# "Watch yourselves and Pray all Times" FIRST SUNDAY OF THE ADVENT Children's Liturgy Activity November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021



#### Gospel: Luke 21:25-28,34-36

In today's gospel, we see Jesus reveals the signs that will happen soon before coming of Son of Man: 'signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken'. He wants everyone to recognize the signs as it happens and be prepared to meet the Lord at his coming. When all the signs happen: Jesus ask us to stand erect and be hopeful that 'The liberation is at hand.'All will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. He will establish his kingdom of justice and righteousness and He will reward all who have been faithful and prepared for Him. The signs give hope for those who are believing Jesus and are preparing for his coming. Are we recognizing the signs? Are we hoping and preparing for the Lords coming?

Jesus tells us how to prepare: 'Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be hardened by worldly debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life.' Let us examine ourselves: Are we watchful of our ways of living? Are we living in Jesus' ways as we wait for him? Are we getting carried away by the cares of life? The worldly things take us away from Jesus and hardens our heart. We forget about God's ways; we forget his promises and will miss the signs happening. For the hour of coming is not known to any. The day will come on all suddenly, like a trap and we might not be prepared. Is our heart getting hardened? What can we do?

Through todays Gospel, Jesus gives us the way: Stay awake and praying at all times. PRAY FOR THE STRENGTH: to survive all that is going to happen and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

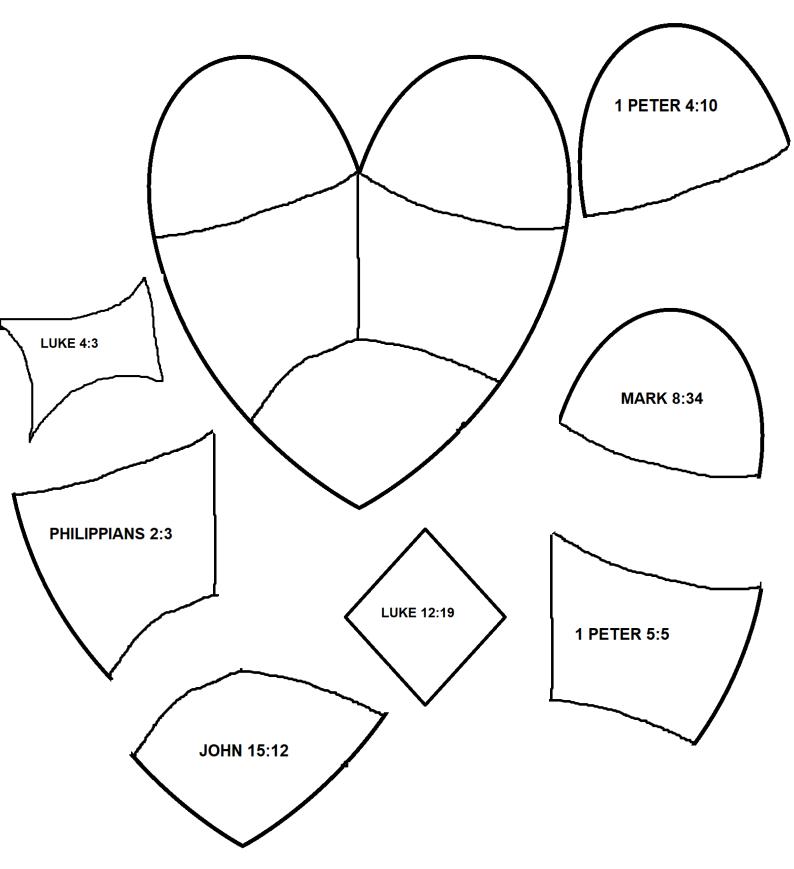
Prayer helps us to stay alert and to remain awake always in the presence of Jesus. Prayer awakens us in Spirit. Holy spirit is our helper. Holy spirit helps us to pray and to walk in the way of Jesus. Without prayer we become spiritually sleepy and will be easily trapped and mislead by the enemy.

So let us be watchful and awake. Let us give our Hearts to Jesus by Praying all times in spirit.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. We light the first Advent candle that of HOPE. Our hope is fixed in heaven through Jesus and in the promise that Jesus will return. Today We begin our preparation to celebrate the first coming of Jesus-Christmas. Let us also prepare for the Second coming of Jesus in Hope anchored on God's promises fulfilled in Christ's first coming. Let us prepare by keeping awake and praying all times for strength to survive all trials by living in Holy Spirit And to receive Jesus in worthiness.

