

The season of Advent is a time of waiting, a time when we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. May this season of Advent be a time of peace for you, your family, and for the Ave Maria Parish Community!



Prayers for Lighting the Advent Wreath



SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH

1st Week of Advent – 4th Week of Advent

Advent Morning Prayer

First Week of Advent

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn: [Emmanuel](#)

Leader: Advent is a season of waiting. As we await the joyful coming of our Lord at Christmas, we light this first Advent candle, praying together:

Prayer: “Lord, we wait for the day of your peace. May we help to bring this peace to our families, our communities, and our world” (www.usccb.org). Amen.

Closing Hymn: [Emmanuel](#)

Second Week of Advent

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn: [The Thrill of Hope](#)

Leader: During this season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for the birthday of Jesus. As we prepare in us a home for Christ’s dwelling, we light the second Advent candle and pray:

Prayer: Loving God, as we prepare ourselves for the birth of your Son, we ask that you open our minds and our hearts, so that we may be ready for Jesus’ birth. May we always be mindful of your dwelling in us so that we may be instruments of joy and peace. Amen.

Closing Hymn: [The Thrill of Hope](#)

Third Week of Advent

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn: [You Are the Light](#)

Leader: In joyful expectation for the coming of Christmas, we light the third candle of Advent, praying:

Prayer: “Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this, through Christ our Lord.” Amen. (www.loyolapress.com)

Closing Hymn: [You Are the Light](#)

Fourth Week of Advent

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel](#)

Leader: In this season of Advent, we are invited to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. As we light the fourth Advent candle, we do so with joy, reminded that God draws near to us, and so we pray:

Prayer: “Long ago God came as one of us. Through the ages God continues to come as Spirit, as Word, as bread and wine, and in each one of us when we reach out to those in need. Believing in a God who draws near to his children, we wait; we hope and we labor for a more just, loving and peaceful world. As we make this Advent journey we invite God to come again and again so that our waiting, our hoping and our laboring may give way to the fulfillment of God’s promise to come in glory” (www.diosav.org). Amen.

Closing Hymn: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel](#)