

What do the four candles of Advent symbolize?

The four candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they respectively symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. In some homes and parishes, people will also light a fifth candle on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to represent the birth of Jesus; this candle, when added to the Advent wreath, is typically white and larger than the other candles and is placed in the center of the wreath.

ADVENT CANDLE WEEKS, NAMES & COLOURS:

-  **Advent week 1 - Hope: Prophecy Candle (purple)**
-  **Advent week 2 - Peace: Bethlehem Candle (purple)**
-  **Advent week 3 - Joy: Shepherd's Candle (pink)**
-  **Advent week 4 - Love: Angel's Candle (purple)**
-  **Christmas: Christ Candle (white).**

Holy Cross Woollahra

Parish Office Hours

Tues/Weds/Thurs 9am - 4pm

Holy Cross Woollahra

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Fr Mirko Integlia

Administrator

Mrs Aparna John

Parish Secretary

Samson

Parish Pet

Mr Joe Scicluna

Safeguarding Officer

Mass Schedule - Week 30th November - 7th December

Monday: NO MASS

Tuesday: 7:30am

Wednesday: 9:00am

Thursday: 7:30am

Friday: 7:30am

Saturday: 9am and 5:30pm

Sunday: 9am and 6pm

Confession: Saturday 4:45pm-5:30pm

SOCIAL MEDIA - CURRENT NEWS & UPDATES

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Holy Cross Parish Woollahra

Mirko Integlia



Holy Cross
Catholic Church Woollahra
Sunday 30 Nov 2025



First Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Candle

**All: O Lord and Master,
let Your Advent be for me
a fountain of blessing.
Come, O True Light,
and scatter the shadows of my heart.
Come, O Eternal Life,
and raise me from the death of sin.
Come, O Heavenly Physician,
and heal all my wounds.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Do not delay.**

MASS READERS SCHEDULE

Saturday – 5:30 PM Mass
First Reading: Joanne Nizzari
Second Reading: Jim/Bev Frayne
Prayers of the Faithful: TBC

Sunday – 9:00 AM Mass
First Reading: Stefan Wagiel
Second Reading: Mary Marshall Bhalla
Prayers of the Faithful: Harriet Sadler (HC)

Sunday – 6:00 PM Mass
First Reading: Loreta Speranza
Second Reading: James Corcoran
Prayers of the Faithful: TBC

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.
The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'
He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.
C: The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God

Sunday 30th November 2025

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9, R. see v.1.
(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.' And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**
2. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name. There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David. **(R.)**
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: 'Peace be to your homes! May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces, peace!' **(R.)**
4. For love of my brethren and friends I say: 'Peace upon you!' For love of the house of the Lord I will ask for your good. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
The time has come, our salvation is near.
You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.
C: The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalms 84:8
Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:37-44
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Stay awake, you must be ready.
Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is

First Sunday of Advent Year A

GOSPEL cont.

taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'
C: The Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Priest: In this season of Advent, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and bring our needs before the God of our ancestors.

Reader: That the Church will stay awake and be ready when Christ comes to meet us.
(pause) To you we pray: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

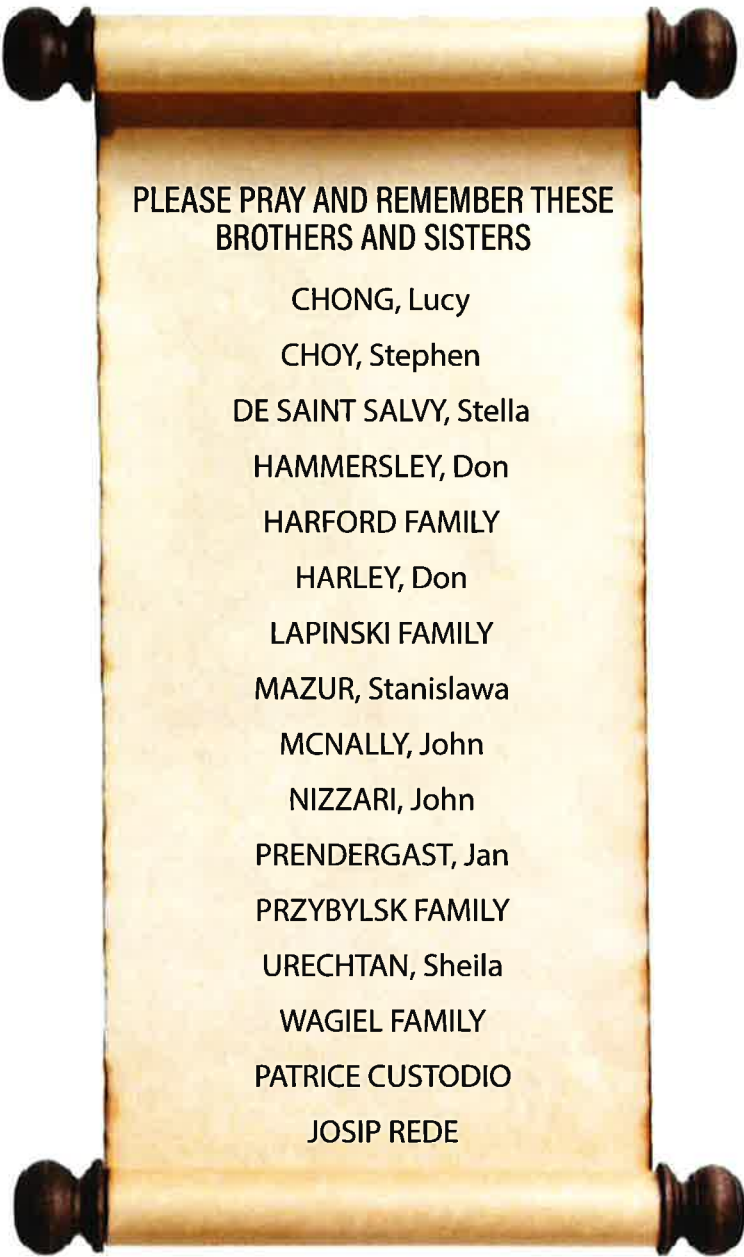
Reader: That nations will put away instruments of violence and hatred and enter an age of peace. (pause)
To you we pray: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who live in the darkness of hunger, unemployment and homelessness will see a new day dawn. (pause) To you we pray: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That this gathered community will clothe themselves in the deeds of Christ and prepare for his coming. (pause) To you we pray: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who have completed their earthly pilgrimage will enter the gates of the new Jerusalem. (pause) To you we pray: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: Faithful God, rouse us from our sleep and strengthen us to prepare for Christ's coming. Hear our prayers that we may be ready to meet the coming of your new day. All: Amen.



PLEASE PRAY AND REMEMBER THESE BROTHERS AND SISTERS

CHONG, Lucy
CHOY, Stephen
DE SAINT SALVY, Stella
HAMMERSLEY, Don
HARFORD FAMILY
HARLEY, Don
LAPINSKI FAMILY
MAZUR, Stanislaw
MCNALLY, John
NIZZARI, John
PRENDERGAST, Jan
PRZYBYLSK FAMILY
URECHTAN, Sheila
WAGIEL FAMILY
PATRICE CUSTODIO
JOSIP REDE

Collections Last Week
First Collection: \$362.40
Second Collection: \$617.65
CWF: \$230.00
POS: \$1397.00 (20-26/11)

First Sunday
of Advent