

Lighting of The Advent Candle At Home



Or



Memorial Church Anglican – Whitefield

Lighting of The Advent Candles at Home

Lighting of the Advent Candle at home by a Priest of your Parish is an ancient Anglican Tradition. It would require you to select a special place in your home where you could place “The Nativity of Jesus” also known as “The Crib” (with five (5) Candles behind it) or a Christmas Wreath (that will accommodate four (4) Candles).

*Please note that the Candles should be Purple or White. Tradition has it that the Third Candle should be ROSE (pink) – the colour of Gaudete Sunday. In this day and age when it is difficult to get Rose coloured Candles, the faithful have chosen to use White Candles instead – **to signify Jesus’ purity.***

The Priest will visit your home and light the First Advent Candle after the morning worship service in Church. If you have a specific time you would like him to visit your home and it does not clash with someone else’s request, he will

do so. Please note that the Advent Candles should be in place before the arrival of the Priest.

*When the Priest enters your home, he will greet you and your family “**Peace of Our Lord Be with You**” and your response will be “**Also with You**”.*

Then you will need to guide him to the place you have designated and he will begin the Order of Worship as prescribed (he will bring it along with him). You are required to follow that order of service and not the one given below.

In case you are in a place where this practice is not followed but, you would like to follow this ancient practice; then you may follow it from the very First Sunday in Advent onwards:

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: EXPECTATION OF HOPE

Scripture Lesson: Prophet Jeremiah 33:14-16

“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.”

Lighting of The Candle:

Light the first Advent Candle to your left; as you are lighting the candle say:

Today, we light the candle of expectation and hope. May it remind each and everyone one of us of God’s great promise to us. He is our hope, He is our Redeemer, and He is Saviour.

The Prayer:

Father, during the Advent season may we be reminded of your promises to us and your fulfilment of them. Help us to prepare our lives for His Advent within us. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PREPARATION OF PEACE

Scripture Lesson: Prophet Isaiah 40:3-5

“The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain and the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.”

Lighting of The Candle:

Relight the first Advent candle. Then light the second candle on your extreme as you are lighting the candles say:

Today we relight the candle of hope and expectation. Let this candle remind us of the great hope we have in Jesus Christ the Messiah and in God’s promises. As we light the candle of preparation and peace let it remind us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ.

The Prayer:

Heavenly Father, guide us in confession of our sins. We know that in the greatness of your love, you have promised to forgive us. Cleanse us as we prepare our lives for the coming of Your Son Jesus again. This we ask in His name. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PROCLAMATION AND JOY

Scripture Lesson: Prophet Isaiah 9:6-7

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”

Lighting of The Candle:

Relight the first and second candle in the order they were lit. Then light the third Candle to your left; as you are lighting the candles say:

We relight the candle of hope and expectation, recalling God’s promise to send a Saviour. As we relight the candle of preparation and peace, remember the voice crying out in the wilderness, “prepare ye the way of the Lord.” Now we

light the candle of Proclamation and **Joy**. May our hearts be forever filled with the joy of His coming.

The Prayer:

Father, we are filled with joy because we have hope and peace that you have sent your son for all that believe. Help us to be the voices that proclaim grace and truth. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: REVELATION AND PEACE

Scripture Lesson: St. Luke 2:10-14

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

Lighting of The Candle:

Relight the three candles in the order that they were previously been lit and then light the fourth candle; as you are lighting the candles say:

Today we relight the candles of expectation and hope, recalling God’s promise; the candle of Preparation, remembering the voice crying in the wilderness, urging the people to prepare the way of the coming Lord; and the candle of Proclamation, reminding us of the joy found in HIM. Now we light the candle of Revelation and Peace. We celebrate the announcement of the coming King and the greatness of God’s love revealed through the Christ child.

The Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for revealing yourself through Jesus, and we praise you for the greatness of your love. Help us to share your peace with others and live our lives more like Jesus Christ every day. In His name, we pray. Amen.

ADDITIONAL FOR THOSE WHO USE “THE NATIVITY OF JESUS”

CHRISTMAS EVE: THE CHRIST CANDLE

Scripture Lesson: St. Luke 2:1-20

“And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so, it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Lighting of The Candle:

Relight the first four candles in the order they were lit, and then light The Christ Candle in the centre; as you are lighting the candles say:

On this most Holy Day we light all four Advent candles in our home, and we are reminded of the Expectation, Preparation, Proclamation, and Revelation of His coming. Now we light the Christ Candle, we rejoice that the promise of God has been fulfilled in the coming of the Baby born in a manger.

The Prayer:

Gracious and Almighty God, we celebrate your goodness to us as we join the triumph and joy of Christmas. As your love has been revealed in all of its fullness, we pray that love may abound in our hearts during this special day. Grant us the Spirit of Christ that we may live in the fullness of His character every day. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

*May the Blessings of Christmas Abide In You
Always*

God Bless

*The Vicar & Members of the Vestry Committee
Memorial Church Anglican - Whitefield
Bangalore - 560066*

www.memorialchuranglican.com