

Looking Forward



“Mary arose and went with haste”
(Luke 1 : 39)

29th November 2020 :
the First Sunday of
Advent, the beginning of
the Church’s New Year.
In the Gospel Jesus tells
his friends : “Be on your
guard, stay awake!”



In June 2019 Pope Francis announced that the theme for the next World Youth Day, in Lisbon in 2022, would be “Mary arose and went with haste”. Mary was a young Jewish girl who had had the deepest experience : the Angel appeared to her and announced that she would bear the Son of God. The angel left her (Luke 1 : 38) and the very next thing that she did (Luke 1 : 39) was to
GET UP AND GO

to tell the news to her cousin Elizabeth in a faraway town in Judah, some three days’ journey away. She didn’t hesitate, she got up and went straight away to begin sharing her own personal good news which would be turn out to be Good News for everyone ...

**ARE YOU ON YOUR GUARD? ARE YOU AWAKE?
ARE YOU READY TO GET UP AND GO?**

Stay alert, the government says. Be on your guard. Save lives. Important messages, but it seems strange to encourage people to “Get up and go” when Lockdown tells us to stay at home whenever possible.

But “Get up and go” is an attitude. It’s being willing to DO something, to share something, to have a positive effect on other people.

**WHAT CHARITY INITIATIVES
ARE YOU SUPPORTING
DURING ADVENT?
HOW ARE YOU PREPARING?**

ST ANDREW’S DAY : 30th NOVEMBER

A saint who had that “Get up and go” attitude. An ordinary fisherman, yet he was drawn to become a disciple of John the Baptist and then of Jesus. The Greek Church calls him Protokletos, the “First-Called”. Andrew became an apostle, a missionary and a martyr. He is the patron saint of Scotland and the instrument of his martyrdom, an X-shaped cross, is remembered in the Scottish saltire which is part of the Union Flag.



Detail of “The Crucifixion of St Andrew” by Caravaggio



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