Thought for the day – Monday 5th December 2022 By Revd Kit Gunasekera Advent Expectation.

Our cat Georgey has worked out that when I come downstairs for the first time, around about 6.15 or so in the morning, not to expect too much from me. All I am doing is getting my self a cup of coffee. We greet each other, and I mix his biscuits (for some reason he always needs his biscuits mixed before he eats them!) I soak his dishes in hot water because I have been too lazy to clean them the night before, and then I head off upstairs. He know that is it, and he contentedly wanders back into the living room.

However, when I come down the stairs the second time, about an hour or so after that, he knows that it is time to wake up. He knows the eagerly awaited Felix pouch will be opened, and he will be let out for his morning stroll. So, he is much more animated. He is excited. He purrs, he rubs him self around my legs, he meows. He scratches his nails on the carpet. He sometimes does an excited dash along the corridor. He sometimes gets so excited that our other cat has to reprimand him with a well timed punch to one of his back legs!

I really am not comparing myself to Jesus! However, during Advent, we get ready to celebrate Jesus' first coming to us as a baby. And that was a powerful thing. However, we are also getting ready for His return, His coming to us a second time. Advent is a time to prepare for both, but when He shall return, all our 'Felix' pouches will be opened (!) - the Bible calls it a wedding feast - we will be finally 'let out', freed from sin, sickness, injustice and fear, and all of our hopes and dreams will be met in him, as the familiar Carol says.

May we find our waiting in Advent a time of expectancy and anticipation.