

First Sunday of Advent

30th November 2025



"The water that I will give him will become a spring of water within him welling up to eternal life."
JOHN 4:14

What does it mean to stay awake? It means to always be ready for anything that may come to us. Does this mean that when we are ready we would be able to handle whatever that may come to us?

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, advent means arrival or coming of somebody who is important and this is none other than Jesus. We therefore have to be prepared for his coming by intensifying our relationship with him. We have to steer away from anything that would make us sin, we have to listen more to Jesus than to this world.

This world, seemingly, dictates to us that we have to be materially prepared for the coming celebrations from television adverts to packed high streets. Jesus, however, is asking us to be more spiritually prepared by repenting from all forms of sinfulness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, by reconciling ourselves with those whom we have offended and so forth. For what good will it do us if we are materially prepared yet spiritually unprepared?

Stay awake so that you may be ready

Matthew 24



O God,

As light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way.

May Christ, our Saviour bring life into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming.

Amen.

In addition, this week let us pray for:

- ◆ all those connected to our community who are unwell, upset or mourning;
- ◆ all those in need of a prayer;
- ◆ all those affected by the ongoing war.
- ◆ all the souls and saints who have gone before us.



God of hope, be with us in our Advent journey to the stable and beyond,
be with us in our meeting and in our travelling together,
be with us in our worship and our praying together,
be with us in our Advent journey to the stable and beyond,
our God of hope. Amen

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." - Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI