

Family Page



The Advent Prayer Wreath is a good way for your family to keep the real message of Christmas as the focal point for all your plans. It can be made and used in a number of ways. An ordinary Christmas wreath may be placed on a table with four candles in low holders or evergreen boughs may be fastened to a frame, which can be purchased ready-made at a religious goods store or made from an old coat hanger shaped in a circle.

Three of the candles should be purple, the fourth pink — or four white candles can be used with appropriately colored bows tied around them.

Your completed wreath can be placed wherever it is most convenient for the family to gather for prayer. Choose a time for your Advent prayer that is suited to your family's schedule.

Begin a new candle each week throughout Advent. As you light the candles, remind the children that this act represents Jesus as the light of our world. The gathering light announces that the celebration of Christ's coming draws steadily near.

Prayers to be said at the lighting of your wreath can be written by the family, taken from the readings for the week, or found in special Advent books written for this purpose.



Written by Francine M. O'Connor. Art by Chris Sharp. © 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Imprimatur: Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Printed in USA. All rights reserved. It is a violation of copyright law to reproduce all or part of this material without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Liguori.org
Answer to Mystery Message: GET READY FOR JESUS



explaining GOD'S WORD

First Sunday of Advent (A) • Matthew 24:37–44 • November 27, 2022

TIME TO GET READY



When you have finished reading this bulletin, paste this page on heavy cardboard. Then cut out the clock and the hands. Pin the hands onto the clock and make them point to the things you are doing each day to get ready for Jesus.

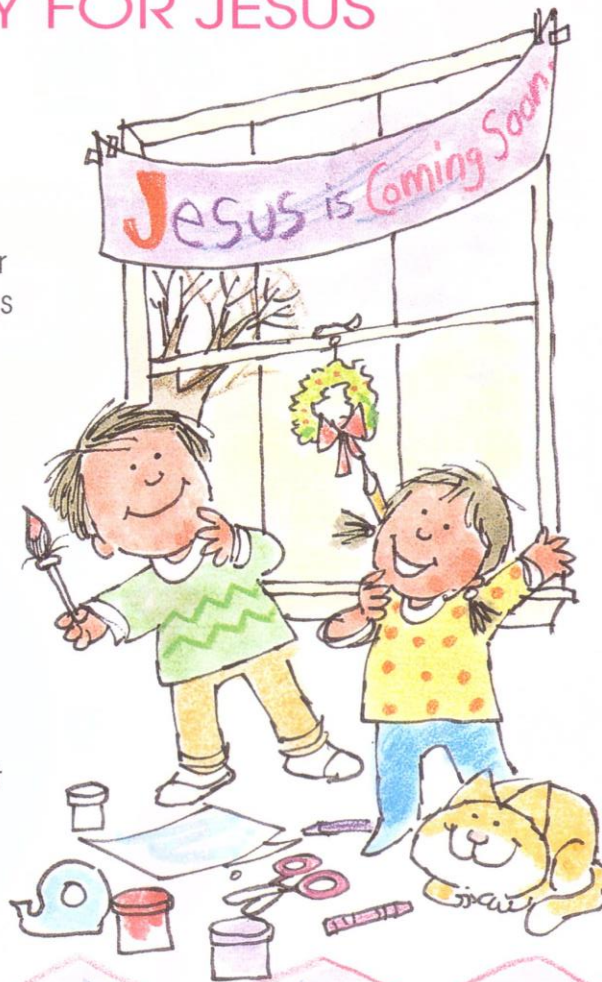
GETTING READY FOR JESUS

When something special happens, how do you get ready? You bake a cake for a birthday party or pack your bags to go on vacation. Special things call for special plans.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time to get ready for one of the greatest happenings of all: CHRISTMAS — when Jesus was born!

Think about some of the things you can do to really be ready to greet Jesus.

You can try to live each day of Advent just the way Jesus would want — loving others as he loved you. You can do special things for others to show Jesus how loving you are.



You can get your home ready. You can start saving scraps of ribbon or bits of colored paper for trimmings for the tree. You can make a poster or a banner to say to all who visit your house: JESUS IS COMING SOON!

You can get others ready. You can tell your friends what Christmas is really about. You can tell the story of Jesus to those who don't know him.

It's never too soon to begin to prepare for Christmas by being loving to all, by planning together, by sharing the happy news!

Mystery **M**essage

The letters BC stand for *Before Christ*. In the mystery message below, if you mark out all the B's and C's, you will know what the Gospel is telling you this week.

G B C E B C T

R B C E B C A B C D B C Y

F B C O B C R

J B C E B C S B C U B C S