

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING: JOY



Third Week of Advent

**Children's Liturgy
Presentation Guide**



Core Concepts: (teacher reference)

The third Advent candle is called the Candle of Joy. It is also called the Shepherd's Candle because we remember the joy of the shepherds on hearing the angel's message of the birth of the one who would save the world. Many of today's readings bring a message of joy at the prospect of the arrival of the Saviour of the world.

Materials

The Advent Wreath
The Bible cabinet
Bible timeline

Presentation

Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Most of the scripture readings are about joy.

The first reading is from the Prophet Zephaniah.

Show in bible cabinet.

The Responsorial Psalm is an extract from the Prophet Isaiah. **Show in Bible cabinet.**

The second reading is from St Paul's letter to the Philippians. **Show in Bible cabinet**

Two purple candles are lit. Then the pink candle is lit.

Reader 1

Today we are lighting three candles: the Candle of Hope. The Candle of Faith. And now, the Candle of Joy. It is also called the Shepherd's Candle because we remember the joy of the shepherds on hearing the angel's message of the birth of the one who would save the world. Many of the readings at Mass focus on joy.

The Church calls this Sunday 'Gaudete Sunday'. Gaudete is Latin for 'Joy'.

Reader 2: Extracts from the prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion.

Israel, shout aloud!

Rejoice with all your heart!

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no evil to fear.

He will renew you by his love;

He will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day
of festival.

All: Thanks be to God

Reader 3: A Prayer of Joy

Jesus, you bring joy even in the saddest times. Help us to praise you even when we are upset or grieving. Jesus, shine joy into our hearts today.

All: Amen.

Reader: The Responsorial Psalm: The Prophet Isaiah
Our response today is: *'Sing out with Joy and Gladness'*.

Response: Sing out with Joy and Gladness.

Truly, God is my salvation: I trust and will not fear.
The Lord is my strength and my song, he has
become my Saviour.

Response: *Sing out with Joy and Gladness.*

Joyfully you will draw water from the wells of
salvation. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his
name. Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Response: *Sing out with Joy and Gladness.*

Sing a psalm to the Lord, for his works are majestic,
make them known throughout the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy, for in your
midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Response: *Sing out with Joy and Gladness.*

Reader 4: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I want you to be happy; always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving. That peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reader 5: A Prayer (can be an echo prayer)

Dear Jesus, we want to wait for your coming at Christmas with joyful hearts. Help us to prepare by thinking about the true meaning and importance of Christmas. You came to the earth as a little child, and then showed us how God wanted us to live our lives so that we could be with you in heaven for all eternity. Amen.

Hymn (Select as appropriate)

Angels we have Heard

www.youtube.com/watch?v=haVXy-FQFeU

www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSJUwoXciBY

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lrGV8gG8rs&t=21s

www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrLoWt2tfqg

Joy to the World

www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyORnEzBpAo

www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Xo64Q2ucQ8

The First Noel

www.youtube.com/watch?v=dli9Cih3Mjk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=_f4nf8L_K8

www.youtube.com/watch?v=UniMXpApyFo

www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-FWGsfngjw

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UTN9dMidZ4

Waiting for Christmas:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=sp6OWxt2Rew

What Child is this:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9PXYGAKrPE

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydakvn3IXK8

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EKeNLPAjIQ

Gaudete:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9HXB_4PPhk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=cn9oi_UCi3w

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KSxg9lj5r8

www.youtube.com/watch?v=447ZTXdDODQ

