

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

MISSIONARY OBLATES
OF MARY IMMACULATE



Sunday of the First Week of Advent, November 28, 2021

“Be vigilant at all times and pray”

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Be watchful and vigilant. It is by design that Jesus concealed the last day from us. He wants us to be on the lookout for Him every day of our lives. ~St. Augustine

ADVENT PRAYER:

Jesus, help me to be alert and trust in You. When our days are dark and our hearts are empty, send an angel to point the way. Let me be prepared every day spiritually and live joyfully. Amen.

Monday of the First Week of Advent, November 29, 2021

“I will go and cure him”

Matthew 8:5-11

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Let us not allow this holy season of Advent to slip by without spiritual fruit. It is the time of salvation, let us profit from it. ~St. Mary Euphrasia

ADVENT PRAYER:

Jesus, give us the grace to be instruments of your peace and follow You.

Help us to be reconciled to one another and live with mutual respect.

Amen.

Tuesday of the First Week of Advent, November 30, 2021

“Come, follow me”

Matthew 4:18-22

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Rejoice over these happy beginnings. Thank God for success in your work and care. ~St. Eugene De Mazenod

ADVENT PRAYER:

Jesus, through baptism we are called to do the works of justice, promoting and protecting the rights of all. May we rejoice and offer you praise and thanksgiving in a childlike manner. Grant us wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength and knowledge to help us build your kingdom. Amen.

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent, December 1, 2021

“They all ate and were satisfied”

Matthew 15:29-37

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Cultivate the friendship of others. It is the consolation of this life to find someone who is confident in the mysteries of our soul. The source of Christian friendship is none other than God. ~St. Augustine

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, draw us into your presence and give us peace and joy. May we seek to look upon you the God of love and mercy. During these dark days of Advent, wipe away our tears, our hunger, and our brokenness. Amen.

Thursday of the First Week of Advent, December 2, 2021

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven”

Matthew 7:21, 24-27

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

I am in a country where all the niceties of life are lacking. But I am filled with many inner consolations. Indeed, I run the risk of crying my eyes out because of my tears of joy! ~St. Francis Xavier

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, as an Advent people, draw us into your presence to seek You. Give us peace and joy. Let our wisdom manifest to the extent that Your will reigns in our minds and hearts. Amen.

Friday of the First Week of Advent, December 3, 2021

“But they went out and spread word of Him through all the land”

Matthew 9:27-31

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

God knows all things and provides what is profitable for each one. He revealed what it is to our benefit to know. But He kept secret what we are unable to bear now. ~St. John Damascene

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, teach me to seek You and to believe and Trust In You. Fill me with life, joy, and peace. Give me strength and energy to be a joyful Communicator of the Good News. Amen.

Saturday of the First Week of Advent, December 4, 2021

“The harvest is great but the laborers are few”

MT 9:35–10:1, 5A, 6-8

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The Eucharist is the sun of the feasts of the Church. It sheds light on those feasts and renders them living and joyous. ~St. Peter Eymard

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, may we truly feel compassion for all those who are in despair and need your love. Empower me to be agents of your kingdom and instruments of your love, peace and mercy. Amen.

Sunday of the Second Week of Advent, December 5, 2021

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths!”

Luke 3:1-6

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

When the Holy Spirit is in a soul, He communicates Himself in one way or another. We can say that He makes virtue contagious and turns a simple faithful into an apostle. ~St. Claude de la Colombiere

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, help us to be the light of the world and salt of the earth. Forgive the sins we have committed. May we hear Your voice and follow You. Amen.

Monday of the Second Week of Advent, December 6, 2021

“Your sins are forgiven”

LK 5:17-26

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

All the children of the Church are priests. At baptism they received the anointing that gives them a share in the priesthood. The sacrifice that they must offer to God is completely spiritual-it is themselves. ~Jo

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, help me to follow you every day and be obedient, humble and joyous. Amen.

Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent, December 7, 2021

“He rejoices.”

Matthew 18:12-14

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Love for Christ pierced Mary’s heart in such a way that no part of it was left unkindled. Mary thus fulfilled the first commandment of love in all its fullness and without the slightest imperfection. ~St. Bernard

ADVENT PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, may we rejoice to whatever You ask of us. Amen.

Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent, December 8, 2021

“Do not be afraid.”

Luke 1:26-38

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The Word of God moves swiftly. He is not won by the lukewarm nor held fast by the negligent. Be attentive to His message and diligently follow the path God tells you to take. For He is swift in His passing. ~St. Ambrose

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, teach me to trust in Your word. You are my friend, redeemer, and good shepherd. When I am lost, sad, worried, and lonely, give me comfort. Amen.

Thursday of the Second Week of Advent, December 9, 2021

“Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

MT 11:11-15

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The bark of Peter laughs at the winds and the waves. She has the Saints as her passengers, the Cross as her mast, the Gospel teachings as her sails, the Angels as her rowers, and God as her pilot. ~St. John Chrysostom

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, lead us by Your hand and lead us down the road to holiness. Amen.

Friday of the Second Week of Advent, December 10, 2021

“Wisdom is vindicated by her works.”

MT 11:16-19

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The law of love obliges us to love what is good to for us. But it also obliges us to love what is good for our neighbor. ~St. Frances de Sales

ADVENT PRAYER:

Good & Gracious God, help me to appreciate more and more your abiding love and truly be concerned about other people who are also your children. Amen.

Saturday of the Second Week of Advent, December 11, 2021
“The son of Man suffer at their hands.”

Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Mary is an arsenal of graces and she comes to the aid of her clients. She sustains, strengthens, and revives us by the heavenly favors that she heaps on us. ~St. Paulinus

ADVENT PRAYER:

Lord God, you gave Mary to be the Mother of all. Help me to become devoted to her and turn to her in time of great need. Amen.

Sunday of the Third Week of Advent, December 12, 2021

“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Luke 3:10-18

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Let us lose nothing of what God bestows on us. Difficulties and sufferings will disappear, but the merit we acquire through our fidelity will remain forever. Let us, therefore, build our eternity through all things that pass away. ~St. Jane Frances de Chantal

ADVENT PRAYER:

Lord, help me to see and hear Your Will. Let my heart and mind be well prepared to celebrate the Christmas mysteries. Amen.

Monday of the Third Week of Advent, December 13, 2021

“By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority”

MT 21:23-27

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Strive unceasingly to be pleasing to God and ask Him to accomplish His Will in you. Love Him with all your might; you owe Him a great deal.

~St. John of the Cross

ADVENT PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, teach me to do what is good and guide me in the path I should walk. Amen.

Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent, December 14, 2021

“Son, go out and work in the vineyard today. The son said in reply, I will not, but afterwards he changed his mind and went”

MT 21:28-32

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

All who receive Jesus in Communion are filled with every good. Their temptations are overcome. Their troubles are turned into joys. And their piety finds nourishment. ~St. Anthony of Padua

ADVENT PRAYER:

Father, fill us with Your grace. Help us to be obedient and live as a dedicated Christian. Amen.

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent, December 15, 2021
**“Jesus cured many of their diseases, sufferings, and evil spirits; He
also granted sight to many who were blind”**

LK 7:18B-23

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Virtue is a very wonderful thing for us. It is the good of life, the fruit of a clear conscience, and the peace of the innocent. ~St. Ambrose

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, help me to strive for uprightness, faith, love, and gentleness. Amen.

Thursday of the Third Week of Advent, December 16, 2021

**“I am sending my messenger ahead of you, he will prepare your way
before you”**

Luke 7:24-30

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Desire to see God, be fearful of losing Him, and find joy in everything that can lead to Him. If you act in this way, you will always live in great peace. ~St. Teresa of Avila

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, let me desire to see You every day. Let my heart shout out for joy for You. Amen.

