

Bringing Jesus to The Nations

Missionary Childhood Association Advent Prayer

A Reflection on Children in Mission Lands to prepare for Advent

Opening Song: "This Little Light of Mine" by Listener Kids. Click here for the remix song and lyrics.

Leader: At our Baptism, each of us received the Light of Christ within us. Just like the little light bulb in the music video, we are called to shine brightly and bring Jesus to the places that are dark in the world. Where are the places that are dark in the world?

Reader 1: In **South America**, many children are not able to have Mass or receive the Eucharist every Sunday because they live in the mountain villages and the priest cannot get to them. In **Africa**, many children live in fear because of civil wars and constant tribal fighting.

Reader 2: In **Asia**, many girls are not allowed to get an education, but must begin learning how to run a household at an early age. In **The Pacific Islands**, many children lose friends and family members because of the many typhoons and hurricanes that hit the Islands.

Reader 3: In **Europe**, many children will never hear about Jesus and God's love because their parents do not believe in God. As missionaries, we are called to bring the light of Jesus to these places and children. We can do this by our prayers and sacrifices.

Leader: This Advent, as we wait for Jesus' coming at Christmas, we will remember all those around the world who are also waiting for Jesus and His light. We will be Jesus' missionaries and bring Jesus' light, hope, peace, joy and love to those who are most in need.

Reading: A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah 9:1-2

The People who walked in darkness have seen a great light, upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils.

The Word of the Lord All: *Thanks be to God.*

Set up your Advent Wreath, Table or Display to usher in the Advent Season.

Leader: As we prepare to celebrate Advent, we remember the children in every nation throughout the world, and we pray that God will send many Missionary priests, Religious, Lay Men and Woman to bring the Good News of Jesus to those whom are hard to reach and have never heard it.

Have 30 seconds to a minute of silent prayer.

*Children are in need of learning how to have silence in their lives and be okay with it. Allow yourself the freedom to feel awkward for a moment in teaching them this truth.

Leader: Let us end this time of reflection by praying the *Our Father* and remembering we are part of the One Family of God.

"Our Father..."