

**PRAYERS FOR THE ADVENT WREATH**  
*(To be said by the family at the main meal of the day)*

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at His coming, so that, gathered at His right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to His company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY):**

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made know by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Advent wreath represents that period of time between Adam and Christ. The three purple candles are lit on Apenitential@ Sundays. The Rose candle, is lit on the third Sunday of Advent and reminds us that we look forward to Christ=s coming with Ajoyful expectation.@ Together, the four candles mark off the four weeks of Advent. Their flames symbolize Jesus Christ who is the light of the world. The greenery of the wreath symbolizes new life in Christ, that new life we receive in baptism. The wreath is in the shape of a circle which, like God, has no beginning or end.*

