

Blessing of an Advent Wreath

1st Sunday of Advent



The Advent Wreath is a wonderful tradition to help us **visibly mark** the passing of time before Christmas in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the **First Sunday of Advent** or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it is blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Scripture Reading (Select one):

Isaiah 9 lines 1-2 & 5-6

Isaiah 63 lines 16-17 & 19, or

Isaiah 64 lines 2-7

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Prayer & Blessing

Leader (all join hands):

Lord our God,
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches
and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us
salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*The blessing may conclude with a verse
from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":*

O come, desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of humankind;
bid ev'ry sad division cease
and be thyself our Prince of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—from *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

