**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 9th 2018

**Put on the beauty of the glory of God**

In the First Reading we hear words of such encouragement! It’s made me smile just reading through them. We hear that we must cast off *sorrow* and *distress* and **put on the beauty of the glory of God.** This beauty is described in a few ways, as a cloak of integrity but also a diadem of the glory of God. A diadem is a type of crown. It talks about royalty! The reading talks about us being brought back like royal princes and princesses. Because ultimately this is what we are if we choose to follow Christ. If we choose to be like Him, the King of the Universe, then we reflect His majesty. And how to we do that?? Well the Second Reading helps up there - St Paul prays that we, like the Philippians he is writing to, grow in love, knowledge and perception of each other and Christ so we can “**reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God”.** So just like John the Baptist we need to prepare a way, not just so that other people can see Jesus but ultimately that WE can prepare a way IN OURSELVES. Let’s put on the beauty of the glory of God, let’s prepare a way so we can all trust in the mighty Name of Jesus Christ.

Catherine

SYMT