

In Advent 2025, we continue to pray for peace

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



A photograph of four tall, cylindrical candles in shades of purple, pink, and white, standing behind a lush arrangement of green holly leaves and berries. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface. The text 'ADVENT 2025' is overlaid in a large, white, stylized font.

ADVENT 2025

Advent marks the beginning of the Christian Year



We pray for the Apostolic Journey of Pope Leo XIV to Turkey and Lebanon as we continue to pray for peace

"Tomorrow I travel to [#Türkiye](#) and then to [#Lebanon](#) to visit the dear peoples of those countries, which are rich in history and spirituality. It will be an occasion to commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the [#CouncilOfNicaea](#) and to encounter the Catholic community, our Christian brothers and sisters, and members of other religions. I ask you to accompany me with your prayers. [#ApostolicJourney](#) "

(Pope Leo XIV)

APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF **POPE LEO XIV** IN TURKEY AND LEBANON

27 NOVEMBER to 2 DECEMBER 2025





*We pray for
peace ...*

- <https://x.com/Pontifex/status/1993695740410163395?s=20>
- 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.





In Advent 2025, we pray for peace

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_DxNpW1kHQ
- Let There Be Peace On Earth



Prepare The Way Of The Lord Advent Song

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

ADVENT 2025

**Sunday Nov 30, 2025 –
Sunday Dec 21, 2025**

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.





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/>

A decorative header image featuring a dark blue background. On the left, there is a close-up of several lit and unlit Advent candles in purple and blue, surrounded by green holly leaves and red berries. The text 'Advent Calendar' is written in a large, white, elegant script font, and '2025' is written below it in the same style.

Advent Calendar 2025

Advent Calendar

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

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

WE GATHER
TO PRAY
IN ADVENT

JOURNEYING TO CHRISTMAS TOGETHER



MUSIC IN ADVENT

•Prepare the Way of the Lord - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ujldm5tft5c>

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

•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=PLArBl9pWmlwkjKXX5OWuyGOyrMVNjR5dZ>

•Immanuel -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iE_tuMpIOho&list=PLArBl9pWmlwkjKXX5OWuyGOyrMVNjR5dZ&index=2

Advent Themes

1st Week: Hope

2nd Week : Peace

3rd Week: Joy (rose-coloured candle)

4th Week: Love

The Jesse Tree



- <https://www.faithward.org/jesse-tree/>
- The Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for Advent by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Each day of Advent, read a Bible story about someone on Jesus's family tree and hang an ornament symbolizing the story on your Jesse Tree. As you decorate your tree, you'll see how God prepared for Jesus to be born through many generations.

Gospel Readings for the Sundays in Advent

- First Sunday of Advent (November 30):

Matthew 24:37–44

- Second Sunday of Advent (December 7):

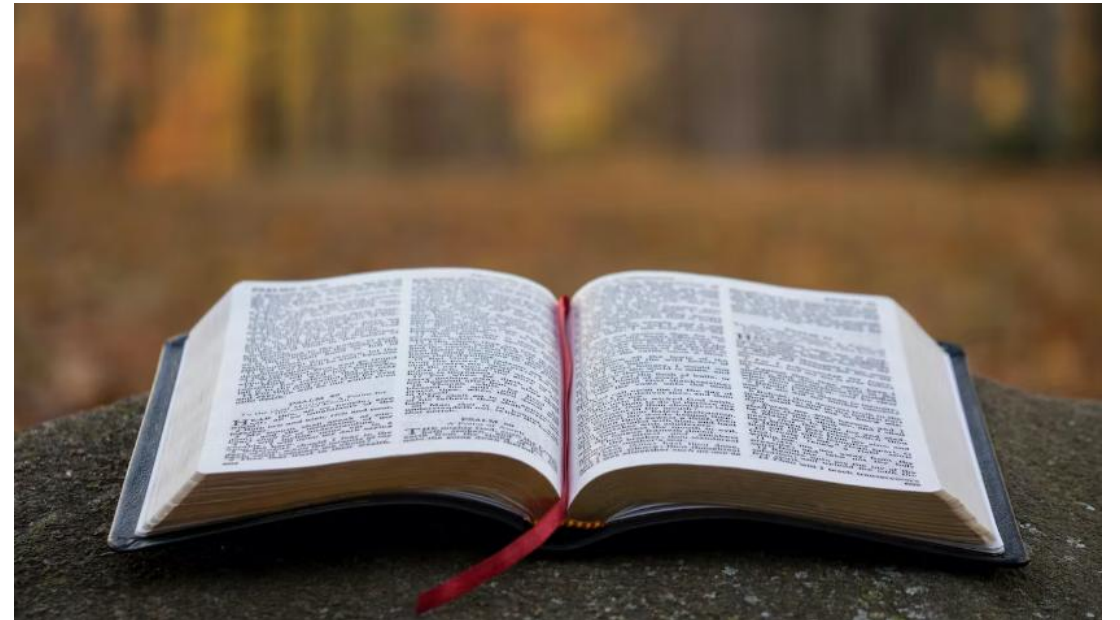
Matthew 3:1–12

- Third Sunday of Advent (December 14):

Matthew 11:2–11

- Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 21):

Matthew 1:18–24



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.



