

Family Liturgy – 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B) Sunday 29th November 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a purple cloth on the table or floor (the colour for Advent)
Place a bible and one candle symbolising the first Sunday of Advent with some greenery around the candle. Place a picture or a Christmas crib as a reminder of our preparation for the birth of Jesus. Place some holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Place any other symbols relevant to your family.



<http://clipart-library.com/>

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
Print out sheet if required

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent Year B.
Advent is a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.
We ask God to help us today to pray together as one family looking forward to this time to grow closer to God.

Opening prayer: God of love and new life, help us to listen to you in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. Help us to use listen to the Holy Spirit who guides us and to ‘stay awake’ as we prepare for the coming of Jesus in our lives. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark (13:33-37).

Jesus said to his disciples:
“Watch out and be ready! You don’t know when the time will come.
It is like what happens when a man goes away for a while
and places his servants in charge of everything.
He tells each of them what to do
and he orders the watchmen to be on their guard.

“So be on your guard!
You don’t know when the master of the house will come back.
It could be in the evening or at midnight
or before dawn in the morning.
But if he comes suddenly, don’t let him find you asleep.
I tell everyone just what I have told you.
Be on your guard!”

All: Glory to you O, Lord. “

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayerfully watch the video together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY5wY3tKc&t=42s>
(2mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why Jesus asks us to watch out and be ready?

I wonder how we can 'watch and be ready'?

I wonder how the Holy Spirit can guide us to do this?

I wonder what words you hear Jesus speaking to you in your hearts as you meet him in the Sacraments?

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Yes Lord I Believe by John Burland <https://youtu.be/7MR2iGDyUtE> (3 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(*We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer'*)

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Pat and all Church and world leaders: that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to help us to get ready during this Advent for Jesus to come to us.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time especially during this COVID-19 outbreak: that they may feel the love and care of others who help to relieve their suffering and to know that they are deeply loved by God.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for all people in our parishes and in our communities: that together we can grow in love as we get ready this Advent for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pray for all people, especially for children, who have received the Sacraments for the first time: that they will grow in love of Jesus and be ready to do their best to live as members of God's family. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

5 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*) Lord, hear us **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now be united in God's kingdom of love and mercy.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: God who calls us to be close, we believe in your love - you are the Creator of the world. We believe in your love – you sent Jesus to show us how to live a life of faith. We believe in your love – because of the Holy Spirit who breathes life through us and guides us. Amen.

Closing song: *I Light a Candle* by Andrew Chinn
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nx3kDs1Jd4c> (4mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook) speaking to Jesus of how you can use your gifts and talents to build up the community of love of God's kingdom.
- Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S02KOlw7dIA> to discover what Advent is about.
- Go to <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/files/f/25116/NATIVITY%20SCENE.pdf> with instructions on how to make a nativity scene for your room or home.