

Advent

Christmas

Ordinary Time

Lent

Three Days

Easter

Ordinary Time

Advent

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.

(Norms Governing Liturgical Calendars, 39)

Overview

In this chapter the students will learn that Advent is a season of joyful expectation and preparation for the coming of the Son of God.

For Adult Reading and Reflection

You may want to refer to paragraph 524 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Catechist Background

What experiences of joyful expectation do you associate with the season of Advent?

During the season of Advent, the Church revives through its liturgy the longing for the coming of the Messiah. The Church understands that “by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming” (CCC 524).

This desire for the coming of the Son of God is beautifully expressed in the ancient Advent O Antiphons. Connecting the Old and New Testaments, these seven antiphons give voice to the Church’s longing for God’s Kingdom made present in the person of Jesus Christ.

Go to www.webelieveweb.com, Catechist/Teacher, We Believe Correlations for this chapter’s correlation to Six Tasks of Catechesis.

Because Christ’s reign is yet to be fulfilled “with power and great glory” (Luke 21:27), the Church prays “above all in the Eucharist, to hasten Christ’s return by saying to him: *Marana tha!* ‘Our Lord, come!’” (CCC 671).

In what ways will you pass on this ancient longing for Christ’s coming?

Lesson Planning Guide

Lesson Focus

Presentation

Materials

1 WE GATHER

<p>page 115 Introduce the Season</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the <i>Chapter Story</i>. • Introduce the Advent year. • Proclaim the O Antiphon on the banner. 	
<p>page 116</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss “coming soon” in the question. 	

2 WE BELIEVE

<p>pages 116–118 <i>Advent is a season of joyful expectation and preparation for the coming of the Son of God.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read and discuss the meaning of Advent and the role of the prophets. • Discuss the O Antiphons and their meaning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • butcher paper or poster board • purple or violet markers
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3 WE RESPOND

<p>page 118</p>	 Write prayers based on the O Antiphons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • poster board and markers • drawing paper
<p>Text page 119 Guide page 119–120 We Respond in Prayer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to Scripture. • Pray a litany based on the O Antiphons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prayer space items: seven purple or violet battery-operated candles • parish song books or missalettes
<p>Text page 120 Guide pages 119–120, 120A Project Disciple</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Project Disciple activities. • Complete Reproducible Master 13 activity. See Guide pages 120A and 115C. • Discuss/send home Sharing Faith with My Family, guide page 120B. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of Reproducible Master 13, guide page 120A. • copies of Sharing Faith with My Family, guide page 120B

For additional ideas, activities, and opportunities: Visit Sadlier’s

www.WEBELIEVEweb.com