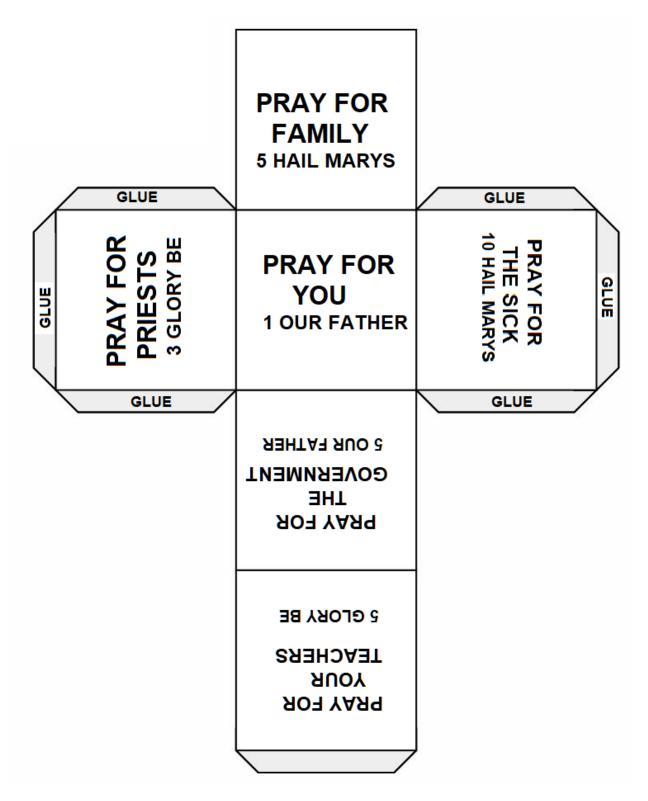
## Watch yourselves!

Let us scan our hearts Using the verse clue given. Then cut out and stick on the template the correct pieces to prepare our heart to receive Jesus.



## **STAY AWAKE AND PRAY ALL TIMES: PRAYER CUBE CRAFT**

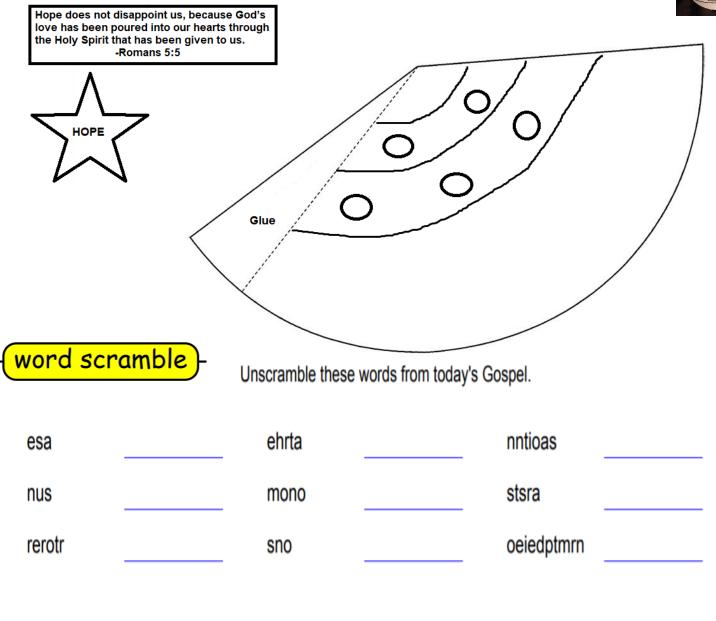
Cut out the prayer cube template. Fold along the lines, tuck and glue the labelled tabs into the cube. Toss the cube and pray every day for the intentions written.



#### 'HOPE'- hanger for the Christmas tree.

Cut out the templates. Colour the cone template and fold it into a cone shape. Stick the verses on the bottom of the cone. Stick the star on top and stick a thread on top behind the star to hang it.





Let us pray, 🦫

Dear Lord Jesus thank you giving us the living hope in you. As we prepare to celebrate your first coming in Christmas, light up our spirit in hope to be watchful of our ways of living, not to harden our hearts but to stay awake and pray in Holy spirit for wisdom to recognize the signs from you , for the strength to survive all that is going to happen and to prepare us worthy to receive you when you come in glory and power.

In Jesus' name we pray ,amen.