

Daily Homily
1 Week of Advent 2020
St. Francis Xavier; priest
3 December 2020
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I love the sign that is on our dumpster these days, we go by it so often it's probably not even noticed anymore ... "The roughest storms prove the strength of our anchors." An anchor's strength really isn't tested until it has to face a storm. It's in the storm that we learn just how reliable it will be. In the midst of a storm, if it's unreliable, it is unfortunately too late to serve its purpose or to be of any worth or to provide any good.

We say this about our vocations. We don't really know what it's like to be a priest or to be married until we encounter our first storm. When we come through on the other side, we will be worn and weathered a bit, but if we come through we will either be stronger or we won't.

I can't think of any storm more upturning in my lifetime than the closing of the churches last March. It was understandable as we were trying to figure out everything. Then again, we remained closed which meant no public celebration of Holy Week or Easter. That was heartbreaking. However, we are weathering this storm. Will we come out on the other side of it stronger or not?

Advent calls us to look to our foundation. Isaiah declares that the "Lord is an eternal Rock." This is what we want to be built upon. Jesus knows, build on rock and not on sand. Sure, our faith will be tested by storms. And while some will go mad around us, will it be people of faith who endure? Advent says another storm is coming, this storm is called Christ the Lord. Are you ready to prove your strength?