

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, 29 November, 2026

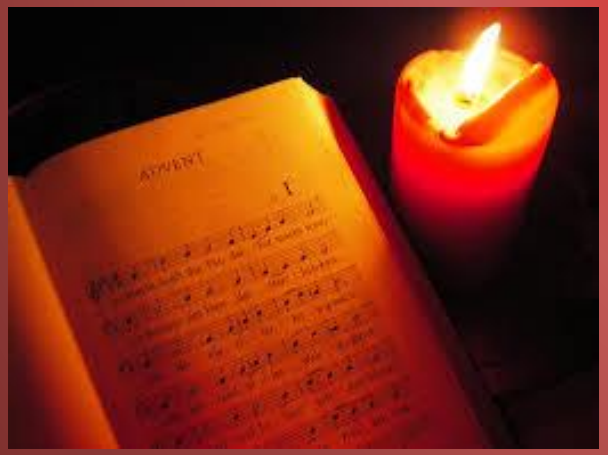
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

This is the first week of Advent.

Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas.

The colour purple/violet is a sign that we are preparing ourselves for a great celebration.





Happy New Year!
The first Sunday of Advent marks the New Year in the Church.
We begin a new year by traveling anew through the lifespan of Jesus.

Each year we travel with Jesus in a new way. We grow physically and we also grow spiritually so our experience will be fresh and different!

Look with new eyes and listen with new ears!

Advent Wreath

Look at the Advent wreath in the Church!

It is a circle of green evergreen leaves with four candles:

(i) The evergreen leaves are a sign of the everlasting love for each one of us

(ii) The circle is a sign that God is without beginning or end and that He shares the gift of eternity with us.

(iii) The four candles mark the four weeks of preparation for Christmas.

(iv) The purple candles are a sign that we are willing to change so that we may become more loving

(v) The pink candle is a sign that we will prepare in a joyfully way.



New Year: New Gospel!

Last year we heard God's Word spoken to us from the Gospel of St Luke.

This year we will hear God's Word from the Gospel of St Matthew on most Sundays during the year.

We will hear from the Gospel of St John on some Sundays, as we do each year.

The Gospels of St Matthew, St Mark and St Luke are called the synoptic Gospels. The word synoptic means the same. Many of the same stories are told in all three of the synoptic Gospels so we get a different perspective each year. There are three synoptic Gospels – there are three years in the Church cycle.

Year A: Gospel of St Matthew
Year B: Gospel of St Mark (this year's Gospel)
Year C: Gospel of St Luke



Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

Have you done your best today by:

Using your talents?
Helping others?
Forgiving others?
Thanking God for all that is given to you?
Treated all with respect?

Every effort, every day matters!



Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.

We meet God in unexpected people and places each day!

Try not to miss a chance to do good – it may be too late tomorrow.



And what I say to you I say to all:
Keep awake.



SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS
Mark 13:33-37

1. The coming of the Lord is not just the moment of death, but any moment of grace. Recall unexpected graces – good things that happened when they were not anticipated.

2. Perhaps some of these were moments when you were particularly alert and aware of what was going on in you and around you and this enabled you to be open to the moment of grace. Recall the contrast with moments when that alertness and awareness were not present.

3. The servants were given charge of the household 'each with their own job'. Identify with the servants as people given a responsibility within the household of God's people. What has it been like for you when you have been shown trust in this way by another person? What is it like for you to see yourself trusted in this way by God?

4. Jesus says that what he is saying to his disciples he is saying to all. Have there been times when you have been a messenger of hope to others, encouraging them to wait for a moment of grace. Who have been the ones to encourage you?

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Children's Preparation for Mass on November 29

The new church year has begun today!

Advent gives us a chance to make a brand new start as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Jesus wants space in our hearts because He loves us so much.

We make space in our hearts by becoming more loving and willing to do everything God asks of us.

How can you become more loving this week?

Draw a picture of what you plan on doing and bring it to Mass with you.

What change do you need to make in yourself to try to become a more loving person?





Bible Search

Read Mark 13:33-37 in your family Bible - this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.

Praying to Jesus

Pray for the grace to always be ready to meet Jesus and to recognise Him!

