



**Archdiocese of San Antonio**  
**Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller**



**Homily – St. Peter-St. Joseph Children’s Home Mass**  
**December 4, 2015**

Advent is a time of transition. As we prepare for the Feast of Christmas, we look backwards, at the present, and toward the future. We look back at the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem nearly two thousand years ago. We look forward to his Second Coming at the final judgment. We look for his presence among us now.

Transitions are not always easy. We are going through a time of transition in leadership here at St. PJ’s. Our residents are transitioning from their homeland with the hope of living in a new land. Children are growing up, and our staff and supporters lovingly accompany them and their mothers during this time of transition.

Today’s first reading comes from a time of transition, of crisis, among God’s people. Their world was filled with gloom and darkness. They could not see the future, and they were suffering greatly. The prophet Isaiah tells them – and us – that we are to trust in God’s

**promises to us. God can transform a desert into a garden, a wilderness into an oasis. God can transform our lives, heal us, forgive us our sins, allow his love to overflow in our hearts so that we can share that love with all whom we encounter.**

**In the gospel two blind men cry out to Jesus: “Son of David, have pity on us!” They are living as outcasts, unable to support themselves except by begging. They are separated from their families. They only have one another and share the same dream: They want to see. They want to be free of blindness. Jesus recognizes this and asks them if they believe that he can heal them, that he can give them a new life. In faith, they answer Yes! And Jesus heals them. He touches their eyes and they see. Is it not interesting that two blind men recognize Jesus as the Son of David, the Messiah, while many in the crowd see only a man from Nazareth, a Galilean, someone to look down upon? “Son of David, have pity on us!” We want to see! We want to hear your voice! We want to become the persons you want us to be. We want your healing touch. Touch my eyes! My ears! My heart! This is the true message of Christmas: God loves each one of us more than we can imagine! Let us open the doors of our hearts to receive God’s love that comes to us through Jesus. Let him bring us God’s peace. Jesus, continue to walk with us on our journey. Deepen our**

**faith! Release the goodness you have planted in our hearts! Give us  
new life!**