

# Advent:Joy

W/C 15th December 2020



The third Sunday of Advent is rose (pink) because pink symbolizes joy, the joy that Jesus is almost here.

Most people have put up their Christmas tree, Nativity and decorations.

This week's prayers are prepared by Upton Hall FCJ

# Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December



Extracts from the first and second Sunday readings



The Lord God has put his Spirit in me.  
This is because he has appointed me to tell the good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to comfort those whose hearts are broken.  
He has sent me to tell the captives they are free.  
He has sent me to tell the prisoners that they are released.  
He has sent me to announce the time when the Lord will show his kindness  
(Isaiah 61,1-2)

Always be happy. Never stop praying. Give thanks whatever happens.  
That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus.  
(1 Thes 5, 16-18)

# Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December



Sunday's  
psalm was  
the  
Magnificat.

This is the FCJ  
virtual  
lockdown  
choir singing.

# Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December



Advent week 3: Joy (2 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfK8h2TMXFO>

Holy God of Joy,  
During this season of Advent,  
we open ourselves to receive your joy  
and love. Remind us of what we are  
thankful for, and the joy you bring to our lives.

We thank you for each smile, each laugh, each moment of warmth and  
each flicker of light. We pray that this joy will bring us closer to Christ. Amen.

(Gemma, yr 13 ethos)



# Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December



Christmas is the happiest time of the year for so many but the loneliest for so many too.

We pray for all those for who Christmas is a difficult time.

Let this not be a time for them to compare themselves to what others have, but to know that you are with them in their hurt. Heal their wounds and fill the loneliness.

We pray this through Jesus Christ. Amen.



Idea: Reach out to someone for who Christmas is not a happy time.

# Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

The nativity story told entirely out of paper (2 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=892ubtt5A4Q>



Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

Amen.

- Henri J.M. Nouwen

# Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December



O God, our loving Father, help us  
Rightly to remember the birth of Jesus,  
That we may share in the song of the  
Angels, the gladness of the shepherds  
And the worship of the wise men.  
Close the door of hate and open the  
Door of love all over the world.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
That Christ brings, and teach us  
To be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy  
To be your children and the Christmas

Evening bring us to our beds with

Grateful thoughts, forgiving, and  
Forgiven, for Jesus's sake.

Amen.



# Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December



On Christmas we remember the great mystery of the incarnation, that you loved the world so much that you sent your Son to be one of us, born not in a palace or even a comfortable home, but in the place where they kept animals, in the muck and smell. This humble beginning tells us that you are not a God of power, not a God of show and pretence, but a quiet God who enters history with no ceremony. There were a few visitors: the lowly ones, the shepherds, the wise men and their gifts. They can stand in for all of us, the human race.



Gathered around the manger, with our hopes and fears, with our heartfelt prayers for peace: peace in our hearts, in our homes, in the places on earth destroyed by war and violence.

As we kneel before the God of the universe held tightly in the arms of Mary, his mother and ours, we pray for our fragile world, that in this vulnerable child we will find our joy, our light in the darkness, our dignity as human beings, our common cause, our hope. Amen.



# Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December



**Joy to the World (3:40 mins)**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDAUPz2RohU&list=RDHDAUPz2RohU&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDAUPz2RohU&list=RDHDAUPz2RohU&start_radio=1)

Dear Lord,

We thank you for all the things we have to be joyful for at this time.

Thank you for our loved ones who bring us joy  
and for the joy of the holidays, giving us time to relax.

Please keep us safe over Christmas so that we may return safe and  
hopeful for the new year.

Amen.

(Faye, yr 13 ethos)

# Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December



May love come alive within your heart  
As Christmas time draws near.  
May hope fill each room you decorate  
And bring joy to those you hold dear.  
May peace be before you at every meal  
And faith ring through every song.  
For Christ is alive, the light of the world.  
May he bless you all season long.  
Amen.



# Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December



## An Examen for the end of term

Be silent and be with God. Take a deep breath and relax.

Looking back on this term where have you found joy and happiness. Be thankful for these times.

What hasn't gone well this term? What do you need to do to put things right? Say sorry? Change something?

How will you return in the new year? What promises do you make?