

READING CHECKLIST

1st Sunday of Advent: December 3

- Mon, Gospel: Mark 13:33-37
- Tue, 1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
- Wed, Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
- Thu, 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- Fri, Re-read the 1st Reading, Psalm, and Gospel

2nd Sunday of Advent: December 10

- Mon, Gospel: Mark 1:1-8
- Tue, 1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
- Wed, Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85:9ab, 10-14
- Thu, 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14
- Fri, Re-read the 1st Reading, Psalm, and Gospel

3rd Sunday of Advent: December 17

- Mon, Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28
- Tue, 1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
- Wed, Responsorial Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54
- Thu, 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- Fri, Re-read the 1st Reading, Psalm, and Gospel

4th Sunday of Lent: December 24

- Mon, Gospel: Luke 1:26-38
- Tue, 1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
- Wed, Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29
- Thu, 2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27
- Fri, Re-read the 1st Reading, Psalm, and Gospel

WELCOME THE WORD!

A BIBLE READING PLAN FOR ADVENT 2023 (YEAR B)

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

(Psalm 119:105)

“Read daily and thence gather food for your soul.”

(*Spiritus Paracletus*, 43)

In the Scripture readings at Mass each Sunday, the first Reading is chosen because of some link with the Gospel. The Psalm (in particular, the Response) provides a bridge between the readings and helps prepare our hearts and respond to the Word that we hear.

This reading plan builds on that fact, providing a way to extend meditation on the Sunday readings into the following week and prepare to better receive the Lord at Christmas. Every weekday a new reading is presented for prayerful meditation until on Friday, the readings are read together with an emphasis on hearing the Lord’s voice personally.

Follow these steps to meditate on the Scriptures each week, using a journal to write down your thoughts and prayers. A daily reading checklist is provided to help you keep track.

INSTRUCTIONS

Mondays

- Pray: *Open my heart, Lord, to listen to the word of your Son.*
- Prayerfully read the Gospel you heard yesterday at mass.
- Read it again: What stands out to you? Write that down.
- Read it again, listening for God's voice. What does it say to you?
- Read it once more and respond with your own prayer.

Tuesdays

- Pray: *Open my heart, Lord, to listen to the word of your Son.*
- Prayerfully read the 1st reading you heard last Sunday.
- Read it again: What stands out to you? What connection do you see with the Gospel? Write down your observations.
- Read it again, listening for God's voice. What does it say to you?
- Read it once more and respond with your own prayer.

Wednesdays

- Pray: *Open my heart, Lord, to listen to the word of your Son.*
- Prayerfully read Sunday's Psalm. Write down the Response.
- Read it again: What stands out to you? Is there a connection with the 1st reading and Gospel? What do you notice?
- Read it again, listening for God's voice. What does it say to you?
- Respond with your own prayer, incorporating the Response.
- Read it once more and respond with your own prayer.

Thursdays

- Pray: *Open my heart, Lord, to listen to the word of your Son.*
- Prayerfully read the 2nd Reading from last Sunday's mass.
- Read it again: What stands out to you? Write that down.
- Read it again, listening for God's voice. What does it say to you?

Fridays

- Pray: *Open my heart, Lord, to listen to the word of your Son.*
- Prayerfully read the 1st reading, Psalm, and Gospel you read earlier this week. (optional: include the 2nd Reading with the others)
- Read again: What stands out to you? Do you have any new insights?
- Read again, listening for God's voice. What does it say to your heart?
- Read all three readings again and respond with your own prayer.



*Turn the page to follow the
Advent Reading Checklist.*



"God speaks to each of us through sacred Scripture and has a message for each of us. We shouldn't read sacred Scripture as a word from the past, but rather as the word of God addressed even to us, and we must try to understand what the Lord is telling us."

—Pope Benedict XVI, 11/7/07 General Audience