

A photograph of five tall, cylindrical candles in shades of purple and white, standing in a row. They are surrounded by a lush arrangement of green evergreen branches and purple ribbons. The scene is set in a church, with wooden pews and stained glass windows visible in the background. The text "ADVENT 2021" is overlaid in a white, stylized font, underlined.

ADVENT 2021

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Sunday 28
November
to Friday, 24
December

Advent is a period lasting four Sundays preparing for the birth of Jesus. The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Liturgical Year. The circle of the wreath reminds us of God, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning and no end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope we have in God, the hope of renewal and eternal life. The four candles represent the period of waiting during the four Sundays. The four Advent themes are HOPE, PEACE, LOVE, JOY. The white candle in the middle celebrates the birth of Jesus.

HOW TO MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cun0kJlLe4



BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.*

*May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.*

*May He come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.*

<http://litmus.dublindiocese.ie/2011/12/blessing-of-an-advent-wreath/>

An aerial photograph of a vast lavender field. A narrow, light-colored path or track runs from the top center of the frame towards the horizon, creating a strong sense of perspective. The lavender plants are in full bloom, displaying a vibrant purple color. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

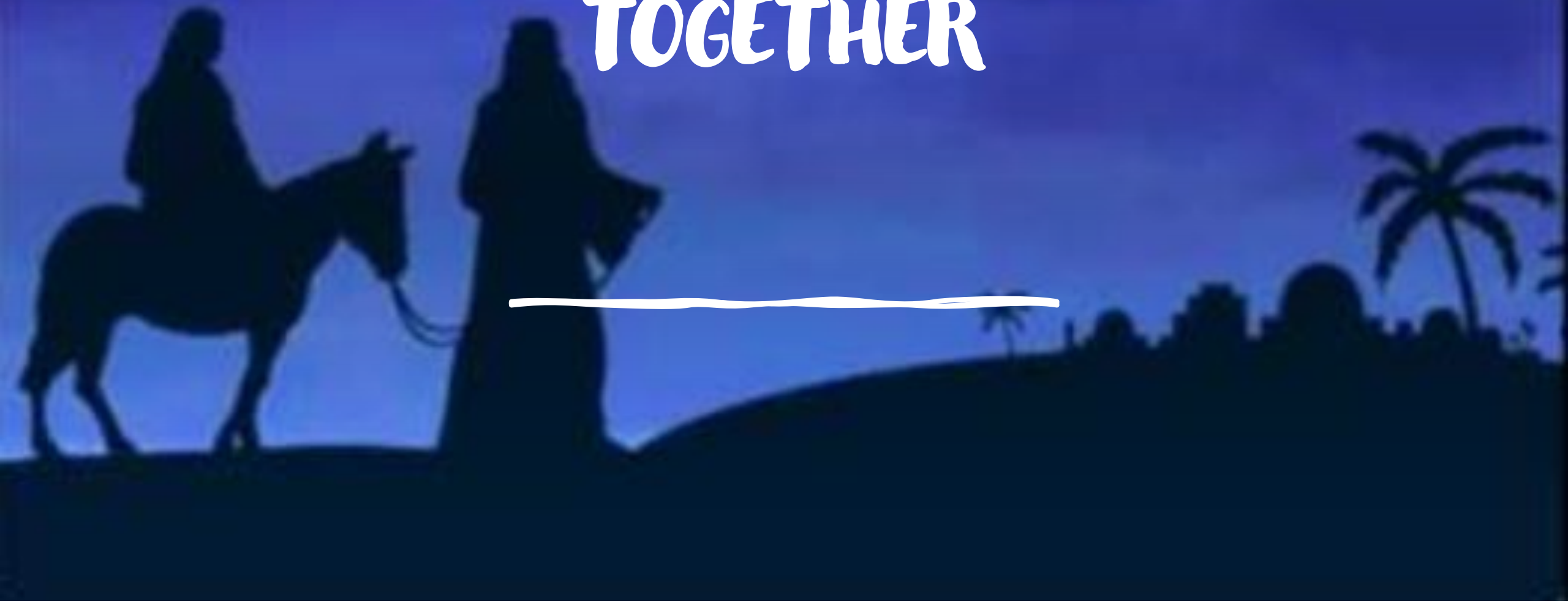
WE GATHER TO PRAY
IN ADVENT

Pause, pray and prepare for the Christmas Season.

- Loreto Schools' Online Prayer
- Tuesdays of Advent beginning on 30 November
- Lunchtime at 1.20 -1.35
- Links will be sent on the Monday of each week



JOURNEYING TO CHRISTMAS TOGETHER



ADVENT MUSIC



- **Wait for the Lord (Taizé)**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7GexlvX8HU>

- **Advent Song: Waiting for Christmas**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sp6OWxt2Rew>

- **Prepare the Way of the Lord**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEs5pH20TJc>

- **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7xtpJ4Q_Q-4

- **Waiting in Silence**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bg8XCxUtKec&list=PLArBI9pWmlwkjKXX5OWuyGOyrMVNjR5dZ>

- **Immanuel**

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iE_tuMplOho&list=PLArBI9pWmlwkjKXX5OWuyGOyrMVNjR5dZ&index=2



ADVENT CALENDAR

- <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar/>
- <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Advent-calendar-for-children>
- <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/calendars/childrens-advent-calendar/>

Advent Themes

1st Week: Hope

2nd Week : Love

3rd Week: Joy (rose-coloured candle)

