

Laudato Si' Advent

Contemplation and Christian hope

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." **(2 Corinthians 5:17)**

"Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise."
(Laudato Si' 12)

Invitation from Laudato Si' Movement:



During Advent, we embark on a journey of preparation for our encounter with God, Jesus Christ who comes to meet us within Creation - this is the Good News! We anticipate with hope and joy the renewal of all Creation through the Incarnation as Jesus takes on the material life we share with all creatures. To dive deep into our Christian hope, we must learn to contemplate the mystery of creation as we celebrate the mystery of incarnation. Join us as we eagerly await Christ's coming, crying out with Creation for the light of the world to come!

About the Advent Calendar:



A curated blend of calendar touchstones, Gospel verses, reflection questions, and calls to action, the Advent Calendar links the contemplative spirit of the Advent Season with the action imperative of our faith. Crafted urgently as people of faith and global citizens, this calendar and associated reflections are a unique fusion of spiritual and prophetic engagement.

Contributions:



This calendar is the result of the work and talents of Camille-Constance Curet, a Laudato Si' Animator volunteer from France, Suzana Moreira, the Eco-Conversion Programs Manager from Brazil, Christina Leño, Associate Director from USA, and our communications team: Domenica Reyes from Ecuador, Marco Vargas from Ecuador, and Daniel Alarcón from Mexico.

Remember:



View prayer in this resource not as an abstract exercise but as a call to action. It's not just a document; it's a reflective guide for an adventure, creating space in the manger for kings, the impoverished, animal life alike, and most of all, the Divine.

Let's begin.

A Daily Advent Prayer

We invite you to pray this across the Advent season

Dear God, our Creator,

You revealed your love to us and creation once and for all through the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. By the grace of Your Creator Spirit, teach us to celebrate our faith in the Incarnation that took place in creation.

Dear Jesus, Savior of creation, we ask that You may be born in us once again as we seek to cultivate hope for our common home. As Your followers, teach us to care for the dignity of all human beings and all creation, now and in the future.

In a season too often marked by overconsumption and excess, let us give thanks and honor the goodness of all your gifts in the natural world. Help us to contemplate the mystery of creation as we celebrate the mystery of incarnation.

We pray for today's victims of global warming, both human and nonhuman. We pray for more ambition in the energy transition, in this country and globally. We pray for our governments to negotiate a global and fair phase-out of fossil fuels.

And, finally, we pray for the courage to be prophets of our time, calling upon our leaders to bear fruits of ecological justice.

Come Emmanuel! Make us ever more hopeful people for a hopeful planet. Let us be part of Your light of hope to the world.

Amen.

Laudato Si'

★ Advent



Please use this calendar to guide your reflection and actions across the weeks Advent and into your **Christmas Day** celebration. We invite you to view blank dates as an invitation to honor our world's collective need for simplicity and rest. We suggest that every day you may pray the **Advent Prayer**, and reflect on the Bible verse and **Laudato Si'** quote proposed for each Sunday.

DEC 01



First Sunday of Advent

DEC 02



DEC 03



DEC 04



DEC 05

Invitation to Donate

DEC 06



DEC 07



DEC 08



• Second Sunday of Advent
• Feast of the Immaculate Conception

DEC 09



In some countries, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to today

DEC 10



DEC 11



DEC 12



Feast of Our Lady Guadalupe

DEC 13

Invitation to Donate

DEC 14



DEC 15



Third Sunday of Advent

DEC 16



DEC 17



DEC 18



DEC 19

Invitation to Donate

DEC 20



DEC 21



DEC 22



Fourth Sunday of Advent

DEC 23

Invitation to Donate

DEC 24



DEC 25



Christmas Day

1 DICEMBRE

First Sunday of Advent

READ. LUKE 21:25-28, 34-36



“**Be careful**, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth.” (Luke 21:34-35)

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“We tend to demean contemplative rest as something unproductive and unnecessary, but (...) it protects human action from becoming empty activism; it also prevents that unfettered greed and sense of isolation which make us seek personal gain to the detriment of all else.” (LS 237)

Reflect.

How do we find ourselves already ‘weighed down’ and trapped in daily life? How are we already witnessing nations ‘in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea’ (Luke 21:25)? Be attentive to how yourself and others suffer from the **ecological crisis**, and consider how Advent is a time foundational to Christian hope which encourages both contemplation and action for the whole of creation.

