

Blessing of an Advent Wreath

Lights to be dimmed



The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. The blessing may be celebrated during Mass, a celebration of the Word of God, or evening prayer. The candles represents the four weeks of Advent and the number of candles lighted each week corresponds to the number of the current week of Advent. The rose candle is lighted on the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Leader: Our help is in the Name of the Lord

All : Who made heaven and earth

Leader:

Let us join our hands as we pray this prayer:

Lord our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ: He is Emmanuel, the Hope of the peoples, He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, He is the Saviour of every nation. 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.

All : Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

As the First Advent Candle – HOPE is lighted, we say prayerfully and softly, inviting Jesus into our hearts:

MARANATHA, COME LORD JESUS (3x)

(This can also be repeated when lighting the Advent candles for all the other weeks)

Leader: May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All : Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we invite you into our thoughts, our emotions, our actions, our decisions and into every other corner of our lives. Help us make a conscious effort to see you in every present moment, each day through your grace and love. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen!



Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

"Advent is nothing other than annual meditation on the work of salvation and sanctification, the work of grace and love which the Lord began and continually begins in every man and in every generation down to the last coming of Jesus Christ"

St. John Paul II