

ADVENT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Here are some interesting topics to which you can refer during this season of Advent. They are designed to be starting points for discussion and research that you can do with your teacher, catechist or family member. Working with these topics is excellent preparation for Jesus' coming.

1. ***Which Church season comes before Christmas?*** The answer is obvious. Do some research to find out the history behind this season in our Church. What does the word actually mean and from where does the word come?
2. ***How many weeks are in Advent?*** The answer is different every year. Why? See if you can explain it.
3. ***In Advent, we prepare for three comings of Jesus.*** Can you figure out what the three comings are?
4. ***What is the Church's colour for Advent?*** Do some research to find out why this colour is used.
5. ***During Advent, we prepare for Jesus Christ to come into our hearts for Christmas.*** Discuss ways in which you can prepare for this during the season of Advent.
6. ***What Advent custom uses three purple candles and one pink candle to remind us that Jesus brings light into our darkness?*** Research and discuss the origins of this custom, its meaning, and the significance of the candles. Talk about ones that you have seen or are present today. Make one for your class/space/home.
7. ***What Advent tradition is a representation of Jesus' family tree?*** Do some research into this, as it will outline our salvation history, right up until Christmas. Make one for your classroom/home/space. Be artistic and have fun with it.
8. ***God sent special people to remind everyone that God would keep his promises of love. We hear readings from the Bible about these people in church during Advent. Who are these people?*** Some of these people are quite famous. Do some research and tell their stories. You can ask your teacher, catechist or parents for help with this.
9. ***Who announced the coming of Jesus the Saviour, just before he began his public life?*** The answer to this is easy. What does this man ask us to do in preparation during Advent?

10. ***Which angel announced to Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus?*** What is the name given to this event? Read the story in the Gospel of Luke (Lk 1: 26-45). Discuss the importance of Mary's answer.
11. ***Who was the cousin of Mary who was also the mother of John the Baptist?*** Read the story of Mary's visit to her (Lk 1:39-56). What two great prayers do we have today that come from this story?
12. ***Who did an angel visit in a dream, saying "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife"?*** The answer to this is easy. There is not much in the Gospels about this man. Do some reading and find out as much as you can about him and why he was so important for Jesus and for us today.
13. ***During Advent, there are a number of feast days that celebrate various saints or special events.*** Find out what these days are and do some research to tell the story associated with them.
14. ***There are several important feast days after Christmas 2024: Dec 26 (2024), Dec 28 (2024), Jan 1 (2025), Jan 2 (2025), Jan 9 (2025).*** Do some research to find out what these special days are. Tell the story associated with each one and try to explain why they are important for us to remember each year.