese of Baker."