

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 5TH DECEMBER 2021 LOVE



Jesus in our midst - An activity for the home.

Christmas decorations bring great cheer to the family home, especially the Christmas tree. The tree reminds us of all that is beautiful, all that is filled with the gentleness and the promise of God. It stands in our midst as a tree of light, that we might promise the light of Christ to one another and to our world. Gather together around the Christmas tree with the lights off. Bless the star or angel from the top of the tree with Holy Water, pray together and when you say Amen, turn the lights on.

God of all creation, we praise you for this tree which brings beauty, memories and the promise of life to our home. May your blessing be upon all who gather around this tree. Just as the Wise Men were guided by a star may be guided to Christ this Christmas.

May we wait expectantly for the Herald of the Angels to proclaim the coming of the Christ, the Prince of Peace. You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever. Amen.



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 3:1-6)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

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Tips for using this resource



Set aside time to pray

This is a time for you to connect with God, so find a time that will be free from interruptions or hurrying onto another task. Having a regular time to pray helps prayer to become part of our routine and strengthens us to love God, our neighbours and ourselves.

If you already have a time of prayer such as the Rosary you could combine this prayer with it.

Praying together as a family

Children love to be involved. Let them read, sing, share their thoughts and questions and at the end, they could blow out the candles to send their prayers to heaven. Families sometimes say it can be hard to make teenage children pray. Our advice is to invite them to be with you. The following words might help.

“Prayer is really important for me, it gives me strength, peace and a time to reflect. I pray for you every day and I’d really like us to pray together, having you with me would be a great gift.”

Pope Francis encourages an alliance between young and older people through the sharing of memories, wisdom, and experience of older generations. Young people are hungry for guidance and support as they prepare for the future. Why not share this time of prayer with someone from a different generation and be richly blessed in the process.



Get creative

You might have favourite hymns or reflective music that you wish to use in your time of prayer. Bring your playlist or CD player to your time of prayer or if you can sing or play an instrument, you can give great glory to God using your talents.



Create a prayer space. You might prefer to read the scriptures from your own Bible, pray in front of the crib or bring a favourite image. Couples might wish to light the candles from their wedding day or parents of a new baby, their baptismal candle.

Make use of online connections

Over the last year and a half we have become skilled in connecting with people using our phones and devices. Setting aside a time where people can connect for prayer online might be an activity you consider with family or friends.



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