



SDG GOALS

PBVM USA UNION

Advent Reflection on the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goals



SDG GOALS

During much of this Advent Season, a season of hope and expectation, we will be contemplating the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

From December 1 – 17 we will take one Goal per day to reflect, pray and act.

These Sustainable Development Goals were put forth in 2015 to be realized by 2030. As we close out 2022, we are half-way to the year 2030, but these Goals are now in jeopardy along with the future of humanity and this planet Earth.

“We must rise higher to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals – and stay true to our promise of a world of peace, dignity and prosperity on a healthy planet.”

-António Guterres Secretary-General, United Nations

Please watch the short video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2kB6831gVs> along with reflecting upon this written summary:

“According to The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022, cascading and interlinked crises are putting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in grave danger, along with humanity's very own survival. The Report highlights the severity and magnitude of the challenges before us. The confluence of crises, dominated by COVID-19, climate change, and conflicts, are creating spin-off impacts on food and nutrition, health, education, the environment, and peace and security, and affecting all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Report details the reversal of years of progress in eradicating poverty and hunger, improving health and education, providing basic services, and much more. It also points out areas that need urgent action in order to rescue the SDGs and deliver meaningful progress for people and the planet by 2030.”

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>

DECEMBER 1 -- ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #1:



"End Poverty in All its Forms Everywhere"

What do you hope for and expect this Advent and beyond?

The United Nations, as part of its "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", sets the elimination of poverty as its first goal.

Pope Francis calls us in "Laudato Si" to respond to the cry of those made poor.

The Presentation Sisters are inspired by their founder Nano Nagle's example and "become as she was: a prophetic presence and voice in the service of people made poor". (Constitution 7)

Advent calls us to hopefulness and expectation. In addition to the UN, the Pope, and the Presentation Sisters whom I work for, I've been edified by hopeful and expectant Religious who call corporations to be socially and ecologically responsible. In particular: Fr. Seamus Finn, OMI and Sr. Pat Daly, OP--these prophetic leaders call those in power to accountability and to act justly--thus building the Reign of God by dismantling systems and structures that make people poor.

Learn more about Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #1 at:

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal1>

"The "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet."

from <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

DECEMBER 2 -- ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #2:

2 ZERO HUNGER



"End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture"

What do you hunger for?

Most of us reading this have more than enough food to eat. We hunger and work for justice, for the coming of God's Reign.

Today's Advent reading from Isaiah 29:17-24 begins with:

"Thus says the Lord GOD:

But a very little while,

and Lebanon shall be changed into an orchard..."

This lovely figurative imagery evokes a coming time when justice abounds, and hunger is no more.

What "orchards" can we plant now?

As we live in a current world where:

--1 child dies every 10 seconds from hunger, 1/3 of all food goes wasted, there is actually enough food for every person to have 2,700 calories per day.

1) We absolutely need to shift our diets! We need to eat lower on the food chain by reducing/eliminating our meat-based diets.

2) We need to reduce food waste! Otherwise, it's like we are carrying three bags of groceries from the store, and one falls to the ground, and we fail to pick it up. Do we really want to be that wasteful?

3) We need to promote local and sustainable agriculture! Support a nearby farmers market and/or Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm.

The closest I have gotten to this "orchard" imagery from Isaiah is my internship at the Community Supported Garden at Genesis Farm: <https://csgatgenesisfarm.com/> ---on land owned by the Dominican Sisters of Caldwell, New Jersey.

This inspired me to plant the Oblate Ecological Initiative to promote God's Reign:

https://www.yelp.com/biz_photos/la-vista-csa-farm-godfrey and <https://www.lavistaelc.org/> owned by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

This Advent and beyond, go and plant an "orchard" by:

--living simply, so that others may simply live, and by feeding people with your smile, compassion, and hunger for justice!

Learn more about Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #2 at: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal2>

DECEMBER 3 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #3:

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



"Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-Being for All at All Ages"

How do you define "Health"?

