

## Reflection Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Advent St Lucy 2022

**Saint Lucy** was martyred in Syracuse, probably during the persecution of Diocletian (c303 -). Devotion to her spread rapidly across practically the whole Church. Her name is included in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

Lucia means *light*, a rather appropriate feast to celebrate in this season of light. One of the great qualities of Jesus was his ability not to let the sins of the past, however bad, influence the decisions made about the future. His short parable today suggests that whatever we may have avoided doing in the past, we can always choose to put it right.

### **Pope Benedict XVI**

Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, 'the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,' is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes. He is a Father who never stops thinking of us. And, in extreme respect for our freedom, the Father desires to meet us and visit us; he wants to come, to dwell among us, to stay with us. His 'coming' is motivated by the desire to free us from evil and death, from all that prevents our true happiness.

God comes to save us. In the first days after the Resurrection, the accent fell on the expectation of the Lord's Final Coming. However, now with Christmas approaching, the dominant note is on the commemoration of the event at Bethlehem, so that we may recognize it as the 'fullness of time.' Between these two 'manifested' comings it is possible to identify a third, which St. Bernard calls '*intermediate*' and '*hidden*,' and which occurs in the souls of believers and, as it were, builds a '*bridge*' between the first and the last coming!"