

## TALKING ABOUT ADVENT >>>

The Season of Advent, which occurs during the four weeks before Christmas, calls us to live in the past, present, and future of Christian life. We remember God's promise of a Messiah and his coming into history as Jesus, God's only Son. During the days of Advent, we also anticipate Christ's Second Coming at the end of time and long for the fulfillment of God's reign of justice, love, and peace.

### Scripture



Read **James 5:7–10**, in which James is encouraging the early Church, who believed Jesus was returning soon, to be patient with the wait and to keep Jesus' New Commandment.

## HELPING YOUR CHILD UNDERSTAND >>>

### Advent

- Children are usually curious about and fascinated with stories, video games, and movies about the end of the world. Remind them of the truth: that we will share in God's love at that time.
- This is a time in children's lives when they are becoming more aware of mortality. It can be frightening for them. They need to hear the message of hope that we, too, have a promise of Resurrection as followers of Christ.



## FEASTS OF THE SEASON >>>

### Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12

In the sixteenth century, the Blessed Virgin appeared as Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego, an Aztec Indian on his way to pursue the things of God. She told him to ask the bishop of Mexico City to build a church on the hill to assist in the conversion of the nation and be a source of consolation to the people. The bishop asked for a sign, which was given in the miraculous appearance of roses on the hill during winter, and the Blessed Virgin's image on Juan Diego's cloak. The times in Mexico were hard for the indigenous groups, and Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance as one of them is a powerful reminder of God's love for and identification with those who suffer.

## FAMILY PRAYER >>>



Pray this prayer each week during Advent while lighting the Advent wreath.

We know that our Redeemer lives,  
And on that final day of days,  
His voice shall bid us rise again. Amen.



For a multimedia glossary of Catholic Faith Words, Sunday readings, seasonal and Saint resources, and chapter activities go to [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).