

*Advent
Meditations
With
Fulton J. Sheen*



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*A complete list of the works quoted in this pamphlet
appears on page 32.*

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Introduction

The word *adventus* is Latin for “a coming” or “an arrival.” Advent is a season of joy as we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem. Advent is also a time to rekindle hope. Because God has entered our physical world, nothing in our human experience is beyond hope or meaning.

The quotations in this pamphlet, collected from the writings of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, invite us to enter into the season of Advent as active participants, keeping in mind that “each single response to grace is a step taken toward peace and joy for all” (from *Lift Up Your Heart*).

In *Seven Words of Jesus and Mary*, Bishop Sheen advised, “If you have never before prayed [with] Mary, do so now. Can you not see that if Christ himself willed to be physically formed in her for nine months and then spiritually formed by her for thirty years, it is to her that we must go to learn how to have Christ formed in us?”

With Bishop Sheen as our guide and the Blessed Mother at our side, may we make our hearts a tabernacle for the Savior of the world.

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Sunday

First Week of Advent

Let Christ Be Formed in You

As God was physically formed in Mary, so he wills to be spiritually formed in you. If you knew he was seeing through your eyes, you would see in everyone a child of God. If you knew that he worked through your hands, they would bless all the day through....If you knew that he wants to use your mind, your will, your fingers, and your heart, how different you would be. If half the world did this, there would be no war!

HOW TO FIND CHRISTMAS PEACE

*The Mighty One has done
great things for me,
and holy is his name.*

LUKE 1:49

Monday

First Week of Advent

God's Whisper

God does not come in the thunder, but in the April breeze. Because he does not shout but only whispers, the soul must be careful not to neglect the visitation....To the eyes of faith, only two classes of people exist: those who say yes to God and those who say no to him.

LIFT UP YOUR HEART

*Mary said, "Here am I,
the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me
according to your word."*

LUKE 1:38

Tuesday

First Week of Advent

Our Response

God, who wishes to dwell in us, can always be evicted by a single word of dismissal. And so it is important to consider the way to respond to God's visitation—which we cannot prevent, but can cut short. The first necessity of our cooperation with God is the consciousness that it is he who is present; the will to know him causes our recognition of his presence. If we lack this readiness to know him, we are like those who smell and perceive no fragrance, taste and know no sweetness, touch and enjoy no ecstasy.

LIFT UP YOUR HEART

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to
bring good news to the poor.”*

LUKE 4:18

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