

Advent Resource Booklet 2022

(In English and As Gaeilge)

Advent is taken from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming” and it marks the beginning of our Church year. It starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which this year is Sunday 27 November, and ends on Christmas Eve.

For Christians the season is one of anticipation and hope. The most common themes for the four weeks of Advent are:

- Hope
- Peace
- Joy
- Love

Traditionally the primary colour of Advent is purple, which reflects the fasting and waiting in the build-up to Christmas. It also represents the connection between the birth and death of Jesus (a Lenten connection). On the third Sunday of Advent the colour changes to pink in anticipation of the end of fasting and the beginning of rejoicing the birth of Jesus (it is sometimes celebrated as *Gaudete Sunday*, from the Latin word for “rejoice”).

Preparation

If you don't already have one, set

up a Prayer Space. You can do this by covering a small table with a purple cloth. Get the children to make an Advent Wreath with foliage from evergreen trees and holly. You will also need:

- Three Purple Candles
- One Pink Candle
- One White Candle

If you can't find coloured candles, simply use coloured ribbons around white candles instead.

At the beginning of each week during Advent, light the appropriate candle in your Advent Wreath, and use the prayers in this resource book to bring the children together in prayer. Invite the children to discuss what each candle/theme means, particularly what it means to them personally.

Included separately you will find the Advent Activity Calendar and our annual Christmas colouring competition. Everything is also available to download for photocopying online at www.missio.ie

Blessings to you all this Advent Season!

Fr. Michael Kelly

National Director

WEEK 1 Light the first purple candle. This candle represents **HOPE**

Leader: Father in heaven, we need the warmth of your love in our hearts and the light of your Word in our minds. Help us to grow in our faith so that we will be prepared and filled with HOPE when Jesus comes.

Reader: Jesus said, “Let your goodness shine out like a light in the darkness, so that through you, the love of our heavenly Father will touch the lives of others.” (Matt 5:16-17)

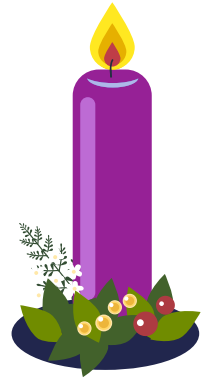
Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

Dear God,

In our own little way, help us to bring hope to children who are afraid, sad or alone. We ask you to bring hope for tomorrow.

Through us, shine your light of HOPE upon them.

Amen



WEEK 2 Light the first and second purple candles. The second purple candle represents **PEACE**

Leader: Father in heaven, very soon the birth of your Son, Jesus, will light up the world. May his quiet coming bring us true inner peace.

Reader: To us a child is born, to us a son is given and he will be called the Prince of Peace. His kingdom will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. (Is 9:6-7)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

Dear God,

Help us to bring peace to those around us. Look after children who live in conflict at home, at school and in their country. Help us to throw your blanket of peace around their shoulders and comfort them with our friendship.

Our friendship.

Amen



WEEK 3 Light the first two purple candles and the pink candle. The pink candle represents **JOY**

Leader: Father in heaven, we know that you love all your people. Your love brings the gift of joy to our hearts.

Reader: May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again, rejoice! Show a gentle attitude towards everyone. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need with a thankful heart. (Phil 4:1-6)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:
*Dear God,
 We think of all the unhappy children in the world today. We ask you to bring a little joy to their hearts this Christmas. Thank you for the joy we feel as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
 Amen*



WEEK 4 Light the three purple candles and the pink candle. The third purple candle represents **LOVE**

Leader: Father in heaven, bless our families and bring us a spirit of understanding and love. May our homes be places of peace and laughter and may your love shine from each of us.

Reader: Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or proud. Love is not rude, selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs. Love is not happy with lies but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up. Love is forever. (1 Cor 13:1-8)



Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:
*Dear God,
 In everything we do and say, help us to show love to others. Today we ask your blessing on our circle of love and prayer. Keep us forever safe in the warmth of your love.
 Amen*



On Christmas Eve my mother read
 The story once again
 Of how the little child was born
 And of the Three Wise Men.

And how by following the Star
 They found Him where He lay,
 And brought Him gifts;
 and that is why
 We keep our Christmas Day.

And when she read it all, I went
 And looked across the snow
 And thought of Jesus coming
 As He did long ago.

I looked into the East, and saw
 A great star blazing bright;
 There were three men upon the
 road all black against the light.

I thought I heard the angels sing
 Away upon the hill...
 I held my breath...it seemed as if
 The whole great world stood still.

