

Making the most of Advent

Let this Advent season speak to you and your family of joy and hope.
Create a space to be together for a few minutes every day.

Tip – don't make this a long or onerous time. You want family to enjoy coming and eager to come again.

Prepare - You could prepare an Advent prayer focus with some evergreen leaves and a candle. Purple candle if you can find one. If you want to add flowers, there is lots of lavender in flower at this time of year.

Gather - When you have gathered together, light a candle, and sign the cross.

Listen - Someone reads a reading from the day **OR** even just a single verse, chosen beforehand. It doesn't need to be long.

Respond - Then give everyone a chance to respond. Accept whatever is offered.

Bless – Thank all for taking part and offer a blessing; it could be good to use words from the scripture you have heard; e.g. may you be filled with joy and may your love increase ever-more, through Christ we pray. Amen

Finally – a treat. You could open a day on the Advent calendar – and maybe find a treat there. Or follow-up with more family time: stories or a family game.

Extra – this is a helpful little video explaining Advent <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCoFGQLBp7w>



Liturgy of the Word for families Second Sunday of Advent Year C

Note: Prepare a prayer focus and light a candle.

SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...

Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Haere mai. Welcome everyone. This is the second Sunday of Advent, Year C. The early Christians called themselves people of the way. We are people of the way too – walking together, listening to the Spirit and to each other and singing together. Let's begin by singing.

Let's sing

→→→ Fill Every Valley Up Michael Mangan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLZJCgE_jfY

→→→ Youth & Adults Every Valley, Bob Dufford

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjiQUPGScGo>

READER: E te Atua, God with us, you gather your children from east and west and you lead us in joy and peace. May we be radiant with the compassion and mercy of Christ.

You remember your people

Lord have mercy

(All) Lord have mercy

You are just and merciful in all your ways

Christ have mercy

(All) Christ have mercy

You lead your people in joy

Lord have mercy

(All) Lord have mercy

Reader: Laudato si Action Platform

John the Baptist cries out in today's first reading to 'prepare a way of the Lord.' He calls people to fill valleys and lower mountains. Perhaps in today's situation, John the Baptist might call out us; 'Prepare the way of the Lord: adopt sustainable lifestyles, respond to the cry of the earth, respond to the cry of the poor, empower your community to become resilient, bring ecology to your spirituality, your finances, your education. The first year of the Laudato Si Action Platform will be dedicated to building community, sharing resources and developing action plans.

Prepare the way of the Lord ... adopt sustainable lifestyles, respond to the cry of the earth, respond to the cry of the poor



Photo: UN Women/M R Hasan - CC

OPENING PRAYER: In this time of silence, we bring to mind all the things we want to pray for. (*Allow silence, 1 minute*)

God Emmanuel, ever-present and merciful, in this time of preparation and waiting, may we be eager to meet Jesus and eagerly prepare for that meeting. We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen

FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the book of Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery;

put on the splendour of glory from God forever:

wrapped in the cloak of justice from God,

bear on your head the mitre

that displays the glory of the eternal name.

For God will show all the earth your splendour:

you will be named by God forever

the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship.



Māori feather cloak by Skepticalview CC

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights;

look to the east and see your children

gathered from the east and the west

at the word of the Holy One,

rejoicing that they are remembered by God.

Led away on foot by their enemies they left you:

but God will bring them back to you

borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones.

For God has commanded

that every lofty mountain be made low,

and that the age-old depths and gorges

be filled to level ground,

that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God.

The forests and every fragrant kind of tree

have overshadowed Israel at God's command;

for God is leading Israel in joy

by the light of his glory,

with his mercy and justice for company.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God

Silence – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word find a place to rest inside us.*

Discussion - What place does joy have in our lives?

PSALM: *Psalm 126 The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy*

Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEYz4i2SL2k>

Youth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WS-n0hU3zSE>

Adults

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dG9C3-jLJTs>

Second Reading **Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**

A reading from the book of Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
with joy in my every prayer for all of you,
partnership for the gospel
day until now.
of this,
who began a good work in you
complete it
Christ Jesus.
witness,
all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.
prayer:
may increase ever more and more
and every kind of perception,
is of value,
may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
fruit of righteousness
through Jesus Christ
and praise of God.

