

Advent: The Lord Comes to Save



St. Charles Catholic Church
Liturgy of the Word with Children
Family Reflection for
December 11, 2022 Third Sunday of Advent

Family Prayer:

Jesus, light up our life with your presence.
Give us courage and strength to shine your
message to the world. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-6

See the signs and believe in the Messiah

Reflection:

Advent is a season of waiting. Today, marks the third Sunday of Advent. We light the pink candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of joy. The candles remind us how Jesus, the Light of the World, transformed the world with the warmth and brightness of his love.

In the Gospel story, John the Baptist had been arrested and imprisoned. He sent some of his followers to ask Jesus, "Are you the promised one or is he still to come?" Jesus answered, "Tell John what you have seen and heard; the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the sick are healed, and the dead are raised to life. The Good News of God's kingdom is being proclaimed to the poor, and blessed are those who believe in me." Followers of John the Baptist began to believe that Jesus was the Savior God had promised to send. Jesus had come to restore order to the people so that God's mercy, love, and compassion could be felt and experienced. As followers of Christ, we too are called to look for Jesus when we pray, when we celebrate Mass, and when we serve others.

Discuss these questions
as a family:

- Are you waiting for Jesus?
- How does one look for Jesus?
- How should we respond when we find Jesus?
- What does the Gospel message reveal to you about who Jesus is?

Family activities:

1. Whom can you bring the love and joy of Christ to this week? Jesus cared for many who were poor and forgotten. As a family, find a way to care for someone who is poor or forgotten in your area. Do you have an elderly neighbor to visit? Could you volunteer time or contribute to the St. Vincent DePaul food drive?
2. Seek to spread joy this week. Encourage children to make cards for people who need healing or some joy. Happy cards can help people to feel both the joy of Advent and the happiness of knowing someone cares for them.
3. Have you ever felt so much joy that you almost exploded? Share some joyful times.
4. Sing: Rejoice in the Lord Always. Follow the lyrics on YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Rs1SeuBgU0>

