Celebrating Advent

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Unit 2, Session 10.

Advent is a season of grace when we await the celebration of Jesus' birth. The Advent season is four weeks long.

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The first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. On December 8, we celebrate the Immaculate Conception, a feast that honors Mary.

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The Advent season ends on Christmas Eve.

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The word *Advent* comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "arrival" or "coming."

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Whether we were born thousands of years before Jesus' birth or just a few years ago, we are all God's people.

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Readings from Isaiah foretell Jesus' coming. Isaiah compares Jesus' coming to a bud growing from the stump of Jesse, who was David's father.

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During Advent the altar is draped in purple cloth, and the priest wears purple vestments.

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Images in some stained-glass windows might depict the connection between the times before and after Jesus.

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A Jesse Tree is decorated with symbols from the Bible.

ART PRINT 10

The symbols on a Jesse Tree help teach about the Messiah's ancestry. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus appear near the top of a Jesse Tree.

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