

ADVENT AT HOME: O COME, O COME IMMANUEL

November 29, 2025

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

Matthew 1:18-25

Memory Verse

²² So the Lord's promise came true, just as the prophet had said, ²³ "A virgin will have a baby boy, and he will be called Immanuel," which means "God is with us."

Matthew 1:22-23



CASEY'S DAY

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"Don't you just love hearing Christmas songs while shopping?" Mom asked Emma as they walked into a store. Emma dragged her feet in miserable silence. Mom sang, "O come, O come, Immanuel." When Emma rolled her eyes and sighed, Mom said, "Oh, come on, Emma. The Bible says to put on the garment of praise to remove a spirit of heaviness."

Emma obeyed, well...sort of. "OK, Mom." Emma started singing, "Jingle bells, Santa smells, cancer stinks a lot!"

"Whoa, whoa," Mom exclaimed. "I don't think that's what the Bible had in mind."

"Sorry," Emma explained. "But cancer really does stink! It's making cousin Cam so sick that he has to move away for treatment. We've never spent a Christmas apart. Ever! "

Mom agreed, "You're right. Cancer is a terrible disease, and missing out on cousin time is no fun."

Emma responded, "Exactly! I mean, who's going to play games and make him smile after his medical treatments?"

"God is there," said Mom.

"Uh, God does not play card games like me," said Emma.

Mom explained, "True. But he's been there every time you've played that game with Cam, and he will continue to be with you both, even though you're miles apart, because that's who God is. His Son, Jesus, is called Immanuel, meaning 'God with us.' God promises he is with us no matter where we go or what we are going through. He sits with us when we suffer and dances with us when we rejoice. When we're sad, he waits beside us while we hope for brighter days. That's what he did for the children of Israel, and that's what he still does for all of us."

Emma's face brightened. "That makes me feel much better. I think I'm ready to sing that song now." She smiled with Mom, and they began to sing, "O come, O come, Immanuel."

Prayer

Father God, thank you for keeping your promise to always be with us wherever we go. Even though we can't see you with our eyes, help us feel your calming presence in our lives, just like hot cocoa on a cold winter's day. In Christ's name, we pray, Amen.

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