

Enter with Joy!

INTROIT *Philipp. 4:4-6.* Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety; but in every prayer let your petitions be made known to God.

Ps. 84:2. O Lord, You have blessed Your land; You have restored Jacob from captivity.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end, Amen.

- For the Third Sunday of Advent

Advent Reading Suggestions

Redemptoris Mater (Mary: God's Yes to Man)

by St. Pope John Paul II (on Formed.org)*

The Blessings of Christmas

by Joseph Ratzinger (on Formed.org)*

Advent of the Heart: Seasonal Sermons and Prison Writings by Alfred Delp (on Formed.org)*

Around the Year with the von Trapp Family

by Maria Augusta von Trapp

The True Meaning of Christmas

by Fulton J. Sheen

Sermons of St. Francis de Sales for Advent

*To access Formed using St. Paul's account:

Go to www.FORMED.org

Use code CW4J7P and follow the instructions.

The "O" Antiphons

From December 17 -23, each day has a sung prayer called an antiphon. The longing we feel as we wait through Advent is expressed as "O..."

For December 17:

O Wisdom, you came forth from the mouth of the Most High and reaching from beginning to end, you ordered all things mightily and sweetly. Come, and teach us the way of prudence.

For December 18-23:

O Leader of the House of Israel

O Root of Jesse's Stem

O Key of David

O Radiant Dawn

O King of All Nations

O Emmanuel

Catholic Household

Blessings & Prayers



Advent 2019 *Dec. 1 - 24*



Confession in Advent

If we remember that Advent is a penitential season, and if we consider what "we have done and left undone" that separates us from a loving and merciful God, how could we not want to be restored in that relationship? The answer may be that we find ourselves very busy, very distracted, very swept along by work, family, friends, recreation, and the rush to Christmas. It is for those very reasons that Advent is such a great gift to us: We have the invitation to slow down, be still for a moment, turn toward Jesus, and redirect our steps. Come to Confession! Come, Lord Jesus!

Other Resources

<http://usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent/index.cm>

<https://www.ewtn.com/adven>

WEEK THREE: Joy *Advent*

Advent: from the Latin *Advenire* (to come to)

Christ is coming! Gaudete!

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light a candle that is rose-colored instead of penitential purple, vestments may change to rose-colored, and we begin the service with an antiphon using St. Paul's exhortation to the Christians in Phillipi: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4). We designate this Sunday as Gaudete Sunday, Latin for "rejoice!" Why this shift from quiet penitence to joy? Is it because we need a break from waiting in darkness, acknowledging our sins, longing for a Savior? Do we have to stop being penitent in order to be joyful? To experience this aspect of Advent fully, we have to consider what we mean by "joy." Unlike happiness, true joy doesn't come and go with our circumstances. It is grounded in hope (see the First Sunday of Advent). Like a brilliant light, hope shines through any darkness. That is why St. Paul can say "Rejoice in the Lord always." Joy despite hardship, suffering, and trials is a consistent theme throughout Scripture, and it is an essential part of the penitential season of Advent.

(See also Habakkuk 3:17-18, 1 Thess 5:16-18, 1 Peter 1:6-7, and Jas 1:2-4, among many others.)

The Advent Wreath

The circle symbolizes the eternity of God, and the evergreens remind us of the soul's life and immortality. We remember that Jesus is the Light of the World as we light the candles, illuminating our spiritual darkness. Advent is a penitential season, so the candles are purple except for the rose candle used on Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday.



Watch your bulletin for more helpful information about this beautiful season!

*Wishing you
a Blessed Advent!*

*Your friends in our local
Fr. James E. Coyle
Council 9862 of the Knights
of Columbus*

An Advent Prayer

The following prayer is for each day of the third week of Advent, using the Advent wreath as part of the family liturgy. After the prayer, the mother lights the previous purple candles and the pink or rose candle – or family members can take turns lighting and blowing out the candles each night.

*Leader: O Lord, we beg You,
incline Your ear to our
prayers and enlighten the
darkness of our minds by
the grace of Your visitation.
Through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.*

The three candles are allowed to burn during the evening meals of the third week.