



The Lord is coming

St. Pauls Lutheran Church
of Coney Island
2801 West 8th Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11224

Advent Message

This is Advent 1988, a new year for our church calendar, and a time to greet everyone once again from St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church of Coney Island.

When a new year rolls around- it naturally comes too fast before we're ready. It seems that's how Christmas always comes- before we are ready. Soon we'll be singing Christmas carols and I'm not even in the mood yet.

But how do we get ready? How do we make this Christmas special and unique - and the bankruptcy of a selfish family celebration, a really expensive gift, or a big party have all become obvious. Christmas needs to affirm the family - but it has to reach out unselfishly beyond our families. Expensive gifts we buy for each other end up being unfulfilling - because we find that we have been conned by commercials, which condemn us to a selfish material existence - that can't be called living. A party is all right - but how do we get the Christmas celebration into our everyday life?

What we need is to pay a cost because of love. We need to rededicate ourselves for the mission upon which Christ sends us. I remember how some people used to pay for the milk that poor children could not afford in elementary school, or pay the tuition of a student without the means to get this schooling, or pay the rent of those who would otherwise be homeless. In a time when the government no longer wants to represent us for these purposes and carry out these services, we need to look for ways to pay this cost for others. It is not just -but we need to give charity to be able to overcome our selfishness, which left unchecked will end up destroying us. And even when we practice charity, we are not excused from struggling for more justice for the needy in our society and around the world.

Are you ready for a new year? Are you ready for Christmas? Can you open yourself up to God once again and become those people who care about and care for others. That's why we are getting ready. God cared about us. Cared about us enough to come himself and help us. Come to show us the way. Come to give us a new warmth, a new light, a new love to live in. Come to give us a new way to live, for example, that ties together both the at-home and the homeless so both can't sleep - one because of the cold, and other because of conscience, until both have a decent place to sleep together - or we won't be ready for Christmas.

Advent and Christmas Calendar

Advent Greetings,

Pastor Krey

Pastor Krey

December 9, 1988

December 18th 11:00 SCS Christmas Program

4:00pm German Advent Service

December 24th 10:00pm Christmas Eve Service

December 25th Sunday School Cancelled

11:00am Christmas Service