It seemed to me the little Child
 Was being born again...
 And very near...and THEN somehow
 Was NOW...or NOW was THEN.

Grow in Love, Fourth Class

CHRISTMAS DAY Light all the coloured candles and the white candle, ask the children to light a candle at home. The white candle represents Jesus.

Prayer: *Baby Jesus, bless us today, your special day. We light this white candle to welcome you as our Saviour. As we carry you to our family crib, we think about what you have taught us. You taught us to share with others, you taught us to help one another, you taught us to be friends and you taught us to pray. When we look at the light of the candle we remember these important lessons. Amen*



GOSPEL STORY

Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem to register for the census ordered by Augustus. The time came for Mary to have her baby and he was born in a stable because there was no room at the inn. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger. On a hillside near the town, some shepherds were watching over their sheep. Suddenly, an angel appeared and the sky was filled with God's glory. The shepherds were terrified, but the angel said, "Do not be afraid, for I have great news for you. Today a baby has been born in Bethlehem, he is Christ the Lord. You will find him lying in a manger." The sky was filled with the sound of angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!" The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and soon found the stable. There in the manger lay a tiny baby. They told Mary and Joseph what they had seen and heard that night, and they shared their amazement. Mary listened carefully and cherished all these things in her heart. The shepherds went back to their sheep on the hillside, singing God's praises for everything had been as the angel had said. (Luke 2:1-20)



Tagann Aidbhint ón bhfocal Laidine adventus, a chiallaíonn “teacht” agus is í tús Bhliain na hEaglaise í. Tosaíonn Aidbhint ar an gceathrú Domhnach roimh Lá Nollag, Domhnach an 27 Samhain atá ann i mbliana, agus críochnaíonn sí ar Oíche Nollag (24 Nollaig). D’fhormhór na gCríostaithe, is séasúr é a mbaineann ionchas agus dóchas leis. Is iad

- Dóchas
- Síocháin
- Lúcháir
- Grá

na téamaí is coitianta a úsáidtear do na ceithre seachtaine in Aidbhint. Go traidisiúnta, is é corcra nó corcairghorm bundath Aidbhinte, a léiríonn an troscadh agus an feitheamh atá mar chuid d’ullmhúchán na Nollag. Is ceangal í freisin idir breith agus bás Íosa (ceangal Carghais). Ar an tríú Domhnach in Aidbhint, athraíonn an dath go bándearg nó go dath an róis agus muid ag súil le deireadh an troscaidh agus le tús an cheiliúrtha do bhreith Íosa (déantar ceiliúradh ar an Domhnach seo mar Dhomhnach an Ghairdis, a chiallaíonn “lúcháir,” uaireanta).

Socraigh Spás Urnaí i do sheomra

ranga nó in ionad an pharóiste. Is féidir leat é seo a dhéanamh ach bord beag a chlúdach le héadach corca/corcairghorm agus na páistí a chur i mbun Fleasc Aidbhinte a dhéanamh, ar a bhfuil duilliúr ó chrainn shíorghlasa agus ó chrainn chuillinn sa ghairdín. Beidh coinneal bhán, coinneal bhándearg agus trí choinneal chorcra ag teastáil uait freisin. Mura féidir leat coinneal daite a fháil, cuir ribíní daite timpeall ar choinneal bána. Ag tús gach seachtaine i rith Aidbhinte, glac am chun an choinneal chuí i do Fhleasc Aidbhinte a lasadh agus úsáid na paidreacha sa leabhar acmhainní seo chun na páistí a thabhairt le chéile agus iad ag guí. Iarr ar na páistí an bhrí atá le gach coinneal/téama a phlé, go háirithe an bhrí atá leo dóibh féin go pearsanta.

Tá ár bhféilire gníomhaíochta Aidbhinte do 2019 agus comórtas dathúcháin na Nollag sa leabhar acmhainní freisin! Cuimhnigh go bhfuil gach rud ar fáil ar líne ag www.missio.ie le híoslódáil agus le fótachóipeáil.

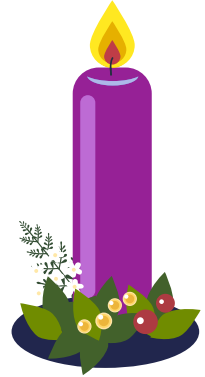
Fr. Michael Kelly

National Director

SEACHTAIN 1 Laster Coinneal Chorcra. Téama na céad seachtaine DÓCHAS

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, Tá croíúlacht do ghrá uainn inár gcroí agus tá solas do Bhriathair uainn inár n-intinní. Neartaigh ár gcreideamh ionas go mbeimid ullamh agus lán de dhóchas nuair a thiocfaidh Íosa.

