

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath

Week 1 - The Week of Hope

Named the 'prophecy candle' because the prophets foretold the birth of Christ. Our focus this week is on the expectation and anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Leader: The Lord is our faith and our life

All: May the Lord's peace be with us all

Leader: And his love shine in our hearts

All: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord

Candle Lighter (*typically the eldest child*) - "I light the Prophecy candle, which begins the time of waiting." (lights candle)

Grace (*if lighting the wreath at mealtime*)

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.



Week 2 - The Week of Peace

Named the 'Bethlehem candle' because Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem for safety and support. This week we are reminded of the faith community and call that all are welcome.

Leader: May the Lord's peace be with us all

All: The Lord is our faith and our life

Leader: May his love shine in our hearts

All: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord

Candle Lighter(s)

1st Candle: (*typically the eldest child*) - "I light the Prophecy candle, which begins the time of waiting." (*lights candle*)

2nd Candle: (*typically the second eldest child*) - "I light the Bethlehem candle, which represents the preparations made to receive the Christ child." (*lights candle*)

Grace (*if lighting the wreath at mealtime*)

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Week 3- The Week of Joy

Named the "Shepherd's candle". This week begins on Gaudete Sunday which in Latin means, Rejoice in the Lord always! We are reminded that the birth of the savior is upon us and salvation is near and we should rejoice.

Leader: May the Lord's love shine in our hearts

All: And may his peace be with us all

Leader: The lord is our faith and our life

All: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord

Candle Lighter(s)

1st Candle: *(typically the eldest child)* - "I light the Prophecy candle, which begins the time of waiting."
(lights candle)

2nd Candle: *(typically the second eldest child)* - "I light the Bethlehem candle, which represents the preparations made to receive the Christ child." *(lights candle)*

3rd Candle: *(typically the youngest child)* "I light the Shepherd's candle which suggest the welcoming of Jesus by all people, even the simple shepherds in the fields." *(lights candle)*

Grace *(if lighting the wreath at mealtime)*

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Week 4 - The Week of Love

*Named the "Angel's candle". The final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our savior
reminds us of the immense love that God has for all of creation.*

Leader: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord.

All: May His love shine in our hearts

Leader: And may the Lord's peace be with us all.

All: The Lord is our hope and our life.

1st Candle: *(typically the eldest child)* - "I light the Prophecy candle, which begins the time of waiting."
(lights candle)

2nd Candle: *(typically the second eldest child)* - "I light the Bethlehem candle, which represents the preparations made to receive the Christ child." *(lights candle)*

3rd Candle: *(typically the youngest child)* "I light the Shepherd's candle which suggest the welcoming of Jesus by all people, even the simple shepherds in the fields." *(lights candle)*

4th Candle: "I light the Angel's candle which honors the Three Wise Men and the people of all nations because the Wise Men were from different countries." *(lights candle)*

Grace *(if lighting the wreath at mealtime)*

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.