



Wednesday, February 25, 2014

"I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord."

– Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium

Dear Friends in Christ,

Though many of us will spend the next few weeks preparing for Christmas, this time in our Church, known as Advent, offers us a wonderful opportunity to come together in prayer as we joyfully await the birth of our Lord.

Advent also marks the start of a new liturgical year in the life of the Catholic Church. This is important because it signals a new beginning in our relationship with Christ and in our relationship with the Church and with one another, relationships which need to be cared for and even mended.

This Advent, we can strengthen our relationship with the Lord by improving our personal prayer life, by offering a sincere and unburdening confession, and by attending Mass and receiving the Body of Christ in the form of the Holy Eucharist. In addition, many families observe the season by lighting an Advent wreath in their home. Others commit additional time to pray together as a family. The Archdiocese of Baltimore is happy to make available to you and your family this Advent [these prayers and other resources](#) to assist you as you prepare for the coming of the Lord.

May you and your loved ones have a blessed and holy season of Advent!

Sincerely yours,

+ William E. Lori

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore



Archdiocese of Baltimore
320 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)