

Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2019  
Sr. Maureen Quigley, GNSH

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: [Isaiah 2:1-5](#)

Responsorial: [Psalm 122](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: [Romans 13 11-14](#)

Gospel: [Matthew 24: 37-44](#)



“SALVATION IS NEARER THAN WHEN WE CAME TO BELIEVE.  
LET US WALK FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT.”

We live in intervals usually unmarked as we pass from one to the other. But they are intervals- not definite breaks- and we occasionally wander back and forth. Although its chronological date is not certain, Advent itself is definite, no matter where in our interval of life we are. Advent is a time of waiting, a time of preparing, a time of silence and a time for praying as we actively move from darkness into light. Advent is also a happy time, like the time of waiting for Santa Claus when we were in the interval we call childhood.

We are moving into our endless being with Jesus who is eternal light. The readings for the first Sunday of Advent tell us to throw off our bad habits. I suggest we try to throw off our peccadillos by paying forward with kindness to one another, by trying not to be critical, and who am I, who want to be good and liked, to judge others?

This first week is one of darkness and hope. For each one of us the walk in the darkness will be unique. A good companion for all of us will be Mary. The FIAT is a Latin verb which is active in form but passive in meaning. May it also be *done unto us according to his word!* Amidst all of us may there be a bonding of love, acceptance, fun, and respect.

“LET US THROW OFF THE WORKS OF DARKNESS AND PUT ON THE ARMOR OF LIGHT. THE NIGHT IS ADVANCED. THE DAY IS AT HAND. PUT ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.”

*Romans 13: 11-14*

Let's journey together.

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**PRAYER FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: FIRST WEEK**

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

Xavier.edu <https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/advent-prayers>