Friday of the Third Week of Advent, December 17, 2021

“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham”

MT 1:1-17

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Faith is like a bright ray of sunlight. It enables us to see God in all things as well as all things in God. ~St. Francis de Sales

ADVENT PRAYER:

Lord, help me not to be afraid anymore. Take me by the hand and let me see you in my suffering, loneliness, and struggles in life. Amen.

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent, December 18, 2021

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name Him Emmanuel, which means, God is with us”

Mt 1:18-25

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Speak to Jesus and you will give joy to His heart. Your own heart will open up to the ray of this Sun of Goodness like humid and chilled flowers on a spring morning. ~St. Peter Eymard

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, give me the wisdom, strength, joy and help to discern my mission in life. Help me release my worries, and sadness. Amen.

Sunday of the Fourth Week of Advent, December 19, 2021

“Blessed are you who believed”

Luke 1:39-45

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

In tribulations, turn to God with confidence. You will obtain strength, light, and knowledge. In joys and successes, turn to God with fear and sincerity. You will escape all snares and be free of everything else. ~St.

John of the Cross

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, deepen our faith to accept Your Will and not ours.

Amen.

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent, December 20, 2021

“May it be done according to your word”

Luke 1:26-38

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

While remaining the Mother of our Judge, Mary is a mother to us, full of mercy. She constitutes our protection. She keeps us close to Christ, and she faithfully takes the matter of our salvation into her charge. ~St.

Peter Canisius

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, help us to run towards Mary in time of great need.

Amen.

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent, December 21, 2021

“Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste”

Luke 1:39-45

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

In adoring our Savior’s birth, it is our origin that we celebrate. Christ’s temporal generation is the source of the Christian people, the birth of His Mystical Body. All of us encounter in this Mystery a new birth in Christ. ~St. Leo the Great

ADVENT PRAYER:

Father, may Your light lead and guide me. May my prayer of praise be like Mary’s Magnificat in praising You. Amen.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent, December 22, 2021

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord”

Luke 1:46-56

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Jesus Christ, the God-Man, was born in a manger and is spiritually reborn on the altar. He suffered on Calvary and continues to offer Himself on the altar. In His earthly life He spread His teaching and worked miracles among the crowds. In the Eucharist, He spans the centuries and communicates Himself to all. ~St. John Chrysostom

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, fill my heart with joy as I wait patiently for Your arrival. May my heart and mind be open to receive you with open arms on Christmas day. Amen.

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent, December 23, 2021

**“When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth
to a son”**

Luke 1:57-66

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The sun’s rays light up the world without separating themselves from the sun. In like manner, the Son of God comes down to earth to enlighten us without separating Himself from the Father with Whom He is entirely one. ~St. Anthony of Padua

ADVENT PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, come and renew me at Christmas. Give me the grace to be light and love to others. Amen.

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021

“Blessed be the Lord”

Luke 1:67-79

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

The One Who is seated on the throne of heaven is laid in a stable. A God Who is beyond access is touched by the hands of human beings!

~St. John Chrysostom

ADVENT PRAYER:

Gracious God, let me welcome Your Son with open arms and help me to praise and glorify Him. Amen.

Christmas Day, December 25, 2021

“Glory to God in the highest”

Luke 2:1-14

REFLECTING FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE SAINTS:

Christ is born, glorify Him! Christ from heaven, go out to meet Him!
Christ on earth, be exalted! Sing to the Lord all the whole earth; and
that I may join both in one word, let the heavens rejoice, and let the
earth be glad, for Him who is of heaven and then of earth. Christ in the
flesh, rejoice with trembling and with joy; with trembling because of
your sins; with joy because of your hope.

~St. Gregorian

ADVENT PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, guide me in difficult times and may my actions lead others
to You and one another. Amen.