

Second Friday of the Second Week of Advent, December 9

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

The Lord offers us two different paths in the reading from Isaiah and the gospel of Matthew. We can look to Him or not. The Lord is inviting us to watch, listen, and rely on Him for everything.

My inclination is to believe that I can accomplish things on my own and choose the paths, big and small. The Lord has often made it obvious, though, what He has in mind. The people I encounter each day, at the store, at Mass, at work, in the building where I live, let me know what God is asking. If I receive a phone call from someone who is having a hard time, who is sick or who just lost a friend or relative, the Lord is telling me to listen and to give comfort. If someone in my family needs something, the Lord has already given me what I need to pass along to them. God usually asks me to stop what I'm doing or thinking and take some time to reassure a person who is struggling or who just needs a reminder about the Lord's loving presence. I'm fortunate to know many people who greet me warmly, with a smile or a reassuring word. God gives encouragement through other people. And the Lord lets me know what to do, to turn to Him and reassess and modify how I provide for others. God reassures me that He always will be there for us.

Holy Name Parishoner Eileen Geary