

Daily Advent Devotions

December 1: HOPE – *Isaiah 9:2-6*. We light the first candle and ask for the grace to prepare for Christmas inviting You, Lord, to be with our family.

December 2: SORRY – *Genesis 3:1-8*. When we sin against God, we can be restored through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We ask for the grace to make use of the sacrament to prepare for Christmas.

December 3: PATIENT – *Isaiah 9:6*. The Jewish people waited in hope for Messiah through many trials. God's promise was fulfilled. We ask for the grace to wait on you, Lord, with confidence.

December 4: FAITH – *Luke 1:11-18*. When it was time for God's promise to be fulfilled, Zechariah doubted. We ask for the grace to trust you, Jesus, with all our heart.

December 5: SPEECHLESS – *Luke 1:19-20*. Zechariah was made mute until God's promise was fulfilled. Teach us, dear Lord, to hear you speak to us in the silence of our hearts.

December 6: PREPARED – *Mark 1:1-3*. God sent John the Baptist to prepare His people. We ask for the grace to listen attentively to our priests and deacons when they proclaim the gospel.

December 7: LOVE – *John 3:16*. God sent Jesus into our world because He loves me and desires me to be happy with Him forever! We light 2 candles on our wreath and ask Him to fire our hearts with His love this Advent.

December 8: EXPECTANT – *Luke 3:16-18*. God's promises fill us with hope and He does not disappoint. Let us keep expecting your wondrous help in our needs.

December 9: BLESSED – *Luke 1:39-45*. Holy Mary, please pray that we, too, be filled with the joy of Jesus.

December 10: HUMBLE – *Luke 1:26-33,38*. We ask for the grace to be like Mary, accepting all God asks of us, even when we don't understand.

December 11: TRUSTING – *Matt. 1:18-21*. When we do not know how to respond, we ask St. Joseph to pray for us to receive the light and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

December 12: SEEKING – *Luke 2:1-5*. Help us to seek you daily, dear Jesus, with sincere and pure hearts.

December 13: COMFORT – *Isaiah 40:1-2, 10-11*. God cares for us lovingly each day. We pray for the grace to receive your guidance and strength and know You are with us.

December 14: JOY – *Luke 2:6-7*. We light 3 candles (rose for joy). As each day gets closer to Christmas, we pray that our hearts grow more joyful.

December 15: WATCH – *Luke 2:8*. We ask for the grace to keep watch within our hearts so we may be guided by our guardian angels.

December 16: LOST – *Luke 15:3-4*. When humanity was lost through original sin, You came to rescue us. You still come to seek us when we are lost in sin. May we never grow tired your mercy or of receiving your forgiveness, Lord.

December 17: FOUND – *Luke 15:5-7*. Let us always remember that we can never hide from you, dear Jesus. Thank you for finding us when we were lost.

December 18: AFRAID – *Psalms 23*. When we can't see where we are going and we are frightened, help us Lord, to know You are near.

December 19: AWE – *Luke 2:9*. God You do not wish us to be fearful, but to be filled with praise and gratitude. We ask for the grace to be grateful to You, dear Lord.

December 20: EXCITEMENT – *Luke 2:11-12*. The shepherds responded with joy to the good news of Jesus' birth. May all our fears and anxieties turn to joy as we focus on You, dear Lord.

December 21: PEACE – *Luke 2:13-14*. We light all 4 candles. All the heavenly hosts burst out in glorious praise of the newborn King. Let us join them in praising our Savior.

December 22: WARMTH – *Luke 2:15-16*. The Holy Family received the shepherds and heard their account with amazement and joy. The cave may have been cold, but their hearts were all burning. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we come to you to adore our newborn King. May we, too, receive the warmth of your love.

December 23: PONDER – *Luke 2:19-20*. Like Mary, may we reflect often on the wonders of your love, O Lord. Your goodness and beauty sometimes overtakes us and it is too much to grasp. How is it that the God of the universe would become a helpless babe, just for me? May we always praise your Name, O Jesus!

December 24: JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT – *Luke 2:20*. We pray for the grace of rejoicing always that Jesus Christ is Our Lord and Savior and that we are willing to share our joy with others.

December 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS! – *Luke 2:10*. Emmanuel is born! God With Us has come to save us! We pray for the grace to welcome Jesus into our hearts and into our homes.

Happy Birthday Jesus!