

A photograph of an Advent wreath with four candles: a pink one on the left, a white one in the center, and two purple ones on the right. The candles are surrounded by greenery and small white flowers. The background is a dark wooden wall.

ADVENT 2024

God of hope, make us an Advent people,
preparing the way for life in all its fullness.



In Advent 2024,
we pray for
peace





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/>

ADVENT 2024

December 1,-24, 2024

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, JOY, LOVE**. The white candle in the middle celebrates the birth of Jesus.



A photograph of four lit purple candles on a green pine branch. The candles are lit, with yellow flames. The background is dark with some bokeh light effects. A white curved line separates this image from the white background below.

Advent Calendar 2024

Advent Calendar 2024

- <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/adventcalendar/>
- [Children's Advent Calendar | Loyola Press](#)

Hope

Advent Calendar 2024

- Advent marks the beginning of the new calendar year for Christians. The digital Advent calendar offers a distinctive and spiritually enriching way to journey through this holy season. Based on the Jubilee Year's theme of *#Hope*, the 2024 calendar offers prayers and resources designed to guide individuals, families and faith communities to reflect on the hope that Christ brings to the world, while also preparing for the upcoming Holy Jubilee Year in 2025.
- [Advent Calendar 2024 | Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)



Hope

- The theme of this year's Advent Calendar is *Hope* reminding us that Christian hope is not a passive feeling, but a powerful force that calls us to action, compassion, and solidarity. In the midst of suffering and despair, we are called to renew our trust in God's promises, to pray for peace, and to reach out with love to those who are experiencing misery.
- [Advent Calendar 2024 | Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)



*In Advent 2024, we
pray in faith, hope
and love for peace*

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_DxNpW1kHQ
- Let There Be Peace On Earth.





*We pray for
peace ...*

- For people who wait in darkness.
- May all find consolation and discover a new heart of peace.

We pray for peace ...

- For people torn apart in war.
- May every country find peace in this new season of grace.





**Prepare
The Way Of The Lord
Advent Song**

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

Gospel readings for the four Sundays of Advent 2024

- 1 December - First Sunday of Advent - Luke 21:25-28, 34-36
- 8 December - Second Sunday of Advent - Luke 3:1-6
- 15 December - Third Sunday of Advent - Luke 3:10-18
- 22 December - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Luke 1:39-44.






A person wearing a grey knit hat with a red pom-pom and a dark jacket is seen from behind, looking towards a display of colorful bokeh lights at night. The lights are out of focus, creating a soft, glowing effect in various colors including red, blue, green, yellow, and orange. The background is dark, suggesting an outdoor night setting.

**WE GATHER
TO PRAY
IN ADVENT**

Walking Advent with one Heart & One Spirit - Daily Scripture Calendar 2024



- Thank you to all our schools from around the country who take part in this Inter-Trust Collaboration led by the Spiritan Education Trust each Advent: This year our Loreto community will be represented by:
- 4 December – Loreto Education Trust
- 7 December - Loreto College, Swords
- 11 December -Loreto Abbey Secondary School, Dalkey
- 14 December – Loreto High School, Beaufort
- 16th December – St Aidan’s CS, Tallaght
- 18 December – Loreto Secondary School, Bray
- 21 December – Loreto College, Crumlin and Loreto Secondary School, Balbriggan
- Link to the videos will be sent out by email. See next slide for scripture readings for each day.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;">ADVENT 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Walking Advent with one Heart & One Spirit Daily Scripture Calendar</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Advent is a journey of hope towards Bethlehem. Blessed is this season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of hope & love.</p> 						
<p>1 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> Luke 21.25-28, 34-36 Be aware of the signs of your God at work in your life. Give thanks for the God who walks your journey with you.</p>	<p>2 Matt 8.5-11, 13 Notice God around and within you – reaching out to you always. Place before God all that needs healing in the certainty that, although we are not worthy, WE ARE LOVED!</p>	<p>3 Come follow me! Recall events when you changed direction? Where do you hear God calling you today? Luke 10:21-24</p>	<p>4 Loving God, I place my trust in you The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces” Isaiah 25:6-10</p>	<p>5 Matt: 7:21,24-27 What is the ‘Rock’ on which my faith is built?</p>	<p>6 Matt: 9:27-31 “Go your faith has healed you.”</p>	<p>7 When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd <i>Matt 9:35- 10:1; 6-8</i></p>
<p>8 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> Luke 3.1-6 Prepare the way. What are you doing to prepare for the Lord’s coming? Make at least one small act of preparation.</p>	<p>9 Luke 1:26-38 Mary’s Yes, Our Yes <i>Today reflect on our own calling, vocation. How are you saying ‘yes’ to your faith in Jesus Christ?</i></p>	<p>10 Isaiah 40.1-11 Speak tenderly! Thank God for all the great things He has done in your life!</p>	<p>11 Matt 11: 8-30 <i>“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”</i> Place all your worries with confidence in God’s hands</p>	<p>12 Listen to your God speaking to you today. Listen to God call your name. Matt 11:11-15</p>	<p>13 Matt 11.16-19 The Lord desires me to be free. I have my own prejudices. Where am I called to be freer from them?</p>	<p>14 Matt 17:10-13 Lord, as I continue this Advent journey, help me to become aware of the challenges for me in following you.</p>
<p>15 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> Luke 3.10-18 <i>John pointed beyond himself to Jesus.</i> How do I point to Jesus?</p>	<p>16 Matt 21:23-27 Place before the Lord, in trust, all worries sickness or illness in the sureness that He does wondrous things.</p>	<p>17 Matt 1:1-17 For God all is possible. I believe in God in heaven - <i>do I believe in God-on-earth? - do I believe in God-with-us?</i> <i>O Sapientia (O Wisdom)</i></p>	<p>18 Jeremiah 23.5-8 Do not be afraid The day of the Lord is coming – a source of great Joy! <i>O Adonai (O Lord)</i></p>	<p>19 Luke 1:5-25 <i>Today thank God for the blessings in your own life.</i> <i>O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)</i></p>	<p>20 Luke 1.26-38 ... for nothing is impossible with God. Remember in God there is Hope always! <i>O Clavis David (O Key of David)</i></p>	<p>21 Zephaniah 3.14-18 The love of the lord brings extravagant JOY. How do I mirror that joy? <i>O Oriens (O Dayspring)</i></p>
December 17–23: Pray the “O” Antiphons and sing “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”						
<p>22 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> Luke 1.39-44 <i>“...blessed is she who believed.”</i> Mary placed her trust in God. In God I Trust! <i>O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations)</i></p>	<p>23 Luke 1:57-66 Today spend a little time thinking of your journey so far and God’s plan for you <i>O Emmanuel (O God is With Us)</i></p>	<p>24 Luke 1:67-79 A song of thanksgiving. Just say THANKS!!</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Today a Saviour has been born for us He is Christ the Lord!</p>			

Advent Prayer on Wednesday

- December 4th, 11th, 18th.

*'Pílggríms for Peace'
'Oílíthrigh ar son na Síochána'*



**Join us for...
ADVENT SPACE FOR GRACE**

Online 13:20—13:40
ZOOM LINK Will be sent out via email.

JOURNEYING TO CHRISTMAS TOGETHER IN HOPE



ADVENT MUSIC

- **Prepare the Way of the Lord**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ujldm5tft5c>

- **Wait for the Lord (Taizé)** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7GexlvX8HU>

- **Advent Song: Waiting for Christmas** -

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

- **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 Themes

1st Week: Hope

2nd Week : Peace

3rd Week: Joy (rose-coloured candle)

4th Week: Love

The Jesse Tree

- [The Jesse Tree: A Guide to the Advent Tradition | Faithward.org](https://www.faithward.org/the-jesse-tree-a-guide-to-the-advent-tradition)



The Jesse Tree
Your guide to the Advent tradition

Art and Theology: Advent in Art

- <https://artandtheology.org/tag/advent/>
- *Revitalizing the Christian imagination through painting, poetry, music ...*



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/>
- Advent Examen:
<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent-examen/>



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.”

-
- 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.



Blazing Sky by Liam Bates

- <https://www.rte.ie/video/id/14031/>





Blazing Sky (continued)

And lo, the angel throng appears,
While raging nations cannot hear them,
Singing peace on earth.



Blazing Sky (continued)

O child, O child of love

I give to you my heart

Where love must dwell

For peace to make a start.

And as the angels sing of thee

A picture of the world I see

Where nations cease

Their pounding drums

To forge a ploughshare

From their guns.

A Celtic Christmas Blessing

The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of a home and hearth to
you,
The cheer and good will of friends to
you,
The hope of a childlike heart to you,
The joy of a thousand angels to you,
The love of the Son and God's peace to
you.



***Deora Dé* - Burnchurch / Na Casaidigh óga**

For those missing loved ones as we prepare for Christmas ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6HJmNqfUXA>



...Tidings of
Peace to One
and All



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-sitqZKceA>
- Loreto College, Cavan.
- Christmas Carol: *In the Stillness of Winter*

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 times of challenge, 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.





SILENT NIGHT

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGixK2wRLL0>

As we look forward to Christmas,
we end with *Silent Night*
sung by Loreto College,
St Stephen's Green, Dublin.



Happy Christmas

The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of a home and hearth to you,
The cheer and good will of friends to you,
The hope of a childlike heart to you,
The joy of a thousand angels to you,
The love of the Son and God's peace to you.