

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 28TH NOVEMBER 2021 HOPE



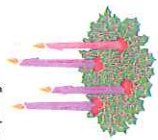
Jesus in our midst - An activity for the home.

The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition symbolising the passage of the four weeks of Advent. It is a circle of evergreen foliage that holds five candles. The circle represents God's infinite love and mercy and the evergreens the hope of eternal life. During the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday, until all candles are lit. The candles represent hope, love, joy and peace. Traditionally we use three purple candles, one pink candle and a white candle which we light on Christmas Day. Make an advent wreath and place it in a place where you can gather to pray.



Scan or Click on QR Code
for Colouring In Sheet

You can also colour in a paper wreath - follow the QR code for a colouring in sheet. Share a picture of your wreath with family and let them know that you are praying for them.



Prayer time at home

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

(Luke 21:25-28,34-36)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'



Music Suggestion for the
'Pause for Thoughts'
Hope for Everyone
by Matt Maher

From The Jerusalem Bible © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd.

A family member lights the first purple candle - the candle of hope.



Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Hope, because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. God sent us the Messiah, the Son of God, as he promised. As we look upon this first candle, we ask God to fill our hearts and minds with hope.

Prayer for a light in the darkness

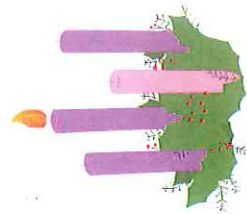
(adapted from the Christopher Prayer Book)

Father, grant that I may be a bearer of Christ Jesus, your Son. Allow me to warm the often cold, impersonal scene of modern life with your burning love. Strengthen me, by your Holy Spirit to carry out your mission of changing the world or some definite part of it, for the better. Despite my failures, bring home to me that my advantages are your blessings to be shared with others. Nourish in me a desire to build up rather than tear down. Never let me forget that it is far better to light one candle than to curse the darkness. And to join my light, one day, with yours.

Amen.

Advent Litany

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world.
You are light in our darkness.
Son of God, save us from our sins.
Son of Mary, deepen our love.
Bring hope into the lives of all people.
Give your peace to all nations.
Be the joy of all who love you.
Bring unity among all who believe in you.
Bless us as we gather here in your name.
Lord Jesus, stay with us always.



Let us pray. May Christ give us his peace and joy and let us share them with others. All peace and glory are his for ever. Amen.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.