



Advent Activities

*Family Mass Group
Mother of Divine Grace Church, Ballygall*



Advent is the time when we get ready and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. This is your Advent pack to help you prepare for Christmas over the coming weeks.

In your pack you will find:

1. An Advent calendar
2. A template for a Christmas Star
3. An Advent prayer
4. An Advent wreath colouring sheet
5. A clue sheet for the Advent Hunt

What do you do with your pack?

- On your Advent calendar there are ideas each day of good things you can do to help you prepare.
- Colour in the Christmas star and cut it. On the back of the star, write down something kind you have done for others. By being kind to others, we bring the light of Christ to them. **You can then bring your star to the church and drop it in the collection box. Your star will be displayed in the Church during the Christmas period.**
- Take time during Advent to say the Advent prayer with your family.
- You can colour in each of the candles of your wreath on the four Sundays of Advent

Advent Hunt

During Advent, there will be an Advent hunt in the church grounds. You will have to follow clues to complete the Advent message. You can do the hunt any time during Advent. You can print off a clue sheet from the parish website or collect a clue sheet from the church porch. We hope you have fun doing it!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 First Sunday of Advent I will spend a few extra minutes in prayer today.	30 I will do my work well today and with joy for God.	1 I will be kind in a special way to someone I do not like much.	2 I will obey my parents, my teachers, and others in charge of me.	3 <i>St. Francis Xavier</i> I will secretly do a kind act for someone.	4 I will try to show special love for someone who seems unhappy or lonely.	5 I will keep calm and not lose my temper when I am pushed or treated rudely.
6 <i>St. Nicholas</i> Second Sunday of Advent I will donate like-new toys and books I've outgrown to needy families.	7 <i>St. Ambrose</i> I will work hard today and do my best.	8 <i>Immaculate Conception of Mary</i> I will honor Mary in a very special way today by being cheerful.	9 I will do some work for my parents to help them rest after a day of work.	10 I will eat more of what is good for me today and less of what is not.	11 I will be satisfied with the things I have instead of asking my family for more.	12 <i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> I will ask Mary to help me make room for Jesus in my heart.
13 <i>St. Lucy</i> Third Sunday of Advent I will find a quiet place and sit for a few minutes, just letting God love me.	14 <i>St. John of the Cross</i> I will try to be more thoughtful of others.	15 I will try to be patient today.	16 I will make a special effort to be kind to those I find it hard to like.	17 I will speak kindly to all I meet today.	18 I will be helpful at home these last days before Jesus' birthday.	19 I will not complain today, even if I must do things I do not want to do.
20 Fourth Sunday of Advent I will thank God for all he gives to me.	21 <i>St. Peter Canisius</i> I will give a smile to all I meet today.	22 I will be grateful and thank God today for all the food I have.	23 I will do a kind act for each member of my family.	24 I welcome Jesus with great love and offer him all the good acts I have performed and the prayers I have said during Advent.	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	
ADVENT 2020					<i>May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming.</i>	
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For to us a child is born,
to us a Son is given. (Isaiah 9:6)



Let Us Be Light

Jesus,

Let Advent begin; help us to be beacons of hope,
patience, good deeds, love, peace and justice. . .

Be our guide in this project.

Grant us what we need to keep our lights shining,
to shed light on the road that leads others to you.

