

## Advent - A Time of Waiting

by Mary Van Gilder, IHM

### Fourth Week

While waiting, we often shape our expectations to fit what we believe will be the response, the fulfillment, of what we project as the perfect answer to our hope. Advent is a journey to newness and is often along a rough road. God works in a personal way, knowing that surprises have a way of awaking us to new and unexpected strengths and insights.

What do I expect as a fulfillment of my waiting?

Why can I be grateful for the gift of the journey?

How can anticipation be a gift in itself?

What will I realize if it seems that I have not arrived at an end?



Most loving and indwelling God,  
may I trust in your gift of Advent waiting,  
learning that the waiting itself opens me  
to the gift of your presence and life in me.  
May I rejoice fully and gratefully  
in every way You find my heart  
and fill it,  
becoming Yourself  
the destination of my waiting.

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