Ko te kupu a te Ariki - The Word of the Lord

ALL: Whakamoemiti ki te Atua - Thanks be to God



[Elderly Woman with Cheroot by Adam Jones](#) Wikimedia CC

Silence - *Follow the reading with quiet thinking time.*

Discussion - How is this prayer similar or dissimilar to my prayer when I pray for others: 'How I long for ... you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value.'

GOSPEL: **Luke 3:1-6**

Reader Kia noho te Ariki - The Lord be with you

All: Ki tōu wairua anō hoki - And also with you

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar,
when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea,
and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee,
and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of
Ituraea and Trachonitis,
and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene,
during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas,
the word of God came to John
the son of Zechariah in the desert.

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,
as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.*

*Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.*

*The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*

Reader Ko te rongopai a te Ariki - The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti - Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



[Photo Stoo Pixabay](#)

After the reading -. **Silence.**

Think about the reading - Let some words repeat in your mind.

→→→ **Kids Homily**– Brother Francis - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pxPALw2abo>

→→→ **Adults / Youth - Homily / Discussion** – Could there be mountains of pride and valleys of shame in our lives that we need to think about. What else could mountains and valleys refer to?

Prayer of the Faithful: *As God's people we pray for the needs of the whole world.*

For the Church – that all the baptized try to walk together in a spirit of listening, as the People of God.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

For national and international leaders – that as response to the pandemic focuses on vaccination, leaders will work to maintain a sense of unity among their people , encouraging care, tolerance and acceptance of difference.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

For refugees - that nations around the globe will open their doors to those who have no place to call home and that the causes of human displacement be addressed.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

For families – that the approaching Christmas season will not cause financial hardship and that families will use the summer break to grow in understanding and love of one another.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

For ourselves – that we prepare the way of the Lord, that our 'love may increase more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception and that we learn to discern what is of value.'

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki All: whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

Other Intentions

Concluding Prayer:

Father, we gather here as a people baptized by the Spirit and in the sure knowledge that you will answer these petitions. We make our prayer through the Spirit and in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READER: And now let us pray together as Jesus taught us: Choose Māori or English

The Lord's Prayer in Māori at this link <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/te-reo-in-the-liturgy/>

Scroll down and open the button – ko to inoi a te Ariki (Words will show on the screen).

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



READER – The Laudato Si Action Platform - taking action

The Laudato si Action Platform is a call, not unlike the call we have heard from John the Baptist.

We are called not to surrender to the cocoon of indifference or the cocoon of hopelessness or the cocoon of self-sufficiency. We are called to do something. To act with joy. To act with hope. The first year of the Laudato Si Action platform calls us to build community.

Let's listen to this short video about the Laudato si Action Platform

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjdnGvfF5bw>



Discussion: In the first year of the Laudato Si action platform, Pope Francis calls on every person of good will to build community. What can I / we do to build community?

Reader: It is Advent, Week 2. Continue to celebrate Advent in your homes. Light an Advent candle (or two candles on your wreath) each day, – as you do so, invite Christ to be present in your day. Let's journey towards Christmas with a sense of joy, preparing as we can with acts of kindness, by prayer and by fasting from excess.

Thank you for your kindness. Thank you for your participation.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

Let us go in peace, loving and serving God by caring for our planet and for one another.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG:

Kids O Emmanuel (Michael Mangan)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Oovlm2oJPo>

Youth O Emmanuel cover Gen Bryant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Oovlm2oJPo>

Adults Prepare the Way of the Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlyVaJd7qbQ>

communion
participation
mission



For a synodal Church

Feedback to Auckland Diocese by 22/4/2022

- The Diocese of Auckland: for more information on the Synod <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/>

- Printable PDF, with Synod information <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SynodInformationBooklet.pdf>