Léitheoir: Dúirt Íosa: “an pobal a bhí ina suí sa dorchadas, chonaic siad solas mór, an mhuintir a chónaigh i dtír scáilmhear an bháis, d’éirigh solas chucu.” (Mhatha 5:16)



Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimis go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo

A Thiarna,

Cabhraigh linn, ar ár mbealach beag féin, dóchas a thabhairt do pháistí a bhfuil eagla nó brón orthu nó atá leo féin. Iarraimid ort dóchas a thabhairt dóibh don todhchaí. Trínne, lonraigh solas do dhóchais orthu.

Amen

SEACHTAIN 2 Laster Dhá Choinneal Chorcra. Téama na dara seachtaine SÍOCHÁIN

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, is gearr go lonróidh breith do Mhic, Íosa, an domhan. Go dtuga a theacht ciúin fíorshíocháin dúinn inár gcroí istigh.

Léitheoir: “Níl teorainn lena thiarnas ná críoch lena síocháin ar chathaoir ríoga Dháiví agus ar a ríogacht, ag cur bun agus taca leo, sa cheart agus san fhíríantacht feasta go brách. – Díograis dhílis an Tiarna a chuirfidh sin i gcrích. Caitheann an Tiarna focal le Iacób agus titeann sé ar Iosrael.” (Íseáia 9:6-7)



Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimis go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo

A Thiarna, Cabhraigh linn síocháin a thabhairt dóibh siúd atá timpeall orainn. Tabhair aire do pháistí atá ag fulaingt de bharr coimhlint sa bhaile, ar scoil nó ina dtír. Cabhraigh linn brat do shíochána a chur ina dtimpeall agus sólás a thabhairt dóibh lenár gcairdeas.

Amen

SEACHTAIN 3 Lastar Dha Choinneal Chorcra agus an Choinneal Bhándearg. Téama na triú seachtaine **LÚCHÁIR**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, tá a fhios againn go bhfuil grá agat do do phobal ar fad. Cuireann do ghrá lúcháir orainn.

Léitheoir: “Bígí lúcháireach i gcónaí sa Tiarna. Deirim arís é: bíodh lúcháir oraibh. Bíodh bhur gceansacht le feiceáil ag an saol mór mar ní fada uainn an Tiarna. Ná bígí imníoch faoi rud ar bith ach cibé ní atá in easnamh oraibh cuirigí in iúl do Dhia é le hurnaí agus guí agus buíochas buan.” (Filipigh 4: 1-6)



Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimís go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo
*A Thiarna,
 Cuimhnimid ar na páistí ar fad ar domhan nach bhfuil aon lúcháir orthu inniu. Iarraimid ort lúcháir a chur ar a gcroí an Nollaig seo. Go raibh maith agat as an lúcháir atá orainn agus muid ag ceiliúradh bhreith Íosa.*
Amen

SEACHTAIN 4 Lastar Trí Choinneal Chorcra agus on Choinneal Bhándearg. Téama na ceathrú seachtaine **GRÁ**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, beannaigh ár dteaghlach agus bronn orainn spiorad na tuisceana agus an ghrá. Go raibh ár dtithe lán de shíocháin



agus gáire agus go raibh do ghrá ag lonrú ónár súile.

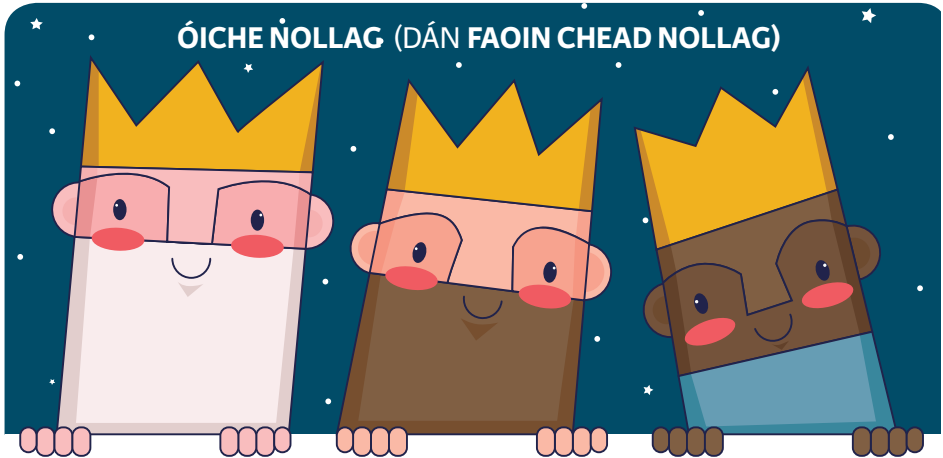
Léitheoir: “Bíonn an grá foighneach agus bíonn sé lách; ní bhíonn éad air; ní dhéanann sé maíomh ná mórtas; ní bhíonn sé mímhúinte ná leithleasach, míchéadfach ná agrach. Ní áil leis an éagóir ach is aoibhinn leis an mhaith. Bíonn sé lán d’fhadfhulaingt, lán de chreideamh, lán de dhóchas agus lán d’fhoighne. Rachaidh an fháidheoireacht ar ceal, rachaidh na teangacha dá dtost, agus rachaidh an t-eolas ar neamhní, ach ní rachaidh an grá i léig go deo.” (1 Coranthaigh 13)

Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimis go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo

A Thiarna,

Go dtugaimid grá do dhaoine eile i ngach rud a dhéanaimid agus a deirimid. Iarraimid ort inniu ár gciorcal grá agus guí a bheannú. Cumhdaigh muid go brách in aoibhneas do ghrá.

Amen



An sneachta ag titim
Is an oíche fuar,
Is Máthair Dé
Gan foithin ón bhfuacht.
Isteach i stábla
Ón sneachta chuaigh,
Is chuir sí Íosa
Sa mhainséar cruá.

Bó agus asal
Sa stábla bhí,
Ag faire an Linbh
Ar feadh na hoíche.
Chan na haingil
Thuas sa spéir,
“Moladh le hÍosa,
Ard-mhac Dé”.

LÁ NOLLAG Lastar Trí Choinneal Chorcra,
an Choinneal Bhándearg agus
an Choinneal Bhán Is Ionnan on
Coinneal Bhán **ÍOSA CRÍOST**
(Spreag na páistí chun an
coinneal seo ag solas sa bhaile)

Paidir:

*A Leanbh Íosa, beannaigh
muid inniu, do lá speisialta.
Lasaimid an choinneal bhán seo
chun fáilte a chur romhat mar
Shlánaitheoir againn. Agus tú á
iompar againn go dtí mainséar
ár dteaghlai, smaoinimid ar
na rudaí a mhúin tú dúinn. Mhúin
tú dúinn roinnt le daoine eile,
cabhrú le chéile, bheith inár gcairde agus guí. Nuair a bhreathnaímid
ar sholas na coinne, cuimhnímid ar na ceachtanna tábhachtacha sin.*



SCÉAL SOISCÉIL

Tháinig Iósaf agus Muire go Beithil chun clárú don daonáireamh a d'ordaigh
★ Céasar Agust. Agus tharla, le linn dóibh bheith ann, gur tháinig ionú Mhuire
agus rugadh mac di i stábla mar nach raibh spás dóibh san ósta. Chlúdaigh
sí in éadaí é agus shín sí i mainséar é. Ar leiceann cnoic gar don bhaile, bhí
súil á coinneáil ag roinnt aoirí ar a gcaoirigh. Go tobann, chonaic siad aingeal
agus líon glóir Dé an spéir. Bhí eagla an domhain ar na haoirí, ach dúirt an
t-aingeal, “Ná bíodh eagla oraibh, tá dea-scéala agam daoibh. Rugadh leanbh
i mBeithil inniu, is é Críost an Tiarna é. Gheobhaidh sibh an leanbh agus é
ina luí i mainséar.” Líon canadh na n-aingeal an spéir agus iad ag rá, “Glóir
do Dhia in uachtar neimhne, agus síocháin ar talamh don mhuintir ar a bhfuil
a ghnaoi!” Rinne na haoirí deifir go dtí Beithil agus d’aimsigh siad an stábla.
Bhí leanbh beag ina luí sa mhainséar. D’inis siad do Mhuire agus d’Iósaf cad
a chuala siad agus a chonaic siad an oíche sin, agus roinnt siad an t-ionadh a
bhí orthu. D’éist Muire go cúramach leo agus rinne sí machnamh ar na rudaí
seo ar fad ina croí. Chuaigh na haoirí ar ais chuig a gcaoirigh ar an gcnoc, ag
glóiriú agus ag moladh Dé faoinar chuala siad agus a bhfaca siad, de réir mar
a dúirt an t-aingeal leo. (Lúcás 2: 1-20)



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