Advent 2018

Daily Mass Scripture and Reflections for the Sacred Season

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Promise Fulfilled A righteous Branch will spring up and rule his people. *Jeremiah 33:14-16*	**3 A Reign of Peace** Nation will not lift up sword against nation. *Isaiah 2:1-5*	**4 The Son Revealed** We are blessed to know and worship the Son. *Luke 10:21-24*	**5 Fully Satisfied** Our Lord feeds us with his Word, and we are satisfied. *Matthew 15:29-37*	**6 Built on Rock** We dwell on solid ground with Jesus as our sure foundation. *Matthew 7:21, 24-27*	**7 The Lord Is My Light** We will not fear; the Lord is our Light and Salvation. *Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14*	**8 Woman's Offspring** The woman's offspring will conquer the serpent. *Genesis 3:9-15, 20*
9 Prepare the Way John the Baptist came to prepare the way of the Lord. *Luke 3:1-6*	**10 The Desert Blooms** Say to the fearful: "Be strong … here is your God!" *Isaiah 35:1-10*	**11 Seek And Find** Our Good Shepherd searches high and low to rescue the lost. *Matthew 18:12-14*	**12 Gabriel Was Sent** Mary will conceive and bear a son, and call him Jesus. *Luke 1:26-38*	**13 Not Forsaken** The Lord will answer; he will not forsake his people. *Isaiah 41:13-20*	**14 Peace Like a River** Following God's commands brings peace like a river. *Isaiah 48:17-19*	**15 Elijah Has Come** John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah. *Matthew 17:9, 10-13*
16 Live in Repentance The One to come will baptize with the Spirit and fire. *Luke 3:10-18*	**17 The Lion of Judah** The scepter will not depart from the Lion of Judah. *Genesis 49:2, 8-10*	**18 Name Him Jesus** Mary's son will save his people from their sins. *Matthew 1:18-25*	**19 Do Not Be Afraid** John will go before the Lord to prepare his way. *Luke 1:5-25*	**20 The Lord's Sign** The young woman will bear a son, Emmanuel. *Isaiah 7:10-14*	**21 Mother of My Lord** Blessed are you who believed the word of the Lord. *Luke 1:39-45*	**22 Dedicated to God** Hannah dedicated her son to the service of the Lord. *1 Sam. 1:24-28*
23 Ruler in Israel From little Bethlehem will come the Ruler of Israel. *Micah 5:1-4*	**24 Blessed Be the Lord** God has visited and brought redemption to his people. *Luke 1:67-79*	**25 Word Made Flesh** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling with us. *John 1:1-18*				



Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

– Isaiah 60:1



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APAK

A Season of Hope

Christmas has increasingly become a holiday cut off from its purpose of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is, therefore, important for Christians to recapture the season of Advent as a time for preparing for Christmas.

When speaking of Advent as a season for waiting, we should not think that our waiting is some virtue we are trying to perfect. Our waiting is for Jesus! And what sustains us in that waiting is hope, hope in God's certain promise. This is the season to learn how to listen to God's promises and to believe what he has said, despite all evidence to the contrary.

Of course, all of God's promises ultimately focus on the One who was born in Bethlehem. So Advent does help prepare us for Christmas. After all, the King is on his way! But not just to Bethlehem where he arrived unawares 2,000 years ago. The King comes even now, in Word and Sacrament, bringing fullness and life. And the King will come again.

Advent is . . .

- Advent is the church's way of saying, "Not yet, but very soon."
- Advent is the opposite of our culture's incessant demand for instant gratification.
- Advent is our wake-up call to the fact that the Messiah who came is also coming, and is already here!

2,000 years after his birth, Jesus is still our Emmanuel. What we celebrate is not a past event, but a present reality: the incarnation of the Son of God. Advent wraps up all of these mysteries and beckons us to wait, to anticipate, and to prepare.

ADVENT WREATH



"Customarily the Advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. According to tradition, three of the candles are violet and the fourth is rose. However, four violet or white candles may also be used.

The rose candle is lit the third Sunday of Advent, for this color anticipates and symbolizes the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice" (Latin, Gaudete). For this reason the Third Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday, and rose color vestments are permitted.

The Advent Wreath represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the Light of the world. Each year in Advent people wait once again in darkness for the coming of the Lord, His historical coming in the mystery of Bethlehem, His final coming at the end of time, and His special coming in every moment of grace.



10:00 AM	Fr. Rex Lumine
11:00 AM	Fr. Daniele Muscolino
12:00 PM	Fr. Francis Ezenezi
1:00 PM	Fr. Francis Ezenezi
2:00 PM	Msgr. Dave Tramontini
3:00 PM	Fr. Gilles Grandmont
4:00 PM	Fr. Gilles Grandmont
5:00 PM	Fr. Rex Lumine
6:00 PM	Fr. Daniele Muscolino
7:00 PM	Msgr. Dave Tramontini

Longing - Watching - Waiting!