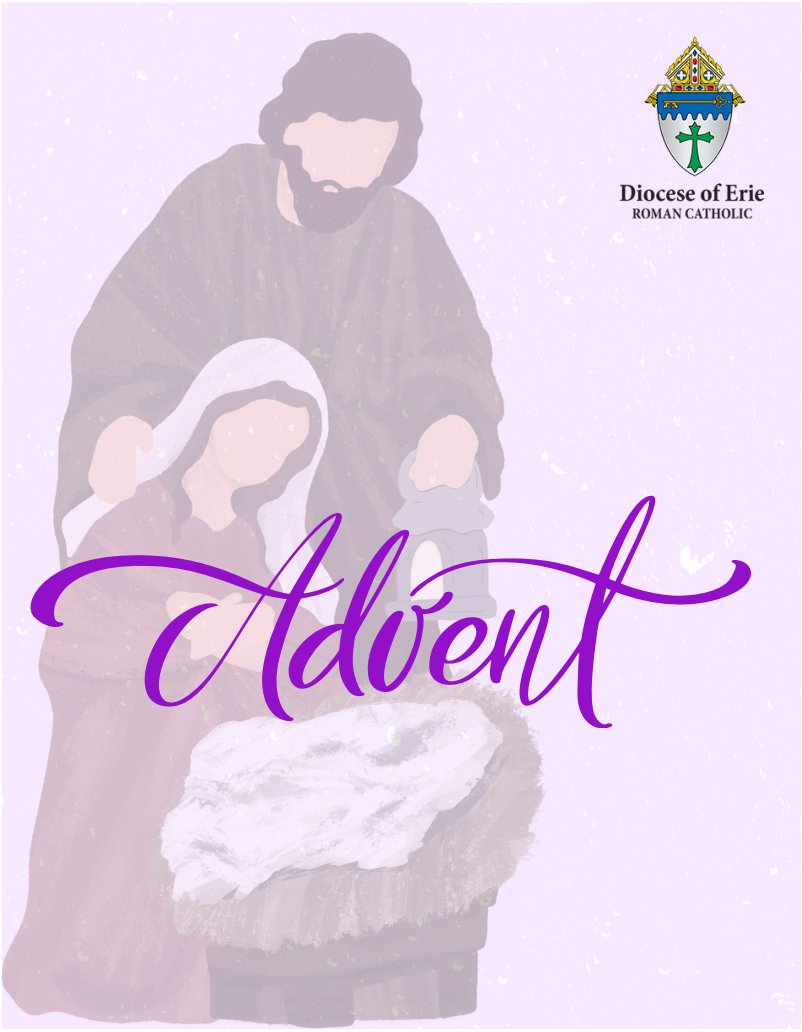




Diocese of Erie
ROMAN CATHOLIC

A stylized illustration of the Nativity scene is the background for the central text. It depicts Joseph, Mary, and the infant Jesus in a manger. Joseph is shown as a bearded man in a brown robe, Mary as a woman in a white headscarf and brown robe, and the infant Jesus in a grey swaddling cloth. The manger is filled with white straw. The entire scene is set against a light purple background with small white and green speckles.

Advent

Advent 2025 Simple Devotional & Prayer Guide



Diocese of Erie

This daily devotional guide invites you to journey through Advent with prayer and reflection. Each Sunday, light the Advent wreath candle for the week and return each day for scripture and prayer.

Prepared by the Diocese of Erie, this resource is meant to help you pause, draw near to Christ, and prepare your heart for the joy of Christmas.

Week 1 – Hope

Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent



Action: Bless the Advent wreath and light the first purple candle (Hope).

Reflection: As Advent begins, we wait in hope for Christ's coming. The light of the first candle reminds us that even in darkness, God's promise shines.

Bible Verse: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who lived in a land of gloom a light has shone." — Isaiah 9:1

Prayer: Lord, kindle in us the light of hope. As we begin this Advent journey, may our hearts be open to your promises and strengthened by your love. Amen.

Daily Reflections – Hope (Dec 1–6):

Mon, Dec 1: Romans 8:24–25 — Hope that is seen is not hope.

- Prayer: Lord, give me patience to trust in what I cannot yet see.

Tue, Dec 2: Psalm 33:20 — Our soul waits for the Lord, our help and our shield.

