

**THE
PROPHET
ISAIAH IN
ADVENT**

**BRIAN
PUREFIELD**



OUTLINE OF SESSION

- **The Rhythm of Advent**
 - **Immediate Preparation: Dec. 17th – 24th**
- **Reading on 20th Dec.: Isaiah 7:10-14**
 - **Historical Background**
 - **Interpretation on Two Different Levels**
 - **Link with Gospel: Luke 1:26-38**
 - **Contemporary significance**

IMMEDIATE PREPARATION

DECEMBER 17th – 24th

- **Historical reason**
 - **Christian Gaul & Spain**
 - **Preparation for Epiphany**
 - **Baptism**
- **Akin to Holy Week**
- **Series of Wonderful Births**
- **OT & NT: Prophecy & Fulfilment**

ISAIAH 7:10-14



ISAIAH WARNING AHAZ

- **Historical Background**
- **Description of King Ahaz in 2 Kings 16**
- **Description of King Hezekiah in 2 Kings 18**

ISAIAH 7:10-14

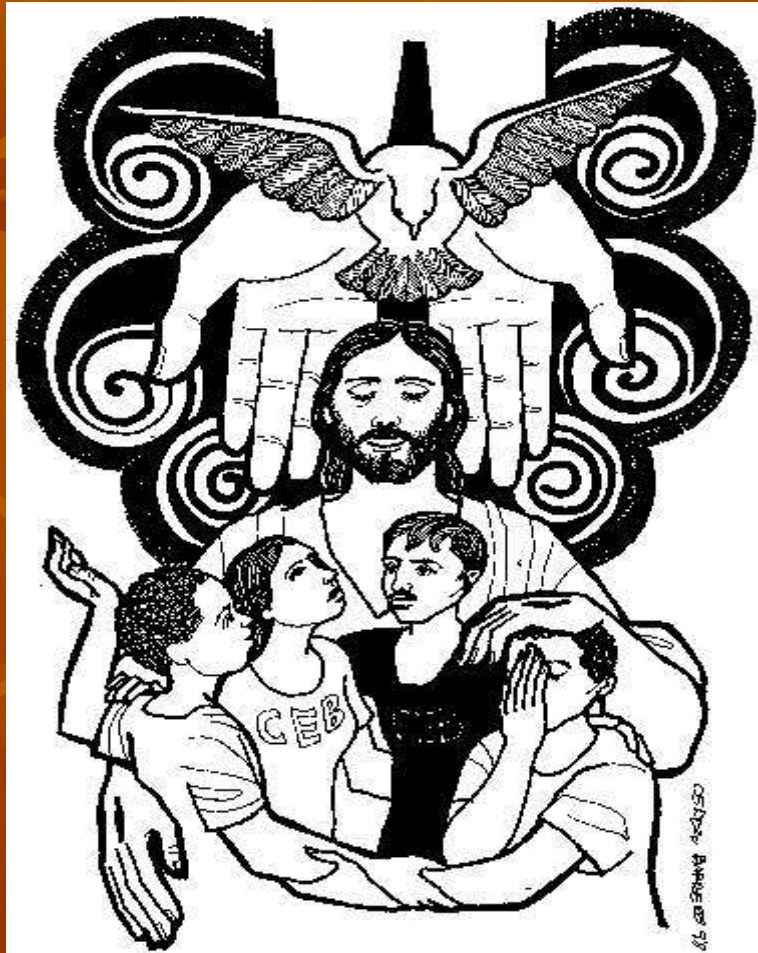
- *“Ask for a sign....”*
 - A revelation from God
 - Reassurance of God’s presence
 - Ahaz refuses – out of piety?
 - Isaiah gives a prophecy
- King is addressed as *“House of David”*
 - Cf. Heir to promises made to David (2 Sam 7)
 - God’s blessing on Judah & on God’s people
 - Messianic prophecy

ISAIAH 7:10-14

- *“The maiden is with child...”*
 - Encouragement
 - Continuation of Davidic dynasty
 - God of solidarity
- **The maiden:**
 - *Almah*
 - *Betulah*
 - *Parthenos (LXX)*



SECOND LEVEL OF MEANING



- Mt 1:22-23 applies Is 7:14 to the birth of Jesus
- Cf. also:
Mt 18:20 &
Mt 28:20

Dec 20th: THE ANNUNCIATION

- Lk 1:26-38
 - Fulfilment of prophecy
 - Implications beyond Isaiah's wildest dreams



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



- *“Look at the humility of God....Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, so that He who gives Himself totally to you, may receive you totally.”*