



Gospels of Advent

Family Handout

Advent, a season of renewal and beginning, marks the start of a new Church year. In the Liturgy, there are three cycles of readings (A, B, and C). Year A focuses on the Gospel of Matthew, Year B on the Gospel of Mark, and Year C on the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of John appears in all three cycles.

Year C: The Gospel According to Luke

First Sunday of Advent (C)

Luke 21:25–28, 34–36

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Strange things will happen to the sun, moon and stars.

The nations on earth

will be afraid of the roaring sea and tides,

and they won’t know what to do.

People will be so frightened that they will faint

because of what is happening to the world.

Every power in the sky will be shaken.

“Then the Son of Man will be seen,

coming in a cloud with great power and glory.

When all of this starts happening,

stand up straight and be brave.

You will soon be set free.

“Don’t spend all of your time

thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life.

If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you like a trap.

That day will surprise everyone on earth.

“Watch out and keep praying that you can escape

all that is going to happen

and that the Son of Man will be pleased with you.”





Second Sunday of Advent (C)

Luke 3:1,2–6

For fifteen years

Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world,
and Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests.
At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son John,
who was living in the desert.

So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling the people,
"Turn back to God and be baptized!

Then your sins will be forgiven."

Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said,

"In the desert someone is shouting,

'Get the road ready for the Lord!

Make a straight path for him!

Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill.

Straighten the crooked paths

and smooth out the rough roads.

Then everyone will see the saving power of God.'"





Third Sunday of Advent (C)

Luke 3:10–16, 18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?”

John told them,
“If you have two coats,
give one to someone who doesn’t have any.
If you have food,
share it with someone else.”

What tax collectors came to be baptized, they asked John,
“Teacher, what should we do?”

John told them,
“Don’t make people pay more than they owe.”

Some soldiers asked him, “And what about us?
What do we have to do?”

John told them,
“Don’t force people to pay money
to make you leave them alone.
Be satisfied with your pay.”

Everyone became excited and wondered,
“Could John be the Messiah?”

John said, “I am just baptizing you with water.
But someone more powerful is going to come,
and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals.
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”

In many different ways
John preached the good news to the people.





Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

Luke 1:39–45

Mary hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea.
She went into Zechariah's home,
where she greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
her baby moved within her.

The Holy Spirit came upon Elizabeth.
Then in a loud voice she said to Mary:
"God has blessed you more than any other woman!
He has also blessed the child you will have.
Why should the mother of my Lord come to me?
As soon as I heard your greeting,
my baby became happy and moved within me.
The Lord has blessed you
because you believed that he will keep his promise."

The text for the Advent Gospels are from
Lectionary for Masses with Children: Year C.
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