

LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN

By Julie Mussché

From the Book of Amos

"But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!"

AMOS 5:24

Reflection

Justice

The first reading on the first Sunday of Advent ended with "The LORD our justice" (Jerimiah 33:16). The full passage for the transitional day promised a redeemer who will do what is "right and just" and, therefore, the land will be safe and secure. Certainly, the message speaks to the desire of most of us.

No question, many of the Advent readings have stressed God's justice, particularly for the poor, the disenfranchised. There is an implied aspiration for all of us through the readings, to be just and righteous as is God. A thread of Judaism running through Christianity, the atavistic foundations woven within the teachings of Jesus, implies that there is a moral and spiritual obligation to act as such.

As we begin to move toward Christmas we hearken back to the beginnings of the Christian tradition and are reminded to renew our commitment to our origins. Supposing that acts of justice and righteousness are not one-dimensional but invite a broad exposition of activation, the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy offer a context for reflection and discernment toward enlivening the God's hopes and desires for us all.



Themis Figurine at Lawyers Office

Photo by Pavel Danilyuk

For Pondering

- When have you received an act of justice? Considering this experience, how did it make you feel at the time? What were you grateful for?
- When have you shown justice or acted justly? What was the circumstance? What would you like to remember and celebrate?
- How is God inviting you to be just and righteous as you move into

Christmastide?

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