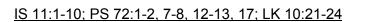


First Week of Advent Tuesday December 1st, 2020

*Ms. Marie Smith, BCHS Math Teacher, shares her reflections on today's Scripture readings.* 





When I read the gospel for today the first line jumped out at me. "Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit ...". What a foreign concept this is for many of us these days. Our hearts are weary of news of more sickness and more lives lost. We are saddened by the loss of holiday traditions and time with the ones we love. We are weary of the contentious election that has drawn us away from each other. We are discouraged by the injustices against our brothers and sisters we read about each day. But rejoice is exactly what Jesus is calling us to do. Advent is a beautiful time to remind ourselves that in the end it is God who holds our truth. It is God who has all the answers. And when we are able to accept this truth we can relax into His loving arms and be children. Children that can rejoice at all blessings God gives us each day and trust in the end that all will be well. Our Father is in charge!

"I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth". I give you praise and thanks for the sun that faithfully rises every day. I give you thanks for my family and friends that I love and cherish. I give you thanks for the students that bless my days with questions, hard work and a laugh or two. I give you thanks for my colleagues, the administrators and the parents who are working so hard to support our school under such challenging circumstances. And I am praying this Advent season that I am able to see and be grateful for the greatest gift of all - Jesus!

## Faith: Lived, Deepend, Celebrated

During these uncertain times, we welcome your prayer requests. The Bishop Chatard community will lift up your prayer intentions in the weekly BCHS Prayer Chain. **Email Mr. Steven Patzke at** <a href="mailto:spatzke@bishopchatard.org">spatzke@bishopchatard.org</a> your prayer intentions or to join the prayer chain.