

ADVENT BY *Candlelight*



Monday, December 22 • 6:30 PM
Holy Ghost Church Hall

Join us for an evening of reflection and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

GUEST SPEAKER
POTLUCK DINNER

Bring your favorite dish to share!

Hope *(Week One Daily Reflections)*

Sunday Nov. 30 - The First Sunday of Advent Begin your Advent journey by blessing your Advent wreath. Light the first violet candle and sing “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”

Monday Dec. 1 - What can you do this Advent to prepare your heart and life for the coming of Christ?

Tuesday Dec. 2 - They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. Isaiah 2:4

Wednesday Dec. 3 - “Peace begins with each one of us: in the way we look at others, listen to others and speak about others.” Pope Leo XIV, Speech, May 12, 2025

Thursday Dec. 4 - Spend some time writing Christmas cards or sending Christmas greetings. Before bed, say a prayer of thanksgiving for all of the people who have enriched your life and strengthened your faith.

Friday Dec. 5 - Make plans to receive the gift of God’s mercy in the Sacrament of Penance during this Advent season.

Saturday Dec. 6 - Today is the Memorial of Saint Nicholas. Follow his example of generosity by giving the gift of your time, treasure, or talent to those in need.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/Advent-Calendar-2025-%20English.pdf>

The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Response (R/.) **Who made heaven and earth.**

Then the Scripture, [Isaiah 9](#): (lines 1-2 and 5-6) or [Isaiah 63](#) (lines 16-17 & 19) or [Isaiah 64](#) (lines 2-7) is read:

Reader: **The word of the Lord.**

R/. Thanks be to God.

With hands joined, the leader says:

**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 Savior 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.
R/. Amen.**

The blessing may conclude with a verse from
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

**O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev'ry sad division cease
and be thyself our Prince of peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**