

History, Mystery and Majesty

An Advent Staff Reflection

Virtue Link: Faith, Hope, Love, Justice, Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude
Catholic Character Themes: Community, Compassion, Discipleship, Reverence, Solidarity,
Stewardship

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With Advent now upon us, our sense of time becomes charged with expectation and waiting.

Think of a time of intense expectation in your life, and if you feel comfortable, share it with your colleagues.

What kinds of intense expectation do our students experience?
How can we help them relate these experiences to Advent?

Advent is...

❖ **A time of expectant waiting to celebrate Christ's coming in *history* in a stable at Bethlehem;**

Very few people were aware of Jesus' humble birth, yet He changed the world. In this Advent season, how can we help students see that their efforts to follow Jesus make a difference in the world?

❖ **A time of expectant waiting to enter into Christ's coming in *mystery* in the Christmas liturgy**

During Advent, how can we help students grow in appreciation for prayer, and worship with the believing community?

❖ **A time of expectant waiting for Christ's coming in *majesty* at the end of time;**

Our young people are bombarded by messages that portray Christmas in secular, commercial and consumerist tones.

How can we help them believe in the Jesus who rules the universe and offers them hope in a time of political uncertainty and moral confusion?