

## **You Shall Name Him Jesus (Lk 1:32)**

### **A Rite for the Beginning of Advent at Home – First day only!**

***The first day the wreath is in your home, the leader may say:***

As our nights grow longer and our days grow short,  
we look on these earthly signs--light and green  
branches--  
and remember God's promise to our world:  
Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.  
Listen to the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“The people that walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those who lived in a land as dark as death  
a light has dawned.  
You have increased their joy  
and given them gladness;  
They rejoice in your presence  
as those who rejoice at harvest,  
as warriors exult when dividing spoil.” *Is. 9:1-2*

***Then all pray:***

O God,  
rejoicing,  
we remember the promise of your Son.  
As the light from this candle,  
may the blessing of Christ come upon us,  
brightening our way  
and guiding us by his truth.  
May Christ our Savior bring life  
into the darkness of our world,  
and to us, as we wait for his coming.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

***Then the first candle is lighted.***

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### **Daily Advent Prayers**

Each day at home, the candles are lighted, perhaps before the evening meal – one candle the first week, adding an additional candle for each succeeding week until December 25<sup>th</sup>. The rose candle is usually lighted on the third Sunday of Advent. As the candles are lighted, a prayer is usually said.

#### **Daily Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath**

##### **First Week - 12/3/17**

O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ,  
desire of every nation,  
Savior of all peoples,  
come and dwell among us.

##### **Third Week – 12/17/17**

O Key of David, Jesus Christ,  
the gates of heaven open at your command,  
come and show us the way to salvation.

##### **Second Week - 12/10/17**

O King of all nations, Jesus Christ,  
only joy of every heart,  
come and save your people.

##### **Fourth Week – (day of 12/24/17 only)**

O Wisdom, holy Word of God, Jesus Christ,  
all things are in your hands,  
come and show us the way to salvation.

### **After Advent - Epiphany only**

For the Christmas Season which follows immediately after Advent, candles and ribbons can be changed to white. If you wish, the wreath itself can be freshened with new greens and decorated festively for use during the holiday period. Lighting all four white candles to burn during the principal meal each day of the Christmas Season is a customary and appropriate practice.