

First Sunday of Advent Family Prayer

Leader: We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent. Let us ask our Father in heaven to fill our hearts with grace.

Light the first candle on your Advent wreath and read aloud Romans 15:13.

Leader: Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes. We pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Each candle has a special meaning. The first candle is called the candle of HOPE. People in the Old Testament knew that God had promised to send a Savior. And we're filled with hope because we know that Jesus came to Earth on the first Christmas so he could tell people about God and die for our sins.

Family Advent Activity: The Ringing of the Bells – Place a bell (or a cluster of sleigh bells) in a prominent place in your home. Draw names after Sunday Mass each week and pledge to do something nice for the family member whose name you choose. Each time you do something nice for that person ring the bells. Listen to the sound of kindness filling your house!

Reflect: How do the sounds of the season – bells, chant music, children's laughter and excitement – help enhance our Advent experience?

