

ADVENT

- ❑ Advent means “to come to” (from the Latin “ad- venire”) it implies a journey and an invitation
- ❑ Starts the Church’s Liturgical year for four Sundays and days leading to Christmas
- ❑ Two fold trajectory to the incarnation the First Coming and the Parousia, the second coming of the Lord.
- ❑ Not about speculation but about preparedness, alertness, readiness.
- ❑ Liturgical color is purple (the pre-High season color, and also the color of royalty).
But rose is used for the third “Gaudete “Rejoicing” Sunday”
- ❑ The process of preparing involves disciplining ourselves and if needs be, reconciliation/penance.
- ❑ Changes to the Mass: No Gloria, less decorative order, simplicity, No carols yet!
- ❑ Advent wreath, Advent Calendar, Jesse Tree.
- ❑ 17-24 O antiphons. Prepare us for the Christmas celebrations 8th Century Magnificat antiphons based on ancient titles of the messiah

O ANTIPHONS

These are the Evening Prayer antiphons for the Magnificat Canticle.

They use ancient Old Testament titles for the coming Messiah.

December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Adonai [Lord] of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse’s stem,
sign of God’s love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

These antiphons are from the ancient hymn
O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

The first letter of the Messianic titles in Latin:
Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens,
Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia,
spell out Latin words ERO CRAS, meaning,
"Tomorrow, I will come."

These titles also speak to God’s role in the world

Wise Creator - teacher

Law giver – rescuer

Root of history – source of our inheritance

Royal House – our inheritance

Eternal Light – our guide and protection

Almighty God – savior of all

Emmanuel – the one who walks with us

There is another title Which points to the
incarnation and the resurrection

O Wonderful Exchange

“This is the wonderful exchange which, out of His measureless benevolence, He has made with us, that, by His descent to earth, He has prepared an ascent to heaven for us; that, by taking on our mortality, He has conferred His immortality upon us; that, accepting our weakness, He has strengthened us by His power; that, receiving our poverty unto Himself, He has transferred His wealth to us; that, taking the weight of our iniquity upon Himself (which oppressed us), He has clothed us with His righteousness.”
(This from the anti-catholic John Calvin!)

PREFACE I OF ADVENT

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,
 Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
 through Christ our Lord.

For he assumed at his first coming
 the lowliness of human flesh,
 and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago,
 and opened for us the way to eternal salvation,
 that, when he comes again in glory and majesty
 and all is at last made manifest,
 we who watch for that day may inherit
 the great promise in which now we dare to hope.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
 with Thrones and Dominions,
 and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
 we sing the hymn of your glory,
 as without end we acclaim: Holy, Holy, Holy...

Used in all Advent Masses except the last week

Focuses on the two trajectories of our preparations; the celebration of the Incarnation and the hope for the Parousia.

His enfleshment to our base state (Philippians 2:7) is part of God’s plan of salvation to restore us to righteousness

and to be ready for him when he comes again to take us to himself that we might share God’s glory.

Catabasis ↘ and **Anabasis.** ↗

Advent reminds us that we need to let go of that which keeps us fleshly so that we fight rise to the newness of life that comes from the incarnation that results in Christ’s victory of what happens at the end of earthly life, death.

PREFACE II OF ADVENT

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,
 Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
 through Christ our Lord.

For all the oracles of the prophets foretold him,
 the Virgin Mother longed for him
 with love beyond all telling,
 John the Baptist sang of his coming
 and proclaimed his presence when he came.

It is by his gift that already we rejoice
 at the mystery of his Nativity,
 so that he may find us watchful in prayer
 and exultant in his praise.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
 with Thrones and Dominions,
 and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
 we sing the hymn of your glory,
 as without end we acclaim: Holy, Holy, Holy

As we approach the feast of Christmas the last week focuses on the three great figures of the Advent season and its scriptures, the Prophtes, Mary and John the Baptist and the roles they have in bringing about the birth of the savior.

Prophets, especially Isaiah, foretell the Messiah. **Mary’s** love was the precursor of Jesus’s longing for us to be with Him in the glory of the Kingdom.

John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus leaped for joy in the womb of his Mother Elizabeth when Mary her Elizabeth. Even before either child was born, John was,

the herald of the presence,
 the herald of encounter,
 the herald of the Emmanuel.

John is going to call him Lamb of God, thus linking the shepherd s of Christmas with the Paschal Lamb of salvation at Passiontide/Easter.

There is a final summation that their witness is the reason for the season and they call us to readiness and prayerful worship

First Sunday of Advent

Collect

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son...

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below,
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.

Second Sunday of Advent

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you ...

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord,
with our humble prayers and offerings,
and since we have no merits to plead our cause,
come, we pray, to our rescue
with the protection of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Key Ideas/Words

Almighty God

Faithful Resolve Running Meet
God's Son, Our Savior Deeds
Gathered Close Worthy Possess
Kingdom **ENCOUNTER**

Reflects the **WONDERFUL EXCHANGE**

The gifts of grape and grain we have changed into
wine and bread, now offered back to God who
will change them into his very self and give them
back to us as the Body and Blood of his Son.
(Eucharist is the sacramental encounter with the
dynamic of eternal redemption).

Mysteries

PARTICIPATION

Increase [anabasis]

JOURNEYING BEYOND

Eucharistic encounter as growth moment
Love the things of god and let go of the rest.

Key Ideas/Words

Almighty and Merciful God
Hindrance (Sin)

JOURNEY IN HASTE

Meet Son
Understanding Kingdom
Admittance Company

Humility Prayer offerings
Merit = zero

RESCUED

Protection through mercy from [from the
hindrances – see above – sin and thus the evil
one.

Refilled Fed
Humbly call
Participation

WISDOM

Heaven focus

Third Sunday of Advent

Collect

O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray,
to attain the joys of so great a salvation,
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,...

Prayer over the Offerings

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you...

Prayer over the offerings

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power
the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Communion

having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration
of the mystery of your Son's Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Key Ideas/Words

O God
see us faithful waiting
empowering realize joys salvation
celebrate always (homo celebrans)
worship gladness rejoicing

ATTAINING JOY

RIGHT WORSHIP

(Tantum ergo hymn of Benediction new
rites replace the older ones)

our worship unceasing
complete and accomplish

FROM MYSTERY TO SALVATION

Necessity of mercy
Heavenly food sustaining

EUCHARIST IS RECONCILIATORY

Prepares for the great Feasts

CENTRALITY OF MERCY

Key Ideas/Words

Final prayer of the Angelus

O Lord

Pour grace hearts (makes them sacred)
Knowledge of incarnation Angels
Links to Passion and Cross

PROMISE OF RESURRECTION GLORY

Christmas and Easter inextricably linked

GOD'S INITIATIVE

Action of Holy Spirit is called to turn these
gifts into the presence of the Lord in The
Body and Blood of Eucharist.

**It is the same incarnating Spirit that
brought forth Jesus in Mary's womb.**

Having received this gift of Body and Blood
we pray that it will help us prepare for the
incarnation more fully.

PREPARE