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines health as "A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

This SDG Goal is the largest and so many other goals depend on and are related to Human Health/Well Being. Thomas Berry has said "You can't have well humans on a sick planet". We clearly see the direct relationship between our health and the health of the larger biotic community. We can't take our next breath without this larger community of life!

I invite you to ponder today's Advent readings*. In them we hear these related themes mentioned 7 times: --heal --bind --sustain -----cure --cleanse...(SO applicable to SDG Goal #3!)

The "Kingdom" that Jesus preaches is one of healing, curing and compassion. The justice implicit within the Reign of God is holistic!

So, let's design and create cities, economies and systems that mainly focus on the health and well-being of both people and Earth! People & Earth over profit!

Learn more about Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #3 at:

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3>

*Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

*Psalm 147: 1-6

*Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5A, 6-8

DECEMBER 4 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #4:

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



"Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promote Lifelong Learning Opportunities for All"

How has your education evoked your vocation for justice?

Today, the Second Sunday of Advent, we hear in Psalm 72 "Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever."

This justice budding forth and flourishing both stems from and takes root in education.

Succinctly put:

"Education transforms lives for the better. It enables socio-economic mobility: breaking cycles of violence, poverty and indignity. It is critical in reducing inequalities and improving gender equity. It helps mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change."

–Professor Rorden Wilkinson, Australia,

in this helpful short video on SDG #4:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlhp3K1veoQ>

The Presentation Sisters' GREAT gift to the Church and to the world has been and continues to be education!

The Presentation Sisters' purpose is "for the education of the poor and the relief of those exploited by unjust systems". This purpose regarding education flows from 'the work and charism of their founder Honora (Nano) Nagle and her companions'. These Sisters "embody Nano's commitment to the education and care of the vulnerable and powerless". (Constitutions 1-2)

Check out the Presentation Sisters' awesome Learning Center in Los Angeles!

<https://www.presentationlearningcenter.com/>

Learn more about Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #4 at:

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal4>

DECEMBER 5 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #5:

5

GENDER EQUALITY



“Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls”

Which “way” is your Advent proceeding?

Today’s Advent reading from Isaiah says there will be a highway in a renewed land called the “holy way”. It is intended for “those with a journey to make.”

We all have a journey to make when it comes to half the human population being the victims of injustice. Indeed, women and girls can identify with the initial barren imagery of that first reading: the parched land and desert of non-equality, discrimination, violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation...

Where to proceed on a journey, a “holy way”, toward gender equality and empowerment? The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda recognizes that our world is not sustainable without such equality and justice!

“Gender is woven throughout the SDGs as it sits at the intersection of economic, social and environmental issues. It has its own Goal, SDG 5—with the ambition of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls—and is mentioned explicitly in 10 of the other Goals.”

Such an excellent “explainer” (from UN Women) concerning Goal 5 can be found at:

<https://www.unwomen.org/.../explainer-sustainable...>

The International Presentation Association (IPA) has as its UN Advocacy Focus the elimination of Violence Against Women and Children: “Violence against women and children is a serious human rights violation that occurs at alarming rates worldwide. Available data indicate that women’s and children’s experience of violence is widespread and takes different forms. The empowerment of women and children is essential in eliminating gender-based violence.”

Learn more about this Presentation focus at <https://globalpres.org/un-priority-action/>

Indeed, this Advent and beyond, let us work to evoke a world of justice through equality as described in the hopefulness of today’s Psalm 85:

“Justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

Justice shall walk before our God.”

*Isaiah 35: 1-10

DECEMBER 6 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #6:

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



“Ensure Availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for All”

“Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.”

Thus, begins today’s Advent reading from Isaiah.* Indeed, so many of God’s people need comfort in the form of basic necessities, like safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

In fact, 2.2 billion people (!) lack access to safely managed drinking water and 4.2 billion people (!) lack safely managed sanitation. All this lack of what is basic to humans---when, at this same time we are able to create driverless cars and reusable rockets!?!

We can certainly do our part by being more thoughtful and judicious in our use of water.* I imagine that if we had to haul our water for some distance, as many do, we would use water much more carefully.

Jesus’ teaching in today’s gospel from Matthew impels us to both compassion and action for those with little. Even if such compassionate action seems to make little economic sense.

Here is a compelling short video from the UN about water: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rQ0TNhx_YQ

Learn more about SDG Goal #6 at <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal6>

*PS: Have you ever thought ALL those gallons of fresh drinking water going down the drain each time we flush our modern toilets? Future humans in a water-scarce world will look back at our “civilization” and be scandalized at how wasteful we were--with what we needed most!

The imprudent use of so much fresh water to flush “away” our waste came home to me when I was first confronted with the simple technology of “Composting Toilets”. Take a few minutes to learn about a solution you may have not known about before: <https://www.angi.com/.../what-composting-toilet-and-does...>

*Isaiah 40:1-11

DECEMBER 7 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #7:

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



“Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All”

This Advent the Lord invites: “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened.” *

Most of us cannot imagine what it is like not to have electricity. We panic at even the shortest duration black-out.

And yet, even today, SO many people do not have any access to electricity. Many times more than that cook with fuel-sources that are not healthy. These people truly labor and are heavily burdened!

“Despite progress, there are still over 700 million people globally living in the dark and 2.4 billion cooking with harmful and polluting fuels. Although the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency have improved, progress is not fast enough to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7. The war in Ukraine is driving up global energy prices and increasing energy insecurity in Europe. To respond to the energy crisis, some European countries plan to speed up the transition to renewables and increase investments in renewables and energy efficiency, while some other countries plan to bring about a resurgence of coal, putting the green transition at risk.”

from: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7>

SDG Goal 7 works to provide:

- 1) Universal access to affordable and reliable energy (including electricity & clean cooking fuel)
- 2) An Increase of renewable energy, (currently only 11% of total energy), and
- 3) An increase of energy efficiency.

Learn more about SDG Goal #7 at: https://www.un.org/.../2016/08/7_Why-It-Matters-2020.pdf

*from today's Advent Gospel reading: Matthew 11:28

DECEMBER 8 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #8:

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



"Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all"

One of Advent's themes that especially speaks to me is that of HOPE.

My meaningful employment with the Presentation Sisters is one of the huge blessings in life that brings me hope.

Another source of hope is this website, and the awareness it brings: <https://betterworldshopper.org/>
(I'll share more on this in a bit.)

How has decent work that you have undertaken given rise to hope in your life?

SDG Goal 8 works to provide sustainable economic growth. Did you ever consider the common prefix in the words "economy" and "ecology" ...yes..." eco" -- from the Greek "oikos" meaning "of the household". There is no healthy or sustainable economy without a sustainable and healthy "house" (i.e.: planet) from which it stems – i.e.: the ecology. (Notice, then, the emphasis of Goal 8 linking sustainable with economic.)

SDG Goal 8 also works to provide decent employment for all. This includes women, children and those with disabilities. Currently there are 1.5 million children in forced labor. Those young people from ages 15-24 have higher unemployment than other age groups. And women make less than equitable pay for similar work than men.

YOU can support companies that focus on planet and people as well as profit. Check out Better World Shopper! Look on their website for any common consumer product--- and you'll see a grade given to each company that makes that product. Now you can make informed and critical choices on what products you buy and which companies you wish to support. This gives me HOPE!!

<https://betterworldshopper.org/>

Short informative video on Goal 8: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSroJIO9vgQ>

Learn more about SDG #8 at: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal8>

DECEMBER 9 – ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #9:

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



"Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation"

"But wisdom is vindicated by her works."

Thus, Jesus concludes today's Advent gospel reading from Matthew.* To what would Jesus compare today's generation?

