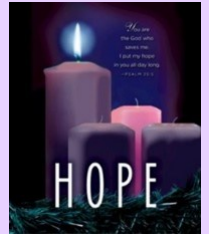


## Advent blessings!



The **Advent Season**, which began on Sunday, November 27, is a period of **4 weeks** before Christmas that is set aside for **reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today**. It is a time for people of faith to remember through prayer, reflections, special music, and service, the true meaning of Jesus' **birth**.

Recently I read that God gives us a **different grace** in each **season** of the Liturgical year. That means that during the 2022 **Advent** season, God has a **special grace** to give to each of us. (I'm excited to find out what mine will be.)

When Jesus was entering Jerusalem for the last time he cried because the people of Jerusalem did **not recognize** the time of his **visitation**, so many **missed out** on this special grace. Let us **not** miss out on the **time of our visitation**... the **ways** God will come to us during this **Advent**.

One of the best ways of receiving the grace God is **offering** us this Advent is by spending **more time in prayer** with God... praising and thanking him and asking for the graces we need to find Him in **all** things. We looked forward to spending time with family and friends at Thanksgiving, but during Advent, let us look forward to spending more time with **Jesus in prayer** each day.

It's important to have a **set time** and **place** for prayer each day, even 5 minutes. It's amazing what a difference this will make in our lives. Our days will go such much better and probably everyone else's. If God is not always **first** in our lives, we are missing out on graces that He is offering us. And, who wants to do that?

Another good Advent practice is to **read** a short passage from **Scripture** each day and **pray** with it. This will help us to open our hearts to receive the **special grace** God has planned for us that day.

As Mary was mindful of **Jesus' presence** within her during her pregnancy, let us be especially mindful of **God's presence in us** and in the **people** we meet each day.

Come, Lord Jesus.