...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*

Deora Dé -
Burnchurch /
Na Casaidigh
óga

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

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



The Carol of the Bell

- Listen to competition winners, Loreto College, Mullingar on Lyric FM as they sing *The Carol of the Bell*.
- <https://www.rte.ie/radio/lyricfm/clips/22466145/>

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.



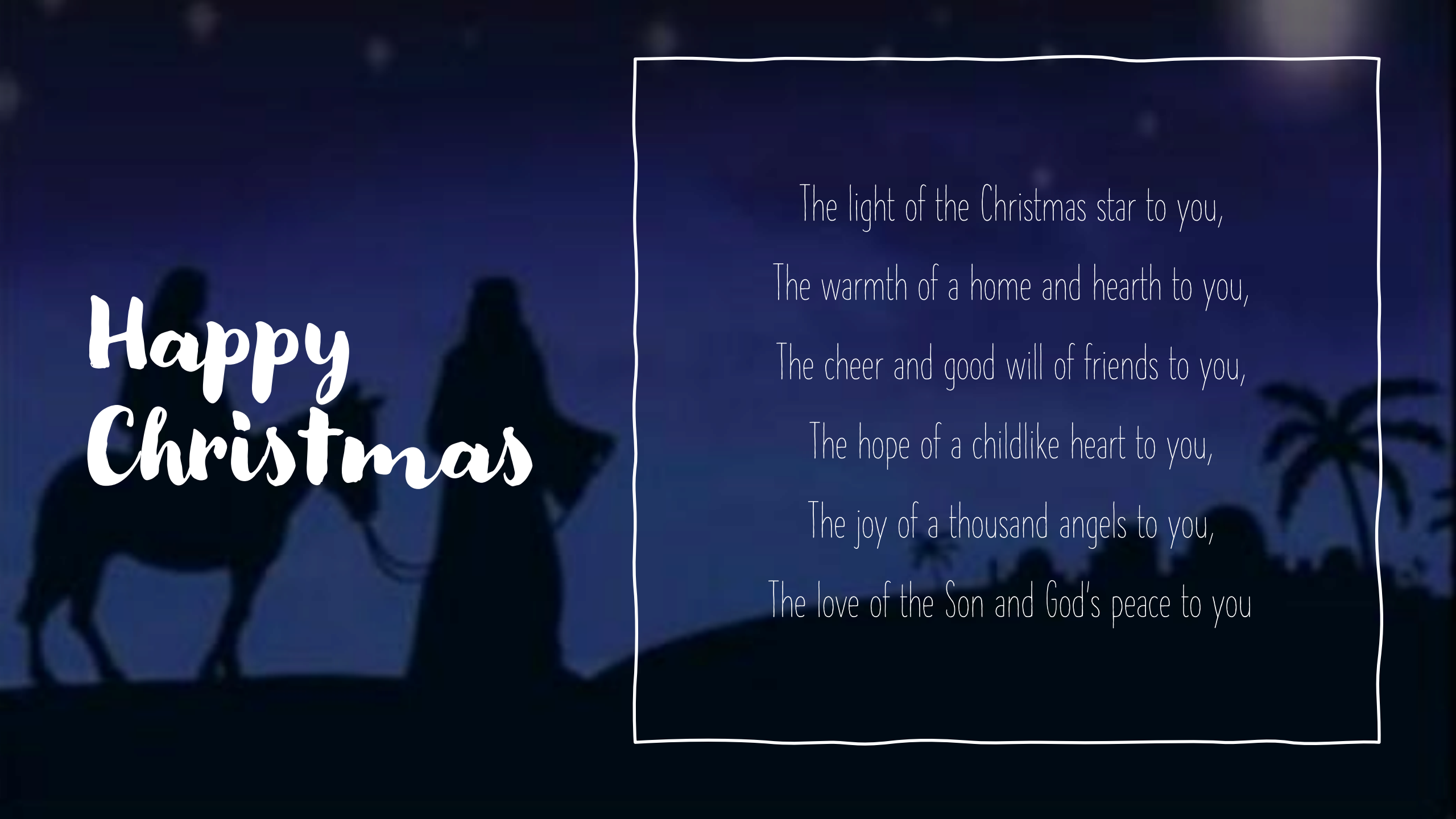


SILENT NIGHT

- <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.



The background of the entire image is a dark blue night sky filled with soft, out-of-focus white stars. In the lower half, there are dark silhouettes of the Three Kings and a camel, facing right. The king in the foreground is wearing a long robe and a pointed hat. The camel is walking behind him. The text 'Happy Christmas' is written in a large, white, cursive font on the left side of the image.

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