Stay Awake, Watch, Wait!

Stay awake, watch, wait! It is Advent, now a time we are called to be alert to God's presence. Is this a time when we prepare for the birthday of that babe in the manger – certainly, in part. It is also a time when we await our Savior coming again in glory. In the meantime, we are called to ***Stay awake, watch, wait!***

Advent comes from a Latin word, *adventus*, meaning coming or arrival. Yes, we keep awake, watch and wait for Jesus' birthday, but also a time when he will return. How do we wait? Do we sit and get comfortable and think about it – perhaps, however, let us each day use this devotional resource for ways to pray, read scripture, and act in ways we, too, usher in the kingdom and the presence of God.

Did you know even the colors we see call us to stay awake, watch and wait. At church, do you see the color of royal blue? It is the color of hope – the hope we know that Jesus is always with us. Do you see a circle of garland and 4 candles? It is another way we stay awake and watch and wait – we call it an Advent Wreath. We light one candle as we move through these 4 weeks of waiting.

We now begin a very busy time with events, festive gathers and so much more, but let us pause, certainly use this devotion. Let us now ***Stay awake, watch and wait*** – at every turn let us give thanks and celebrate the sacred presence of that baby in the manger, the Savior of the world.

Advent blessings!