Amen



The Advent Wreath

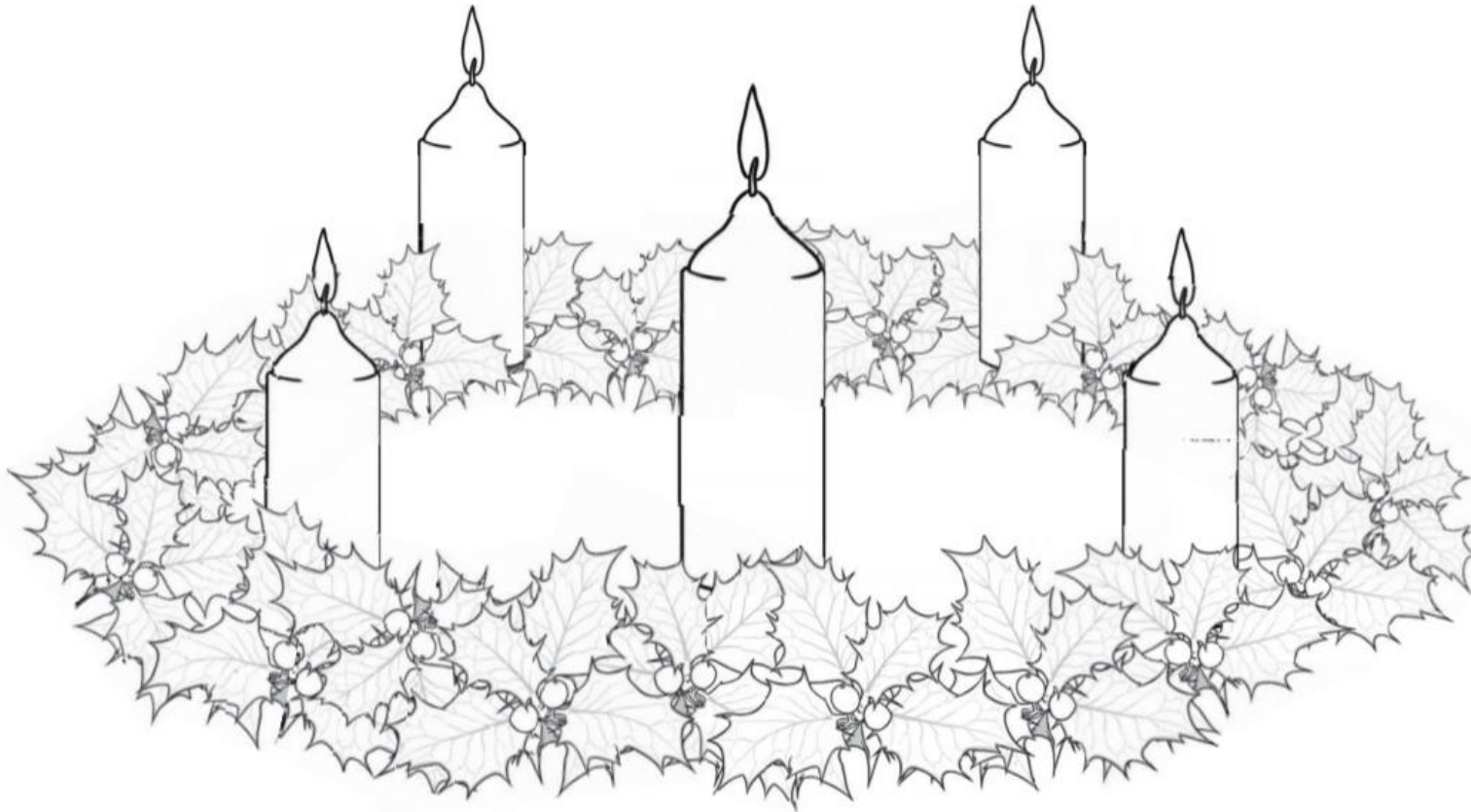
The Advent wreath has five candles. For each of the four Sundays before Christmas, the priest will light a candle on the wreath.

For the first two weeks, the priest lights a purple candle.

On the third week, he lights a pink one and on the fourth week he lights a purple one.

Finally on Christmas Day, the priest lights the final candle in the middle of the wreath. This is a white candle.

Use these clues to colour the Advent wreath.



**Our Mother of Divine Grace,
Ballygall Parish Church
Advent 2020**

Advent Hunt

Welcome to the Advent Hunt. Follow the clues around the church grounds to find the five words that complete the Advent phrase.

Instructions:

- Five words have been hidden around the church grounds.
- Each word is displayed alongside the image of a candle.
- Write down or memorize the words - you will need them to complete the Advent phrase at the end.
- Search for the clues anytime from Sunday 29th November 12 noon until Wednesday 23rd December by 4pm, when all the clues will be taken down.
- Please leave everything as you found it for the next hunter!
- To report a missing clue or for questions please email adventhunt2020@gmail.com. Clues will be periodically checked to make sure they are still in place.
- The Advent hunt is suitable for all ages.
- Feel free to upload pictures of your journey to the church Facebook page at OMDG Ballygall - follow the link below:
- <https://www.facebook.com/people/Omdg-Ballygall/100009468060638>

Clue 1: Standing at the main church door,
Look South towards Dublin city,
Turn left and follow the church wall
To see a candle so pretty!

Clue 2: Head over to the car park and
Walk on down the slope,
Stop by the wall, turn right,
To find the furthest tree - keep faith and hope!

Clue 3: Near the front of the church
Stands a monument grey,
With the name of the church
Written out for those who come to pray.

Clue 4: Facing the road
Standing proud and tall,
Is a statue of Our Lady
A symbol of our church in Ballygall

Clue 5: Near the bottom of the steps
Is a display for one and all,
Facing those that arrive,
With notes and events in our parish in Ballygall

Now complete the phrase:

-----, -----!

Go into the church and say a prayer to Jesus and maybe light a
candle too!