

A Weekly Gift to you and your family from your Catholic School

THE Wednesday
WORD



SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL WITH PARENTS & FAMILIES

Dear Parents and Carers,

Once again, the countdown is about to begin – Christmas is coming. This Sunday we begin to celebrate the season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation. Now is the time to think especially about, and look forward to, the celebration of Jesus' birth and to his return in the future.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the Master represents Jesus and the servants represent us. Think what preparations you would be making if someone very important was coming to visit.

To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org – Parents' Pages – Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

Wednesday 29th November 2023

Well, since it's Jesus who is coming – are you waiting eagerly, with your fingers on the door-handle, ready to open the door? The message is clear: we are to 'stay awake!' A little extra daily prayer throughout Advent is a great way to do this – to be alert to Jesus' presence around us.

Enjoy exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **ADVENT**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



"Advent is a time when
we journey towards
Jesus and his Kingdom
of justice and peace."

Pope Francis

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 3rd December 2023



Jesus said to his disciples, "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you do not know when the end time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad; he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his own task, and orders the doorkeeper to stay awake. So, stay awake – because you do not know when the Master of the house is coming; it may be evening or midnight, cockcrow or dawn. If he comes unexpectedly, he may find you still sleeping. What I am saying to you now, I say to everyone: Stay awake!"

Adapted from Mark 13:33-37
The 1st Sunday of Advent, Year B

You are warmly invited to learn more about
the Gospel through your local parish church.

"The Lord is coming. May we
await him with open hearts!"

Pope Francis



The Sunday's Gospel reminds us to 'stay awake' - to see if there are any ways that we could make a change for the better. Advent is a time to increase our good deeds. Even small acts of kindness bring more of Christ's light into our world and make us ready to welcome Jesus at any time.



1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Jesus said to his disciples, "Be on your guard, stay awake. When a rich man travels abroad, he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge and orders the doorkeeper to keep a good watch. So, always be ready - because you do not know when the Master of the house is coming; it may be evening or midnight, cockcrow or dawn. If he comes unexpectedly, he may find you unready for him. What I am saying to you now, I say to everyone: Stay awake - be ready!"



When will the Master of the house return? Which word or words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

ADVENT



3 Loving God & Each Other

"Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus." *Pope Francis*

Advent is a time to slow down and try to remember the real reason for Christmas - giving thanks to God for Jesus. Ask your child what they think the word 'Advent' means ('important arrival!'). What do they know about Advent? What do they like best about this season which leads up to Christmas? Each of you name your favourite Christmas carol. You may want to share with your child what you like best about the season of Advent.

"Dear young people, Christ asks you to be wide awake and alert, to see the things in life that really matter." *Pope Francis*

As a family, how can you prepare well through Advent - to be ready to welcome Jesus, and so draw closer to God? Perhaps you can: always try to be fair, honest, generous and ready to go out of our way to help anyone who is in need; be a peacemaker; put up a crib, Advent wreath and Advent calendar; go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession); make a special effort to let other family members know how much you love them - through your words and actions.

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to stay awake and to be aware of your presence in the people that we meet in this **Advent** season. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	THIS SUNDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADVENT BEGINS	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	AWAKE READY	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	JESUS RETURNS	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **u b c** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

usacybing bevecryonue cawaukeb Wuchabt

"_____ I am _____ to you now,
I say to _____: Stay _____!"

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas Day and ends on Christmas Eve. Traditional Advent wreaths have a candle to light on each Sunday of Advent. This Sunday we light the first Advent candle, as a symbol of the hope we have in Jesus.



Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....
.....

