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Based on the gospel for Sunday 27 November, First Sunday of Advent: Matthew 24:37-44

"So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming."

As Advent begins, we start to prepare for the birth of the Christ child at Christmas time. But we also remember that we are constantly waiting in hope and expectation for Christ who is to come again in glory.

It is not easy to hold onto hope, especially in a world full of change, when we can sometimes feel as though we are lurching from one crisis to the next. But at this time of year in particular, we remember the promise of hope that has been made to us. That Christ will come again to make all things new.

We do not know exactly when that will be, but it is expected of us that we be found ready and waiting, so that we are not caught unprepared.

We are called to live differently, to show our readiness to welcome Christ in how we welcome others. Especially those who are poor, vulnerable or marginalised in any way.

Veronica lived in Kharkiv, Ukraine when the bombing started. She travelled for days to reach the Polish border and when she arrived, she had not eaten for 20 hours. When she finally crossed into Poland, she reached a meeting point run by a local organisation where she received a warm meal and was offered shelter.

Veronica said, "I never expected to encounter such helpfulness here. Here I get everything I need for now."

Come, Lord, bringer of hope.

Create in us a desire for a world transformed to reflect your glory, and lead us in your ways so that together we may make a change, dispelling the darkness of poverty.

Amen.



Advent calendar

Sign up to receive daily reflections and prayers from our Advent calendar direct to your inbox.

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Advent family prayers

Share our Advent family prayer resources, which encourage us to look to God as we prepare for Christmas, but also to take notice of the world around us.

Find resources



Super soup kitchen

Buy a Super soup kitchen World Gift so that vulnerable refugees may find food, water, shelter and a sense of hope to continue their journey to safety.

Buy a World Gift

This reflection and prayer were taken from our [Advent calendar](#).



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