



Advent Wreath Prayers

FOUR WEEKS OF WAITING, ONE CANDLE AT A TIME

Keep this by your wreath. Light the week's candles at dinner each evening, pray the wreath prayer together, and add the family prayer if there's room. The prayers are the Church's traditional Sunday prayers of Advent. Nothing here needs to be done perfectly. It only needs to be done slowly.

Come, Lord Jesus.

REVELATION 22:20

BLESSING OF THE WREATH BEFORE THE FIRST CANDLE

O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from You abundant graces. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST WEEK · HOPE

Nov 29, 2026



one violet

Sunday Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Stir up Your might, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the dangers of our sins and saved by Your deliverance. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, our Savior, You are the hope of the world. When we feel lost in darkness, help us keep watch for Your light. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

REFLECT Where do I most need hope this Advent?

SECOND WEEK · PEACE

Dec 6, 2026



two violet

Sunday Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that through His coming we may serve You with purified minds. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

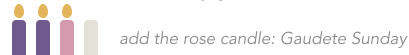
FAMILY PRAYER

Prince of Peace, quiet the noise in our home and in our hearts. Bring peace where there is worry, and mercy where there is division. Amen.

REFLECT What needs to be cleared away in my life?

THIRD WEEK · JOY

Dec 13, 2026



add the rose candle: Gaudete Sunday

Sunday Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Lord, we beg You, incline Your ear to our prayers, and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Your coming. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, fill our hearts with the complete joy that only Your presence can give. Let us carry that joy to all those we meet this week. Amen.

REFLECT Where has God already given me reasons to rejoice?

FOURTH WEEK · LOVE

Dec 20, 2026



all four

Sunday Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Stir up Your might, O Lord, and come, and help us with Your great power, that what our sins hinder, Your merciful forgiveness may hasten. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, in Your love You gave us Your Son, the greatest gift the world has known. Like our Blessed Mother, may we say yes to You with our whole hearts. Amen.

REFLECT How can I make room for Christ, as Mary did?



CHRISTMAS EVE

Light all four candles, and the white Christ candle at the center if your wreath has one. Then, at last, sing it: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.*



The O Antiphons

DECEMBER 17 TO 23

In the final week, the Church calls on Christ by seven ancient titles at Evening Prayer. You may know them from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Add the day's line after your wreath prayer, then sing a verse if you like.

17	O WISDOM O Sapientia	O Wisdom of our God Most High, come and teach us the way of prudence.
18	O LORD O Adonai	O Lord, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush, come and redeem us with outstretched arm.
19	O ROOT OF JESSE O Radix Jesse	O Root of Jesse, sign for all peoples, come to save us and delay no longer.
20	O KEY OF DAVID O Clavis David	O Key of David, come and free the captives from the prison of darkness.
21	O DAYSPRING O Oriens	O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, come and shine on those who dwell in darkness.
22	O KING OF NATIONS O Rex Gentium	O King of all nations and cornerstone of the Church, come and save the creature You fashioned from the dust.
23	O EMMANUEL God with us	O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, come to save us, Lord our God.

AT THE WREATH EACH EVENING

- 1 Dim the lights and light the week's candles.
- 2 Read a few verses of the Sunday Gospel or Isaiah.
- 3 Pray the wreath prayer for the week.
- 4 Share one answer: where did I see God today?
- 5 Close with the family prayer or "Come, Lord Jesus."

WHY WAIT?

Advent looks two ways: toward Christ's coming in glory and toward His birth at Bethlehem. The Church even sets the Gloria aside on Advent Sundays so it can ring out again on Christmas night. Let the waiting be real. Save the carols, and the Christ Child in the manger, for Christmas Eve.

OTHER ADVENT TRADITIONS

The Jesse Tree. One ornament a day for a figure in salvation history, from Adam to John the Baptist.

The St. Andrew Novena. Prayed 15 times a day from November 30 to Christmas.

ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

Make room for quiet before Christmas.

Bride of the Spirit Advent Retreat, December 4 to 6, 2026, at Heritage in Crawfordville, Georgia. Silent retreats are open all season.