



JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

**CAUSE OF JOY  
FOR MANKIND**





# LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE REMAIN LIGHTED)

*Lighting of the candle of joy on the 3rd Sunday of Advent also known as Gaudete Sunday*

## **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

*Leader :* REJOICE AND BE GLAD, CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST HERE;  
CHRIST HAS FOUND US;  
A JOYFUL HEART BURNS WITH LOVE  
CAN WE BRING JOY TO THOSE WHOSE JOY HAS  
BEEN STOLEN?  
Loving as JESUS loves; Helping as JESUS serves  
Giving as JESUS gives; Serving as JESUS serves  
And rescuing as JESUS rescues  
JOY IS NOT NECESSARILY THE ABSENCE OF  
SUFFERING. IT IS THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

## **HYMN: O COME O COME EMMANUEL**

O come, O come Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile there  
Until the Son of God appear;

### CHORUS

Rejoice! Rejoice! O Israel,  
To Thee shall come Emmanuel

O come, thou day spring from on high  
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight;

## **OPENING PRAYER (together)**

JESUS, CAUSE OF OUR JOY, ignite in us a sense of joy that overflows out of our hearts! Let this holy joy be contagious and spill over onto the lives of those around us especially as we're wrapping a year that has made us very uncertain. Let us not allow these struggles to steal the Great Joy we have in YOU.

REJOICE AND EXULT FOR YOU HAVE FOUND US. AMEN.



## LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### A YOUNG MEMBER OF THE FAMILY LIGHTS THE 3RD CANDLE ON THE ADVENT WREATH

*Leader :* We light the third Candle of Advent; its light is a symbol of Joy that filled the world in the past, at the birth of Jesus. This week in our Advent journey, may we open our eyes to the joy that surrounds us.  
*Amen*



### SCRIPTURE TEXT : PROPHET ISAIAH 35 : 1 - 2, 4

The wastelands will rejoice and blossom with spring crocuses.  
Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy!  
The deserts will become as green as the mountains of Lebanon,  
As lovely as Mount Carmel or the plain of Sharon.  
There the Lord will display His glory, the splendour of our God.  
Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, and do not fear, for Your God is coming to save you."


THE WORD OF THE LORD  
THANKS BE TO GOD





## LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Leader :* Our Blessed Mother experienced Absolute Joy in her heart for the fullness of grace she received from the Lord.  
We shall now recite the Canticle of Mary.

 <p><b>MAGNIFICAT</b></p> <p>www.PsalmSandthePilgrimDaughter.com www.TheBestCatholic.com</p>	<p><b>CANTICLE OF MARY</b></p> <p>My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.</p> <p>He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.</p> <p>He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.</p> <p>He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.</p> <p>He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, to Abraham and his children for ever.</p> <p>Luke 1:46-55</p>
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### ADVENT ACTIVITY - SHARE YOUR BLESSING

1. Pray for someone in need of Joy urgently – present to God our garland of prayers
2. Share a gift and bring Joy to a family member/neighbours
3. Sing joyfully at the Virtual Christmas Joy



Gather your family, your friends  
and your cat for a jolly round of

**VIRTUAL  
CHRISTMAS  
CAROLING**

Record and post it on FB or IG.  
And remember to tag  
#NBVMChristmasJoy

Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Charles  
www.nbvmc.org





## LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### **TOGETHER WE ACKNOWLEDGE: (all together)**

God has anointed us to proclaim the joy of comfort and encouragement

By listening, By Acts of Kindness, By Prayer

God has called us to proclaim the Joy of Repaired Lives

God has called us to proclaim the Joy of His Love

*Leader :*        *We call on our Father with the intercession of our Blessed Mother to fill us with the inner Joy.*

OUR FATHER  
HAIL MARY  
GLORY BE



*Leader :*        *LET US NOW ADORN OUR CHRISTMAS TREE WITH LIGHTS (switch on Christmas tree lights)*





## LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**CLOSING HYMN : REJOICE <https://youtu.be/CLMOUhSmefY>**

See the morning, see it rising  
Over the mountains high  
See the mercy in the mighty hand of God

Living Water come and fill us  
Only You can satisfy  
Turn our sorrow into singing  
The song of life

Rejoice, Rejoice  
Sing with the angel voices  
Rejoice, Rejoice  
All Heaven and earth rejoice

Lord, Your strength is a tower  
The righteous run into  
Lord, Your love is a banner over us  
And we hold on to the promise  
That Your hold on us is true  
There's no other like You, Jesus  
No one like You  
Always  
Again I say rejoice

*Leader : LET US CONTINUE TO BRING JOY AND BE JOYFUL*

*ALL : THANKS BE TO GOD*

*SIGN OF THE CROSS  
(Share the sign of peace with a SMILE)*