Prayer at Home

Advent 2020

Diocese of Davenport

**Lighting and Blessing of the Wreath**

***On the 1st Sunday, the wreath is not lit at the start.***

***On the other Sundays, the candles are lit before the prayer starts.***

*All make the Sign of the Cross:*

Leader: +In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Reader: A reading from the holy gospel according to N.

 *On the First Sunday, read Mark 13:33-37*

 *On the 2nd Sunday, read Mark 1:1-8*

 *On the 3rd Sunday, read John 1:6-8, 19-28*

 *On the 4th Sunday, read Luke 1:26-38*

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may be always ready to welcome our Savior.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Minister: That by our keeping of Advent we would grow in love of God and neighbor; we pray:

That the dawning light of Christ would overcome the night of sin and division; we pray:

That this wreath would be a reminder of Christ’s coming, and prepare us to celebrate Christmas with peace and joy; we pray:

 *Other intercessions may be added.*

*On the First Sunday of Advent, the Leader continues with the Blessing of the Wreath:*

Leader: 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.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*On the other Sundays, the Leader continues with the Lord’s Prayer:*

Leader: With longing and waiting for the coming of our Savior, we pray:

All: Our Father…

Leader: Let us pray.

*First Sunday*

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All: Amen.

*Second Sunday*

Father in heaven, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world. May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek him. May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find him. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. [Amen.]

*Third Sunday*

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior’s coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. [Amen.]

*Fourth Sunday*

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. [Amen.]

*As all make the Sign of the Cross:*

Leader: May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

The Sunday Gospels may be found on the USCCB website:

https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar

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This ritual in Spanish may be found at:

This ritual in Vietnamese may be found at: