

FAITH FRIDAY 11/19/2021

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **December 8th: Immaculate Conception**
- December 14th: 3rd-8th grade Penance Service
- December 15th: Eucharistic Adoration from 8:35-10:35 and 2:25-3:00
- December 16th: Christmas Program: 2:00 pm and 6:30 pm
- December 17th: Noon, 12:00 pm, dismissal. Students return to school January 4th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are still in need of volunteers for the 10pm Christmas Eve Mass and the 9 am Christmas Day Mass to hand out books to parishioners. If you or your child would like to volunteer these hours will go towards the 10 volunteer hours each family must have by the end of the year. Email Ms. Finley at efinley@stbernardomaha.org to sign up. Thank you to our volunteers for the 5 pm Christmas Eve Mass! We have enough student volunteers to cover that Mass.

ADVENT WREATH

At Mass you have probably seen the Advent wreath to the left of the altar. Many of you may have one in your home. Many of you may not have heard of the Advent wreath! No matter where you are in your knowledge of the Advent wreath, it is good to remind ourselves, intentionally every year, what the wreath represents.

The Advent wreath has three purple candles and one pink candle. Purple is the color of kings and queens. It is also the color of penance. Penance is the small sacrifices we make to welcome Jesus into our hearts, into our neighborhoods, and to prepare ourselves to meet him on Christmas day. Pink is the color of Joy. It is the third candle to remind us of the joy of meeting Jesus at Christmas.

The first candle is **Hope**. It symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent, we look forward to Jesus' coming with hope for forgiveness from the original sin of Adam and Eve.

The second candle is **Peace**. During the second week of Advent, we reflect on our lives, and work on becoming better versions of ourselves in preparation for Jesus' coming.

The third candle is **Joy**. The third candle is pink, symbolizing anticipation and rejoicing. During the third week of Advent, we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day.

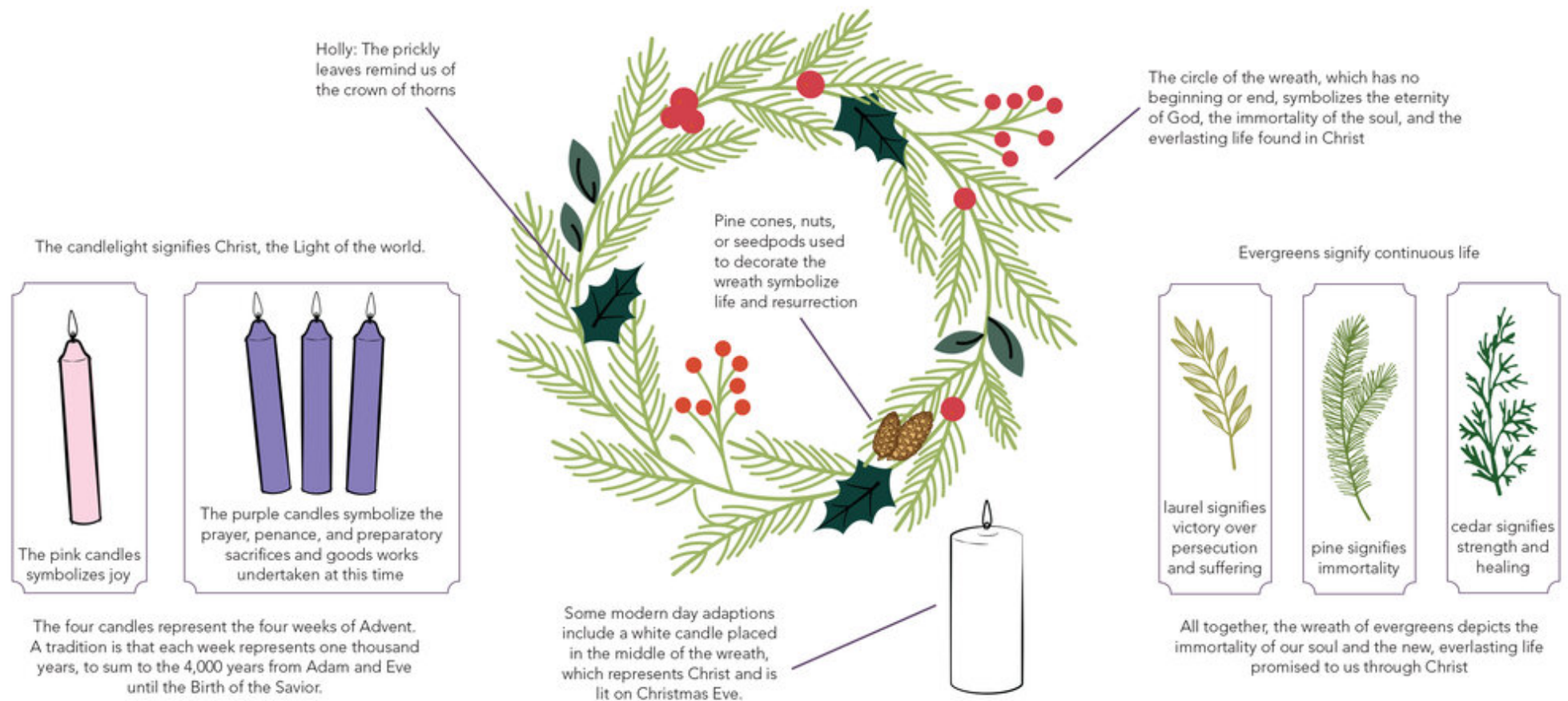
The fourth candle is **Love**. During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son:

True or False?

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IS
WHEN WE CELEBRATE WHEN
JESUS WAS CONCEIVED IN MARY'S
WOMB?

False!

ON DECEMBER 8TH OF EACH YEAR,
WE CELEBRATE THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF MARY WHEN SHE
WAS CONCEIVED IN ST. ANNE'S
WOMB.



HUGS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Every year we have parishioners who are homebound due to age and/or health issues. This number of homebound parishioners has increased since Covid hit. These parishioners very much miss their St. Bernard community. They miss seeing the students when walking into daily Mass. They miss their friends at Sunday Mass. Being homebound has been hard for these parishioners, but this time of year makes being homebound even harder. As they hear about their friends and family getting together for the holidays, they are still at home by themselves. Help us brighten up their holiday season by sending them a handwritten letter or card letting you know that you are thinking of them and they are in your prayers. See the attached flyer for more information, and God bless you!

WRAP Yourself in Scripture

Karen L. Dwyer, PhD/Lawrence A. Dwyer, JD, The Institute for Priestly Formation
Journaling with Lectio Divina

First, pause and recollect yourself to God's presence. Become aware that God is right here, right now. Ask him for the light of His Holy Spirit to illuminate this time of prayer. Next, read the verse several times until a word, verse, or verses jump out to you or capture your attention (I personally like to read the scripture three times through) Then begin.

W=Write: Write out the verse(s) that speak to you.

R=Reflect: Reflect on the principle or truth that the Scripture is teaching. Use your imaginative and analytical faculties. Write down your thoughts, feelings, and desires in relationship to the Scripture and dialogue with Jesus.

A=Apply: Consider how Jesus is calling you to apply the truths from Scripture. Write down your response to the Scripture and how you can apply it beginning today.

P=Pray: Write a prayer related to the verses that offer praise and thanksgiving to God. Ask God to help you respond in faith to His Word.

At the end of your prayer, focus completely on Jesus. Rest in His Heart and presence. Receive His strength, His love, and His grace.

Mark 13: 33-37 **33** Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. **34** It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. **35** Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. **36** May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. **37** What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Write:	Reflect:
Apply:	<p>Pray: I like to pray while a song is playing. Here is an acapella version of one of the most well known Advent songs about waiting: O Come, O Come Emmanuel by Pentatonix</p> <p>At the end of your prayer, focus completely on Jesus. Rest in His Heart and presence. Receive His strength, love, and grace.</p>



Holiday Hugs for the Homebound

Help us send a bit of Christmas cheer
to St. Bernard parishioners
who are not able to get out as much as they
would like to due to various reasons.

Take just a few minutes...
Write a cheery note
in a letter or card.

Place your note(s) in the collection basket at Mass or
drop off at/mail to the Parish Office by December 16 so
we can deliver them by Christmas.
Please mark the envelope "Hugs for the Homebound!"