



“Let us trust in God’s work. With Him we can do great things; He will give us the joy of being His disciples, His witnesses”. (*A Year With Pope Francis: Daily Reflections from His Writings*).

We, as Catholics, have no idea of what this coming Advent will physically look like in the church. We must not give up hope. Canadians are in the midst of the CO-VID 19 pandemic and numbers are rising therefore we must pray for all people.

Christmas will be different this year. There will not be large family gatherings as well as large crowds on Christmas Eve in the churches. If you are unable to attend a church service during this time, Masses will be live-streamed.

Advent

Advent prayers remind us to stop and take time on what really counts this time of year, to prepare for the arrival of our Lord Jesus Christ, both in the Nativity and in His Second Coming as well. During Advent, we await the celebration of Jesus’s birth at Christmas while taking stock of our readiness for His return.

Advent reminds us to give of OURSELVES and to be open to reflecting Christ’s presence in our lives, as we think about His being born in a manger in Bethlehem to redeem us from our sins so that we may share Eternal life with Him in Heaven.

Advent Prayer

O God, Who gladdens us by the annual expectation of our Redemption,
grant that we, who now receive with joy Your only begotten Son as our Redeemer,
may behold him without fear when He comes as our judge,
even the same Lord Jesus Christ,
Your Son who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord to prepare the ways of Your Only begotten Son,
that we may attain to serve You with purified minds, through this Advent season.
May God continue to bless us with faith, hope and love. Amen.

May you all have a Blessed Advent.

Gladys Brown, ABMK Spiritual Development Chairperson.