4th Week: Peace

Arts & Faith in Advent

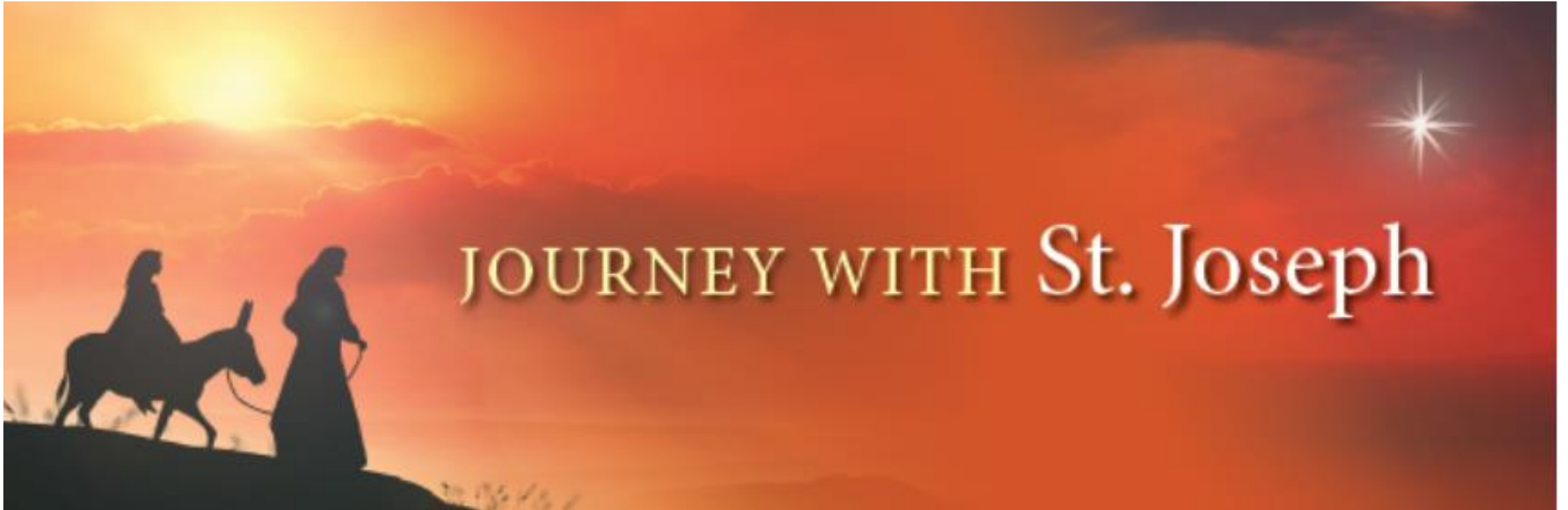
- **Cycle C: Advent 2021**
 - [Arts & Faith: Week 1 of Advent, Cycle C](#)
 - [Arts & Faith: Week 2 of Advent, Cycle C](#)
 - [Arts & Faith: Week 3 of Advent, Cycle C](#)
 - [Arts & Faith: Week 4 of Advent, Cycle C](#)
 - [Arts & Faith: Your Christmas Reflection, Cycle C](#)
- https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/arts-and-faith-advent/?utm_source=ignsp&utm_medium=blog&utm_campaign=advent2021



Readings in Advent

- FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - November 28.
Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25: 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14;
Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36
- SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 5.
Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126:1-6; Philippians 1:4-6,
8-11; Luke 3:1-6

- THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 12.
Zephaniah 3:14-18a; (Ps.) Isaiah 12:2-6;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18
- FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 19.
Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45



- <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/advent-year-in-our-church/>

O ANTIPHONS



- O Wisdom - December 17
- O Adonai - December 18
- O Flower of Jesse's Stem - December 19
- O Key of David - December 20
- O Radiant Dawn - December 21
- O King of all Nations - December 22
- O Emmanuel - December 23
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhK_SjfMDX4

- The "O Antiphons" traditionally sung during the last week before Christmas (December 17-23), are more than a thousand years old.
- The traditional Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is probably the most popular and well known way of remembering some of those antiphons.
- They are called the "O Antiphons" simply because each begins with the word, "O" Originally used in monastic vespers during the last seven days before Christmas; gradually they came into use in the whole church.

Advent prayer resources

- <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Advent-family-prayer-ideas>
- <https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>
- <https://missio.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Advent-and-Christmas-Resources-2021.pdf>
- Advent Examen
- <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent-examen/>



A stylized illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, a baby lies in a manger. To the left, a figure kneels in prayer. To the right, a figure kneels holding a long staff. The scene is framed by a dark silhouette of a stable structure. The background is a vibrant blue and green gradient with soft, glowing light spots. A bright star is visible in the upper left sky area.

Isaiah 11

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding ...

Behold This Newborn Child – Joyce Rupp

- Each time a child is born,
particularly after a grandparent dies,
we sense that life goes on.
All is not lost.
There is a deep resilience,
stronger than the grasp of death.
- The babe is lifted high
toward the welcoming stars,
a young life
with just a kernel of ripening,
a new resident
in the heart of existence.
- All those gathered proclaim:
- “Behold, behold, this new born one!
Let us nurture and keep alive
the sacred mystery of hope
hallowed in this young one’s heart.
We sow our dreams of a future
in this freshly birthed being.
We give our loving promise
to guide and guard this child.
Always we will remember
our oneness in the dancing cosmos.”

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- The stars say not a word.
They bow in reverence
to this creature,
whose adult hands will hold
power enough
to blow up a planet,
or seed a waiting garden.
 - The stars smile,
for they too have hope,
and night
turns toward the dawn.





Concluding Prayer

Loving God, We give you thanks for the blessings of this holy Advent season as we wait in faith, hope, love and joy.

We look forward to the coming of the light of Christ at Christmas.

At this challenging time of pandemic, help us to turn towards that light in our lives.

May we be people of peace and justice all the days of our lives. Amen.