

ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

MODEL

Introductory Rite: First Sunday of Advent

The Priest makes the Sign of the Cross and greets the people as usual using one of the forms given in the Roman Missal.

Priest Dear friends in Christ,
today we begin the season of Advent.
We open our hearts to God's love
as we prepare to welcome Christ
into our lives and our homes.
The candles on our Advent wreath will remind us
that Jesus Christ came to conquest the darkness of sin
and to lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom

He stretches out his hand towards the wreath.

Priest Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ;
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples;
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us;
he is the Saviour of every nation.
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise
to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

The Priest lights the first candle on the wreath and then returns to the chair.

Priest Before we celebrate the sacred mysteries,
let us be alert to the advent of our God
and prepare the Lord's way by turning from our sins.

Pause for silence.

Priest You came as our redeemer
to announce glad tidings of salvation.
Lord have mercy.
You come as shepherd to gather and feed us.
Christ have mercy.
You will come as judge to establish a new heaven and earth.
Lord have mercy.

The Priest then says 'May almighty God ...' and the Opening Prayer.

Introductory Rite: Second Sunday of Advent

The Priest makes the Sign of the Cross and greets the people as usual using one of the forms given in the Roman Missal.

Priest In today's readings we shall hear about the mission of John the Baptist, who was sent to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.
We, too, are sent to prepare the way.
As we light the second candle on the Advent wreath let us pray that we may be worthy of our mission to spread the light of Christ in the world so that all may acknowledge Jesus as Lord.

The Priest lights the second candle on the wreath and then returns to the chair.

Priest Your coming was foretold by the prophets.
Lord have mercy.
You judge us in fairness.
Christ have mercy.
You are the one whom John proclaimed.
Lord have mercy.

The Priest then says 'May almighty God ...' and the Opening Prayer.

Introductory Rite : Third Sunday of Advent

The Priest makes the Sign of the Cross and greets the people as usual using one of the forms given in the Roman Missal.

Priest Today we reach the halfway stage of our Advent season
and give thanks for John the Baptist,
who bore witness to Jesus, the light of the world.
As we light the third candle on the Advent wreath
let us pray that we too will spread the light of Christ
in the darkness of our world
so that all may know Jesus
as the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The priest lights the third candle on the wreath and returns to the chair.

Pause for silence.

Priest You came as our redeemer.
Lord have mercy.
You are the light of the world.
Christ have mercy.
You lead us to the Father.
Lord have mercy.

The priest then says 'May Almighty God...' and the Opening Prayer.

Introductory Rite: Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Priest makes the Sign of the Cross and greets the people as usual using one of the forms given in the Roman Missal.

Priest Today we reflect on Mary's place
 in God's plan for our redemption.
 By her co-operation,
 Mary brought Jesus into our world to be our light.
 As we light the fourth candle on our Advent wreath
 let us pray that through our witness
 the light of Christ will enter the hearts and minds
 of those who do not know our Saviour.

The Priest lights the fourth candle on the wreath and then returns to the chair.

Priest O wisdom of the Most High, Adonai our king.
 Lord have mercy.
 O flower of Jesse's stem and key of David.
 Christ have mercy.
 O long desired of nations, Emmanuel, God-with-us.
 Lord have mercy.

The Priest then says 'May almighty God ...' and the Opening Prayer.

This is one of a number of model liturgies prepared by the Commission and provided for use within the Diocese. It should be adapted to meet local needs and circumstances.