Jesus' use of the image of children arguing in the marketplaces to describe his generation sounds eerily like cacophony often from international summits on Climate Change and perhaps like this month's COP 15 on Biodiversity: the dissonance between countries that are rich and those made poor. Each comes from their perspectives and interests, and what results often fails to make meaningful and lasting progress. Wisdom will be vindicated by our infrastructure and industrial works when they are indeed sustainable through innovation...when we wisely recognize and act upon the critical nature of our times through the lens (and reality) that we are one.

SDG Goal #9 "targets on creating strong foundation at both regional and trans-border levels to support both economic development and human well-being. It aims to create employment opportunities and improve the GDP of many underdeveloped and developing countries.

By 2030, the goal aims to upgrade the existing infrastructure in all countries. It promotes resource efficiency, clean and environmentally sound technological and industrial processes. The goal also supports fostering innovation and creative thinking to improve scientific and technical research. Finally, the SDG 9 aims to provide an efficient and sustainable environment to develop a country's economy and avoid exploitation of workers and innovators."

- <https://www.valueearth.com/sdg-9-and-how-can-we-achieve-it/>

Learn more about SDG 9 at <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal9>

*Matthew 11:16 - 19

DECEMBER 10– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #10:

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



“Reduce inequality within and among countries”

Clearly one of the predominant themes from the Psalms this season is the advent of justice. So too the ancient prophets call for justice. As does Jesus by both his challenging words and unconventional deeds.

How can justice be had in our current world beset with inequality? African and island nations are feeling the effects of climate change in severe ways, even though they did very little to contribute to the problem. Indigenous, people of color, women and girls the world over particularly live the effects of inequality. So too, these effects of inequality are inter-generational.

“These patterns of inequality get passed on from generation to generation. Therefore, early interventions and investing in all children, especially the poorest and most marginalized, is central to breaking intergenerational poverty and inequality. Achieving Goal 10 and the SDGs more broadly requires a deliberate strategy to reach the furthest behind, first.”

- <https://data.unicef.org/sdgs/goal-10-reduced-inequalities/>

SDG 10 sets out seven targets to drastically reduce inequality by 2030! Learn more about the targets of SDG 10 at <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal10>

Let us pray this Advent for God’s reign of equality to come!

DECEMBER 11– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #11:

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



“Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”

Dramatic transformation!

This is a theme that resounds in today’s Advent prophesy from Isaiah.* Such amazing transformation is also recounted in the healing compassion of Jesus by Matthew.*

Dramatic transformation is needed in our times as cities around the world are expanding. Transformation in terms of planning, access to transportation, resiliency and sustainability are the goals of SDG 11.

In 2008, for the first time in history, the global urban population outnumbered the rural population.

“Rapid urbanization results in extreme poverty as governments struggle to keep up with increasing amount of inhabitants. SDG 11 works to ensure that everyone has access to safe and affordable housing, basic services and that everyone can utilize sustainable transport systems.”

Watch this short video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJSz79dY2tI>

Let us be a transforming presence this Advent and beyond! By way of our imagination, our good works, our compassion, our commitment to justice and our openness to the other, we can effect change for livable, safe and sustainable environments.

Learn more about SDG Goal 11 at: <https://sdgs.un.org/.../sustainable-cities-and-human...>

*Isaiah 35: 1-6, 12; Matthew 11: 2-11

DECEMBER 12– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #12:

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



“Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”

“...for nothing will be impossible for God.”

Thus, we hear in today’s Advent Gospel reading* God bringing forth life from what was previously sterile. How does that happen?

We also hear of an angel foretelling the Holy Spirit evoking life from a virgin. How does that happen?

How do we have hope in a world where 1/3 of all food is wasted? What life can come from that?

What life can emerge on our planet where currently most plastic and e-waste is not being safely managed?

Such unsustainable patterns of production and consumption are the root cause of triple planetary crisis: climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

SDG 12 seeks to achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. SDG 12 also seeks to encourage both corporations and individuals everywhere to adopt sustainable practices.

