

Holy Name Cathedral
Advent Reflection



Day #5
Thursday, December 3

Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21,24-27

What can we hope? What are we waiting for this Advent?

As we know, Advent is a time of joyful expectation and preparation. We expectantly wait for the One who has already come. In Advent, we prepare to commemorate the First Coming of Christ at his birth in Bethlehem and hope for the Second Coming of Christ. *How long, O Lord?*

This year has been difficult for all of us as each tries to navigate where to go and where not to go since the beginning of the pandemic. Many experience the most challenging hardship within the family with the loved ones: to lose someone during Covid-19 or feeling like the house we live in “collapsed and was completely ruined.” Equally important, the pandemic has disproportionately impacted the black and brown communities, the poor and the vulnerable that others might get to live or receive help. *How long, O Lord?*

Two weeks before Thanksgiving, my aunt and I decided to make a trip to see my cousin and his family in Richmond, VA. They have a new baby. Her name is Abbie. On that morning, we left during the storm. When I took the exit to Interstate 95, the rain fell and the winds blew that we barely saw the road ahead. My aunt turned toward me and said, “Bay gio doc kinh!” (in English, “Let’s pray!”). She brought out the rosary in her purse and began praying. I joined her while focusing on driving. By the time we finished our prayers, the rain actually stopped and the sun began to peek out. The storm passed by as we continued our journey.

How long, O Lord? For you is Love.

Reflection by Holy Name Cathedral Parishioner Anh Tran