

## November 29, 2010 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,

each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!"'

Read over the Gospel and answer these Questions:

1. Right now we are all waiting for a vaccine so that the Covid pandemic can be over. The people of Israel were waiting for their Savior for centuries. Can you imagine waiting that long for your Christmas gifts?
2. If your parents leave you with a chore to do, how anxious are you about completing the chore before they come back to check on you? How can we be living our lives so that we are ready if Jesus were to come and check on us?
3. The Gospel tells us to **Watch**. When you are waiting for something really important you have to stay alert and watch carefully. As we prepare for Christmas stay alert and watch for ways to show Christ's love to others.

**Today is the beginning of the celebration of Advent.**

**Advent** (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to"

**The Church calls us to use the four weeks before Christmas to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.**

**If you go to this website you will find a Advent Calendar that you could download. It gives us a thought for every day of Advent.**

[https://www.usccb.org/resources/Final\\_Advent\\_Calendar\\_2020\\_1.pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/Final_Advent_Calendar_2020_1.pdf)

These two websites give you a blessing and prayer for your Advent Wreath.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacraments-and-sacramentals/sacramentals-blessings/objects/blessing-of-an-advent-wreath>

<https://www.catholycyc.ca/blog/advent-wreath-athome>

## **The Advent Wreath**

An important way to celebrate Advent is to use an Advent Wreath.

(Color the one below week by week... At the end of Advent Draw another candle in the Middle space for Jesus.)

First Week of Advent - Color it Purple; Label that candle HOPE

Pray for Hope and for People who need Hope in their Life.

Second Week of Advent - Color it Purple; Label that candle PEACE

Pray for Peace in your home, your city and throughout the world.

Third Week of Advent - Color it Pink; Label that candle JOY

Pray for Joy for yourself and for those whose life has been sad.

Fourth Week of Advent - Color it Purple; Label that candle LOVE

Pray for The ability to truly Love those in your life and for those who have no Love in their life.