We can do our part to ensure life by living with less---certainly with less food waste, energy waste and solid waste.

Just as God worked through individuals and governments who were cooperative in Biblical times, so too life can come forth in our time from seemingly desperate and impossible conditions. Let us live simply and cooperate with God and each other...and bring forth life!

Helpful short video on SDG 12: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAf32-9wHhc>

Learn more about SDG 12 at: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal12>

* Luke 1:26 - 38

DECEMBER 13– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #13:

13 CLIMATE ACTION



“Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”

May our “yes” mean “yes”!

Today’s Advent Gospel reading* is about the “yes & no brothers”. One says an initial yes to the task at hand, but then later refuses to sacrifice of himself. The other brother, at first, declines the request, but has a change of heart and gives himself over to the need of the time.

Dealing effectively with Climate Change is the pressing need of our time. What is our initial response to the challenges posed by Climate Change? Denial? Acceptance? Repression? Activism? Delay?

What is (and will be) our longer-term response? Are we giving ourselves over to this pressing need of our time? Are we living SDG 13 by taking “urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”?

Or, are we maintaining our perspectives and lifestyles as always?

Ponder your initial and ongoing response(s) to Climate Change from this poignant video reflection of today’s Gospel:

<https://bible.usccb.org/.../video/2022-12-13-reflection-188>

“The links between climate change and sustainable development are strong. Poor and developing countries, particularly least developed countries, will be among those most adversely affected and least able to cope with the anticipated shocks to their social, economic and natural systems.

The associated targets of SDG 13 focus on the integration of climate change measures into national policies, the improvement of education, awareness-raising and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warnings.”

Learn more about SDG 13 at

<https://sdgs.un.org/topics/climate-change>

and <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13>

*Matthew 21:28 - 32

DECEMBER 14– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #14:

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



“Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”

Advent’s readings provide such lovely imagery from nature. Longed-for justice and peace are also a predominant theme.

Both nature and justice stand out in today’s Psalm 85 as well as the reading from Isaiah:

“God, the designer and maker of the earth, who established it,
not creating it to be a waste, but designing it to be lived in.” *

What an amazing planet we are a part of! Not every planet has even land, but Earth has both land AND water! However, the oceans, the planet’s largest ecosystem, are endangered. Let us ensure that Earth’s oceans remain a habitat (for so, so many species) to be lived in, and not a waste.

SDG 14 works to promote sustainability and eliminate pollution, overfishing, acidification and warming of oceans.

Learn more about SDG 14 at <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal14>

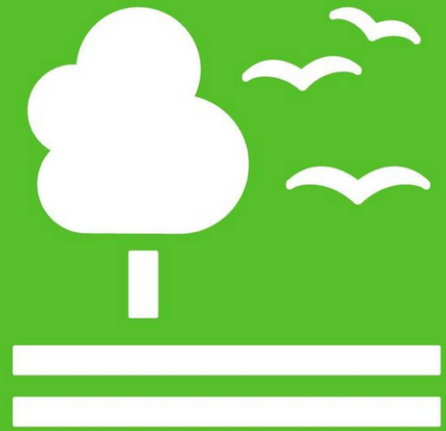
“Oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth’s ecosystem and are critical to sustainable development. They cover more than two-thirds of the earth’s surface and contain 97% of the planet’s water. Oceans contribute to poverty eradication by creating sustainable livelihoods and decent work. Over three billion people depend on marine and coastal resources for their livelihoods. In addition, oceans are crucial for global food security and human health. They are also the primary regulator of the global climate, an important sink for greenhouse gases and they provide us with water and the oxygen we breathe. Finally, oceans host huge reservoirs of biodiversity.”

from <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/oceans-and-seas>

*Isaiah 45:6C-8, 18, 21C-25

DECEMBER 15– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #15:

15 LIFE ON LAND



“Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.”

What kind of person do you most admire?

