



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Advent 2011 Message

My dear friends,

I invite you to enter into the spirit of the Advent season as we prepare for the Lord's coming at Christmas and wait for his final coming in glory.

Throughout our holiday activities, we focus in a special way on God's presence among us. The gifts we give, the meals we prepare, the holiday visits offered with love are reflections of God's great love.

During Advent we are encouraged to think about our individual gifts and strengths and share them lovingly, so, through us, all those we encounter may come to know God's love and peace.

May you live this season of waiting with open hearts, trusting in God who loves us and calls us to love one another. Be attentive to the sacred moments of Advent so as not to miss the wonder and awe of the celebration of Christ's birth.

I pray for God's blessings upon you and your family during this Advent season.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Rev. Walter A. Hurley
Bishop of Grand Rapids