

WEEK

TWO: Love

Advent

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

The Second Sunday of Advent can be represented by the Love Candle of the Advent Wreath. In the drama of God's relationship to His people, there is no greater sign of His Love than His coming into our world, as a vulnerable baby, as our Savior, and as our Judge. Advent reminds us of all these "comings." As we wait, we can reflect on God's Love, the Blessed Virgin Mary's loving and faithful "Yes," and the invitation to us to share such Love.



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.



The Jesse Tree

The tradition of the Jesse Tree is a visible reminder of how Old Testament prophecy is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesse was the father of King David, and from them came the family of Jesus. The genealogy (family history) of Jesus in Matthew 1:1-17 includes 28 generations! (Continued on back.)

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 second week of Advent, using the Advent wreath as part of the family liturgy. After the prayer, the oldest child lights the first and second purple candles – or family members can take turns lighting and blowing out the candles each night. After the prayer, the candles are allowed to burn during the evening meals throughout the week.

*Leader: O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Your only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve You with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.*

A Prayer of Love

As we wait and pray through Advent, recalling our sins, confessing them through the Sacrament of Penance, and trusting God even in the darkness, we can be reminded that as St. John said, God doesn't just have love or show love: God is Love, always and everywhere. In gratitude, we share that Love and return it to Him:

O my God, I love You above all things with my whole heart and soul, because You are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of You. I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured. Amen.

A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mystical Rose, help all those who invoke you in their necessities, and since you are the ever Virgin Mary and Mother of God, obtain for us from your most holy Son the grace of keeping our faith, sweet hope in the midst of the bitterness of life, burning charity, and the precious gift of final perseverance. Amen.



December 9th
Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Advent 2019
Dec. 1 - 24

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.

Other Resources

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

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

The Jesse Tree

(continued from front)

Families make Jesse Trees from real trees or branches, from posterboard cutouts, or from commercially available kits. Part of the tradition is to place an ornament on the tree, purchased or homemade, every day through Advent, leading from early ancestors up to Jesus. These can be associated with stories of the characters from Scripture, such as Creation, Noah, Abraham, David, St. Joseph, Mary, or John the Baptist. From these, we see prophecies fulfilled through amazing family connections. For more detail, see a site such as:

www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=545