

ADVENT 2020

Here are Advent Resources to help you to access the Readings for each Sunday in Advent and to ponder on them during the week.

There are also Readings and suggestions for the final few days before we celebrate the Birth of Jesus.

Make this time with God's Word a special time for yourself.

Find somewhere comfortable to sit and get yourself a drink and something to nibble if that helps you to relax.

Choose the day and time that suits you best.

All the Readings that you would hear in Church are included for each Sunday.

Just choose the Reading that you feel drawn to.

You could look at the other readings on other days if you have time.

Below is an outline for how you could spend this time with God's Word:

REFLECT ON THE SCRIPTURE

What words or phrases were you drawn to when you read the scripture?

What are those words or phrases saying to you at this time?

How does it make you feel?

What do you feel prompted to do in response to this scripture?

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RESPOND WITH PRAYER:

Who do you want to pray for?

What do you want to talk about with God?

Pray one decade of 1st, 2nd or 3rd Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.

Respond with prayer in other ways that enable you to communicate with God.

DO SOMETHING:

Send a letter, note, voicemail, email or text to someone.

Contact someone who you think might be struggling, lonely or bereaved.

Tell someone how much you value them and why.

Light a candle for someone who does not yet know God or who cannot practise their faith for whatever reason and pray for them and keep them in your thought and prayers.

Light a candle for someone you know who has died or is ill or struggling - and keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Create or make something which celebrates one of the gifts God has given you.

Go to a charity website of your choice to see what you could do e.g.

CAFOD: <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate>

Jesuit Refugee Service: <https://www.jrsuk.net/what-can-i-do>

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1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 29 NOVEMBER 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard, no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.



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Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19

R: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF
BOGNOR REGIS AND SLINDON

We are followers of Jesus, on fire with his love,
sharing that love with each other and with the world.

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Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'