

“In his love Christ has filled us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth.”

Advent II Preface, Eucharistic Prayer



This chapter prepares us to celebrate the season of Advent.



Advent is a season of waiting and preparing.

WE GATHER

Stay Awake

Stay awake, be ready.
You do not know the hour when the
Lord is coming.
Stay awake, be ready.
The Lord is coming soon!
Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord is coming soon!

WE BELIEVE

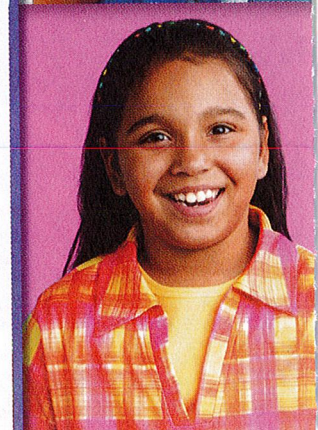
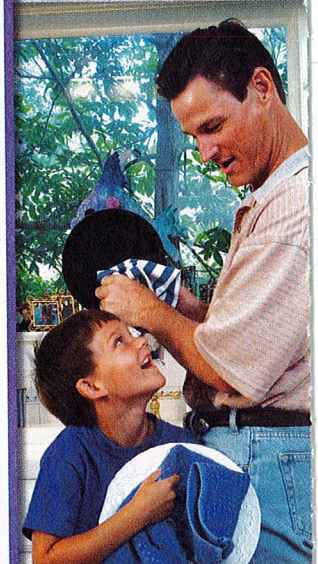
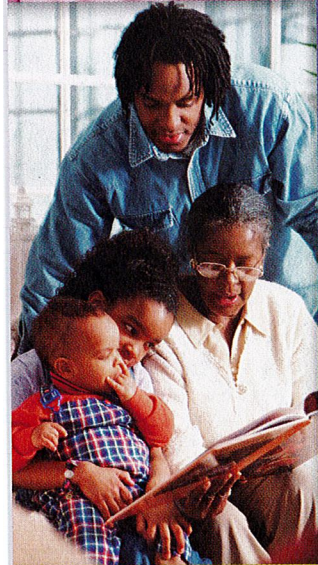
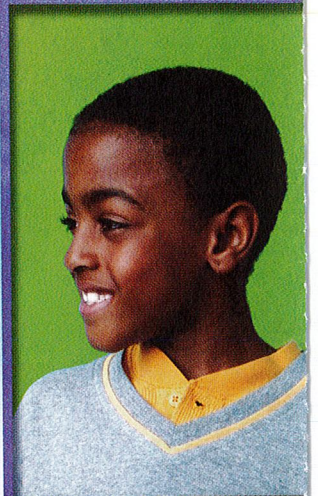
The season of Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus. During Advent we watch and wait.

We watch for signs of God's love in the world. We can see signs of God's love in:

- the gifts of his creation
- the loving ways people treat one another
- the work of the Church.

Think about some other signs of God's love. Talk about them.

Jesus is the greatest sign of God's love. Jesus is the Son of God who came into the world. Jesus brings life and light to all people.



The four weeks of Advent are filled with joy and hope. We celebrate this season at home and in our parish. One way of celebrating is by gathering around an Advent wreath. This wreath is made of evergreen branches and has four candles. There is one candle for each week of Advent. We pray as we light the candle each week.



Week One



On the first Sunday of Advent we light the first purple candle.



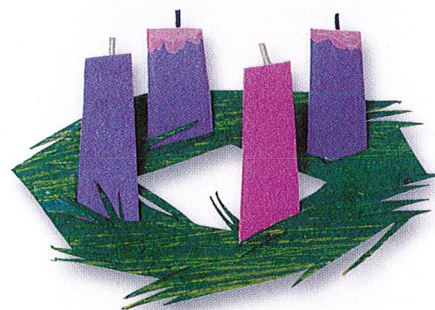
On the second Sunday of Advent we light the first and second purple candles.



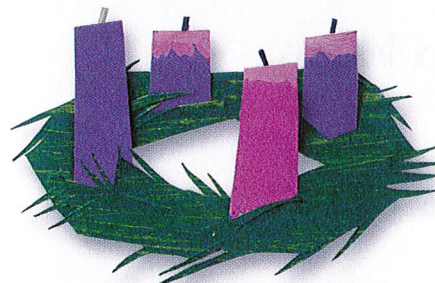
On the third Sunday of Advent we light the first and second purple candles and the rose candle.



On the fourth Sunday of Advent we light all four candles.



Week Two

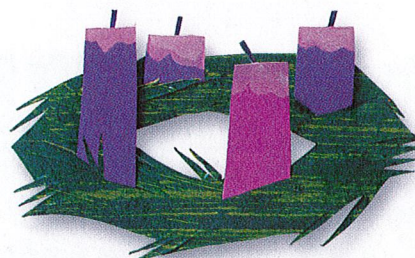


Week Three



Show how the wreath changes as the weeks of Advent go by.

We light the Advent wreath to remind us to watch and wait for the coming of Jesus. The light from the candles reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the World.



Week Four



WE RESPOND

Jesus asks us to share his light with others. During the season of Advent, we can help people to see God's love.



Fill out the Advent calendar. For each week of Advent, write or draw one thing you will do to help others see God's love.

The things you choose to do may be with your family, class, or parish.

First Week

Second Week

Third Week

Fourth Week



We Respond in Prayer

Leader: Praised be the God of joy and hope.

All: Jesus, you are the Light of the World.

Leader: Let us listen to a reading from the Old Testament.

“The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.” (Isaiah 9:1)

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Let us pray. To our hearts and to our homes,

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: To our families and friends,

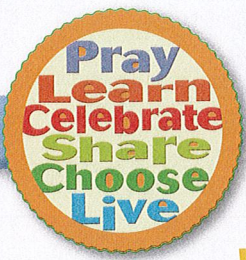
All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: To people everywhere,

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: Let us walk in the light of Jesus!

All: Come, Lord Jesus!



PROJECT DISCIPLINE

Picture This

Something is wrong with one of these pictures! Circle the picture that is correct.



DISCIPLINE CHALLENGE Which week of Advent is this wreath celebrating? _____

Make it Happen

Write a postcard to another disciple to tell him or her what you learned about Advent. Include how you will celebrate Advent.

Take Home

With your family use these words to write your own prayer for Advent. Pray it together.

- light Advent
- prepare
- wreath candle

