

**NEW! WEEKLY GOSPEL
REFLECTION VIDEOS**

CHILDREN'S LEAFLETS

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Children Celebrate!



Winter 2022–2023 (Year A)

NOVEMBER 27, 2022 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

through **FEBRUARY 19, 2023** | SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Readings

The readings cited are the readings contained in the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*. These readings may differ at times from those heard by the adults. They may be shorter, there may be only one reading, plus the Psalm and the Gospel, or the First Readings may be different altogether from those the adults hear. The Gospel most always is the same, but may be the shorter form. The *Directory for Masses with Children* allows for these differences to accommodate the children's level of comprehension.

Activities

The last three pages of this book offer bonus activities intended for use by children who are pre-readers or beginning readers. Here are some suggestions, but all three activities could be used at any time. The first two bonus activities highlight Jesus' baptism and that he is the Light of the World, as John the Baptist proclaimed in the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time on January 15, 2023. The third bonus activity celebrates the Epiphany, which is on January 8, 2023.

Bonus Christmas Lesson

Since most Children's Liturgy of the Word programs do not meet on Christmas, a lesson for this day is not included here. Should you need a Christmas lesson, go to pflaum.com/liturgy-of-the-word and click on "Bonus Resources" and then "Program Directors." There you will find a free Christmas lesson and handout!

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November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

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Today's Readings

Isaiah 2:1–5
Psalm 122:1–2, 8–9
Romans 13:11–13a
Matthew 24:37–44



We Pray

Lord Jesus, during this season of Advent, help me to be ready to welcome you. Amen.



The Word of God This Week

Always Be Ready for Jesus

Jesus said to his disciples, “Always live good lives. Always be ready for the day God decides who will live in heaven and who will not. If you are not ready, you will be left behind.”

Jesus told them, “Two men could be working the same field, but only one will be taken. Two women might be working side by side but one will be left behind. You never know when God is coming. Always be ready!”



Visit <https://bit.ly/3GhrWYv> for this week's Gospel Reflection, Saint Spotlight, and more.

Activity

Make an Advent wreath. Color all bows and numerals, but don't color the flames yet. Cut out the candles and the wreath strip. Paste or tape one candle behind each bow. Tape the strip together to form a circle. "Light" the first candle by coloring its flame a bright yellow or orange. Say a prayer asking Jesus to help you prepare for his coming. Repeat your prayer each Sunday of Advent, lighting another candle as you do.



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Family Corner

Faith Focus

Today is the beginning of Advent, a time to reflect on how well we are living our faith. Are we putting emphasis on giving rather than receiving, on thinking of others instead of ourselves, on simplicity rather than excessiveness? These values stand in stark contrast to all the Christmas advertisements at this time of year, and it is important to keep the focus of Advent on preparation for the birth of Jesus.

Family Activity

Pick a family theme for Advent. Make an action plan for the week, similar to this one on the theme of kindness.

- Everyone think of a way to show kindness. An older child could help a younger child, or an adult could check on an elderly neighbor.
- Encourage one another as you see kind actions and attitudes developing.

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