What sort of person do you hold in high regard?

I’ll bet your answer has something to do with that person being loving. Those who are broad-minded, inclusive, loving, compassionate and forgiving attract us and bring out our best.

Why do we hold such loving persons in great esteem? I believe because these persons reflect the loving nature of God. Today’s Advent reading* speaks of the deep marital love that God has for God’s people (and I believe for all of Creation). Can such intimate devotion evoke our intimacy in return? Can we broaden a lived-out intimacy to include the other-than-human world all around us? Can we allow God’s love to evoke a “comprehensive compassion” within us?

SDG Goal 15 broadens our perceptions about “our” world...and takes a long, deep look at critical signs-of-our-times such as desertification and loss of forests and biodiversity. With a main cause for these detrimental effects being agribusiness---we need to pause and ponder what is driving agribusiness. (Answer: “WE” are driving agribusiness).

The most effective action WE can take to align with the goals of SDG 15 “Life on Land” is to cut back and even eliminate our meat-based diet. That would be SUCH a hugely positive effect... caused by a broadened love and a comprehensive compassion!

This type of deeply personal and 3x daily action is precisely what is needed for the health of ourselves and planet Earth. Won’t we, can’t we cut back on/eliminate meat...for love...for life?

Advent is maybe not so much about us waiting on God, perhaps it’s about God waiting for us.

*Isaiah 54:1 -10

DECEMBER 16– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #16:

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”

Thus begins Isaiah’s prophecy* in today’s Advent reading:

“Observe what is right, do what is just;
for my salvation is about to come,
my justice, about to be revealed.”

So too, SDG 16 works to bring about justice, peace, inclusivity and sustainability.

This Goal especially focuses in on justice for children:

“To protect children from violence and ensure their access to justice, as part of their public health response. UNICEF has three key asks of governments towards Goal 16:

1. Peaceful societies – to protect children from violence, exploitation and abuse.
2. Just societies – to ensure that every child is fully respected, protected and fulfilled.
3. Inclusive societies – to engage all children in processes and decisions that affect them and society more broadly.”

from <https://data.unicef.org/.../goal-16-peace-justice-strong.../>

In harmony with SDG 16, the International Presentation Association (IPA) is committed to the elimination of violence against women and children in all its forms, including human trafficking.

Learn more about this Presentation priority at: <https://globalpres.org/women-and-children/>

Let us hasten Isaiah’s prophecy of the coming of justice!

Let us bring about God’s reign of peace!

Let us usher in Advent’s dream of inclusivity and sustainability!

Learn more about SDG 16 at: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal16>

*Isaiah 56:1-3a, 6-8

DECEMBER 17– ADVENT REFLECTION ON SDG GOAL #17:

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



“Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”

“Justice shall flourish in God’s time, and fullness of peace forever.”

Today’s Advent responsorial Psalm 72 beautifully illustrates what we await, long for and work towards: God’s reign of Justice & Peace. We work best towards this realizing this reign when we work together. Indeed, SDG 17 emphasizes partnerships and cooperation when working for the realization of all seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. We especially need the cooperation of wealthier nations to heal the debt of developing countries.

“The SDGs can only be realized with strong global partnerships and cooperation.

A successful development agenda requires inclusive partnerships — at the global, regional, national and local levels — built upon principles and values, and upon a shared vision and shared goals placing people and the planet at the center.

Many countries require Official Development Assistance to encourage growth and trade. Yet, aid levels are falling, and donor countries have not lived up to their pledge to ramp up development finance.

Strong international cooperation is needed now more than ever to ensure that countries have the means to recover from the pandemic, build back better and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”

-from <https://unric.org/en/sdg-17/>

This concludes our bringing together the essence of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals with the season of Advent during these first 17 days of December. May we all cooperate in making major progress towards Sustainability during the last 7 years of this decade. Thank you for all that you are and do towards building God’s reign of Justice and Peace!

Blessed rest of your Advent Season...and beyond!