Act throughout the week.

Think of ways in which **Advent** can be a time to unsettle your habits and comforts in order to focus more fully on Christ and to respond to ecological destruction. Give yourself the mission of ‘reclaiming’ Advent from its usual consumerist emphasis in order to lean into a more **profoundly Christian** understanding of this time.

If you are looking for further inspiration, read [this blog](#) about living a Laudato Si’ Advent.

DECEMBER 8

Second Sunday of Advent

READ. LUKE 3:1-6



“...the **word of God** came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (Luke 3:2-3)

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“The history of our friendship with God is always linked to particular places which take on an intensely personal meaning; we all remember places, and revisiting those memories does us much good.” (LS 84)

Reflect.

Reflect on the importance of the wilderness, deserts, rivers, seas, and other natural landscapes to the narratives of the Bible. How can we recognize the importance of such places to our own personal narratives, and how can we draw together ecological and Christian reconciliation?

Act throughout the week.

Embrace the possibility of veering away from ecologically harmful forms of consumption during Advent, and how instead this time can be centered on your loved ones. Think of whether you could go out with friends or family in a nearby green space and pick out organic material to create your own Christmas decorations, and how you can appreciate the abundance of God’s creation while you do so.

If you are looking for further inspiration, watch this video on “How contemplation and Christian hope are connected” to see the link between contemplation and action.

DECEMBER 15

Third Sunday of Advent

READ. LUKE 3:10-18



“And the crowds asked him, ‘What then shall we do?’ And he answered them, ‘Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.’” (Luke 3:10-11)

“

“An **integral ecology** is also made up of simple daily gestures which break with the logic of violence, exploitation and selfishness. In the end, a world of exacerbated consumption is at the same time a world which mistreats life in all its forms.” (LS 230)

Reflect.

What does it truly mean to embrace the call of the Gospels to kindness and charity? How can we, in our own lives, live out this radical call against the grain of usual social and economic realities to reaffirm the distinctiveness of the Christian faith and hope?

Act throughout the week.

Consider participating in the life of your local community. This could be donating to a charity of your choosing, or reaching out to people in need and engaging in conversation with them if safe to do so.

If you are looking for further inspiration, read this guide on How to facilitate contemplation in your small group.

DECEMBER 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

READ. LUKE 1:39-45



“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!’ ‘But why am I so favored, that the **mother of my Lord** should come to me?’” (Luke 1:42-43)

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Jesus “was completely present to everyone and to everything, and in this way he showed us the way to overcome that unhealthy anxiety which makes us superficial, aggressive and compulsive consumers.” (LS 226)

Reflect.

Think of how we are all blessed by the presence of the Lord, who makes Himself available to us without discriminating. How can we share that blessing with others around us? How can we similarly make ourselves humbly available to all?

Act throughout the week.

Centre this Advent on quality time spent with friends and family, so that presence may become what is gifted in this time. Make this Christmas not about consumption, but rather about contemplating what gifts we have already been given and are being given every day by God and the people around us, and how in return we may celebrate and share this joy.

If you are looking for further inspiration, read this guide on Ecological virtues.

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day

READ. JN 1:1-18



“What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” **(John 1:3-5)**

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“From the beginning of the world, but particularly through the incarnation, the **mystery of Christ** is at work in a hidden manner in the natural world as a whole, without thereby impinging on its autonomy.” **(LS 99)**

The light of the world has come! **Praised be our God**, the blessed Holy Trinity, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. When we contemplate creation we become more sensitive and aware of how astounding this good news is. The infinite, absolute, and eternal God came to us in this world, took on our flesh, embraced our limitations, and overcame all darkness and evil. God, all-powerful in love, made himself all-vulnerable as a baby child to reveal to us his infinite love.

We hope that this Christmas time for you, your family, and your community may be an even deeper time of communion with God and his gift of creation. As we celebrate our faith in the incarnation of God the Son, may we also celebrate our faith in God’s creation.

We wish you a heartfelt Merry Christmas!

Laudato Si’!



Community Connection

This Advent guide is only one of many resources that we've authored and Laudato Si' Movement is an evolving work in progress. If you want to get involved with Laudato Si' Movement, or if you're making things happen where you live, we'd love to hear from you.

Join a [Laudato Si' Circle](#) or find us on social media



LAUDATO SI'
MOVEMENT
Catholics for Our Common Home