

Thought for the day – Tuesday 30th November 2021

By Revd John Marshall

Three prayers for Advent

I would like to share these three prayers for Advent.

The promise of Advent from the Gelasian Sacramentary c500.

Stir up our hearts, we beseech you, to prepare ourselves to receive your Son. When he comes and knocks, may he find us not sleeping in sin, but awake to righteousness, ceaselessly rejoicing in his love. May our hearts and minds be so purified, that we may be ready to receive his promise of eternal life.

The Fount book of prayer Harper Collins

A prayer from St Augustine of Hippo

Lord Jesus our Saviour, the One who is to come,
we come to you now.

Our hearts are cold;

Lord, warm them by your selfless love.

Our hearts are sinful;

cleanse them with your precious blood.

Our hearts are weak;

Strengthen them with your joyous Spirit.

Our hearts are empty;

fill them with your divine presence.

Come, Emmanuel;

enter our lives,

possess them always

and only

for yourself.

Adapted by Canon Arthur Howells in the Little book of Advent
Collins Religion.

Finally a prayer by Janet Morley
Our Hope and our Desire

God, our hope and our desire,
we wait for your coming
as a woman longs for the birth,
the exile for her home,
the lover for the touch of his beloved,
and the humble poor for justice.

In Shine on star of Bethlehem
Worship resources for Christian Aid
Canterbury Press.

May God be with you all through Advent.