- Prayer: Protect me with your love as I place my hope in you.

Wed, Dec 3 – *Memorial of St. Francis Xavier*

Jeremiah 29:11 — Plans for welfare, not for woe, to give you a future full of hope.

- Prayer: God, send me like Francis Xavier to bring your hope to others.

Thu, Dec 4 – *St. John Damascene*

Lamentations 3:21–23 — The Lord's mercy is not exhausted, his compassion is renewed each morning.

- Prayer: Renew my heart with hope each day, O Lord.

Fri, Dec 5: Hebrews 10:23 — Hold unwaveringly to our confession of hope.

- Prayer: Keep me faithful in my waiting.

Sat, Dec 6 – *St. Nicholas*

Psalm 71:14 — I will always hope in you.

- Prayer: Lord, teach me to share your hope through generosity, like St. Nicholas.

Week 2 – Peace

Sunday, December 7 – Second Sunday of Advent

Action: Light the second purple candle (Peace).



Reflection: Christ is the Prince of Peace, calming our anxious hearts and reconciling us to God.

Bible Verse: “The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb... There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord.” — Isaiah 11:6, 9

Prayer: Lord Jesus, bring peace into our hearts and homes. Teach us to be peacemakers in a divided world. Amen.



Daily Reflections – Peace (Dec 8–13):

Mon, Dec 8 – *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary*

- Luke 1:28 — “Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.”
 - Prayer: Mary, Mother of Peace, pray for us.

Tue, Dec 9 – *St. Juan Diego*

- John 14:27 — My peace I give to you.
 - Prayer: Jesus, help me carry your peace to others.

Wed, Dec 10: Philippians 4:7 — The peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts.

- Prayer: Guard my heart with your peace, Lord.

Thu, Dec 11 – *St. Damasus I*

Isaiah 26:3 — With firm purpose you maintain peace; in peace, because of trust in you.

- Prayer: Steady me in trust, Lord.

Fri, Dec 12 – *Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Psalms 85:9 — His salvation is near for those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land.

- Prayer: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of Peace, intercede for us.

Sat, Dec 13 – *St. Lucy*

Colossians 3:15 — Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.

- Prayer: May Christ’s peace rule my heart today.

Week 3 – Joy

Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Action: Light the rose/pink candle (Joy).

Reflection: We rejoice because the Lord is near. Joy is not just happiness but deep trust in God's faithfulness.

Bible Verse: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!"
— Philippians 4:4

Prayer: Lord, fill us with joy that springs from your presence, even amid trials. Amen.



Daily Reflections – Joy (Dec 15–20):

Mon, Dec 15: Psalm 16:11 — In your presence is fullness of joy.

- Prayer: Lord, let your presence be my joy.

Tue, Dec 16: John 15:11 — My joy may be in you and your joy complete.

- Prayer: Jesus, root my joy in you.

Wed, Dec 17: Isaiah 35:10 — The ransomed will enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.

- Prayer: Keep me singing your praises, O Lord.

Thu, Dec 18: Luke 1:44 — At the moment your greeting reached my ears, the infant leaped for joy.

- Prayer: May I bring joy to others as Mary did to Elizabeth.

Fri, Dec 19: 1 Peter 1:8 — You rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.

- Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for the joy of believing.

Sat, Dec 20: Isaiah 61:10 — I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul.

- Prayer: Clothe me in the garments of joy, O God.



Week 4 – Love

Sunday, December 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Action: Light the fourth purple candle (Love).



Reflection: God's love is revealed most perfectly in Christ's birth. Advent calls us to welcome His love into our lives.

Bible Verse: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." — John 3:16

Prayer: Lord, your love is beyond measure. May my heart reflect your love to all. Amen.

Daily Reflections – Love (Dec 22–24):

Mon, Dec 22: 1 John 4:19 — We love because he first loved us.

- Prayer: Teach me to love as you have loved me.

Tue, Dec 23 – *St. John of Kanty*

Romans 5:5 — The love of God has been poured out into our hearts.

- Prayer: Pour your love into my heart, Lord.

Wed, Dec 24 – *Christmas Eve*

Matthew 1:23 — They shall name him Emmanuel, "God is with us."

- Prayer: Emmanuel, come and dwell among us in love.