

ADVENT RESOURCES FOR YOUR FAMILY

Advent Wreath ideas... great ideas from traditional to modern on [Pinterest](#). We'd love to see your family Advent wreath, please email a picture to Joyce, iguris@transfiguration.com.

For Adults: **Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage** -

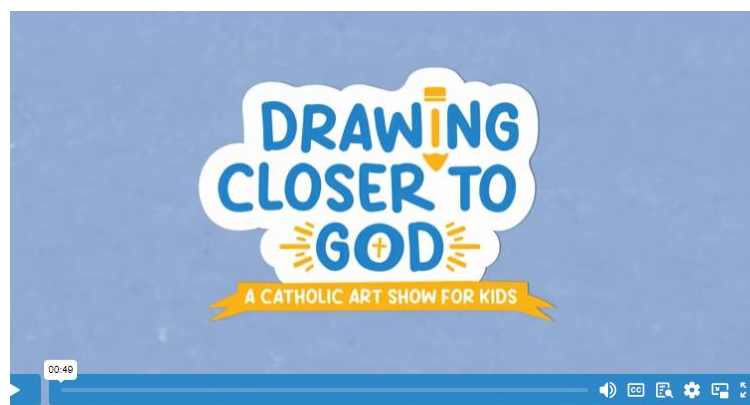
This 33 minute video documentary allows Catholics all around the world to make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land to see the places associated with Christ's Birth.



[Click to Watch video](#)



Rooted – a 22-episode, 7 minute daily Advent reflection for families using the Jesse Tree to meet the ancestors of Jesus Christ. Sign up, <https://daily.formed.org/advent>



Drawing Closer to God – Learn to draw different scenes from the Christmas story with details from Scripture and Catholic tradition. See the connections between the big picture of God's story and our place in it. Sign up, <https://daily.formed.org/advent>

Adult Advent Calendar reflections, click [HERE](#).

Advent in 2 minutes and other resources from Busted Halo, [HERE](#)

Matthew Kelly daily devotions during Advent, [sign up for daily devotions](#)

See below for Advent Wreath Prayers

Use the Little Blue Book for your daily Advent reflections (available at Church)

Young children can strive to help other people see God's love during the season of Advent. [Read more](#)
Children's Advent Calendar reflections, click [HERE](#).

Advent Is Just Around the Corner! Click [HERE](#)

Printable Nativity Set Advent Calendar to color, [HERE](#)

Advent Attitudes, [HERE](#).

Advent Activities for Kids, [HERE](#)

Brother Francis, The King is Born, [HERE](#)

Brother Francis, The Days of Advent, [HERE](#)

During Advent and Christmas, festively decorated evergreen wreaths hang in windows and on doors everywhere. In many homes and churches, it's also common to see special Advent wreaths lying on tables or ledges, adorned with four candles (usually three purple and one pink).



Traditionally, the Advent wreath is a circle of evergreen branches. It is often decorated with berries and pinecones. Both the evergreen branches and the circular shape symbolize the passing of time and eternal life. The shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, reflects the complete and endless love that Jesus has for us. During the Advent season, we eagerly anticipate his coming and the promise of eternal life in heaven with him.

The Four Advent Candles

As a Christian tradition, the wreath holds the four Advent candles. The candles represent Jesus coming as the light in darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday until all four candles are lit. As Christmas draws nearer, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize that Jesus is with us. This can be referred to as the "Christ candle."

Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent:

Dear Jesus, as we light the candle(s) on this Advent wreath, may the light of your presence bring joy to our hearts. Bless our family and our friends, and be with all those who are in need this holiday season. Amen.

Week One

Candle Name: the Prophecy Candle
The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope
Candle Color: Purple

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus' coming with hope and anticipation.

Week 1 Prayer: **light the first purple candle*

Scripture Reflection: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." Isaiah 9:2

**pause for reflection*

Advent Wreath Prayer: *Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.*

Week Two:

Candle Name: the Bethlehem Candle

The Second Week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation

Candle Color: Purple

During this second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives and work on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Week 2 Prayer: **light the first and second purple candles*

Scripture Reflection: "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:4-7

**pause for reflection*

Advent Wreath Prayer: *Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.*

Week Three:

Candle Name: the Shepherd's Candle

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Color: Pink

This third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.

Week 3 Prayer: **light the first and second purple candles and the pink candle*

Scripture Reflection: "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them." Luke 2:20

**pause for reflection*

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Week Four:

Candle Name: the Angel's Candle

The Fourth Week of Advent Represents: Love

Candle Color: Purple

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel.

Week 4 Prayer: **light all four candles*

Scripture Reflection: "And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

**pause for reflection*

Advent Wreath Prayer Dear Jesus, may the light of your love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us. Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

- John 3:16

Adapted from Dynamic Catholic, Click to learn more about [Advent](#), [Advent Prayers](#), [Calendars](#), [Family Advent Activities](#), [12 Days of Christmas](#), [St Nicholas](#), [Christmas Traditions](#)