

What gifts does the world need?



Give the gift of kindness

I never tire of being amazed at the presence of kindness. Perhaps that's due to living in an age when world news includes vast amounts of humanity's unkindness ... if I look for kind deeds, I'll find that my world has an abundance of these ... a good portion of kindness goes by unnoticed. In a way, kindness is like a little miracle. We go about our day expecting it to be quite ordinary and then someone's thoughtfulness touches us with comfort, assistance, needed joy, assurance, laughter, hope-filled insight, or some other form of blessedness (Joyce Rupp: Return to the Root. 2021. 24).

Where
can you
give the gift of
kindness in this
Advent season?

Prayer to guide us through Advent

**Holy One, Essence of Kindness,
each day of this Advent Season
guide us to your love through
messages of hope,
easy smiles, opened doors,
unexpected generosity,
words of understanding,
forgiving hearts and other
signs of human kindness.
Help us to recognise
your dwelling amongst us**

(Joyce Rupp: Return to the Root.
2021. 225: adapted).

Precisely because it entails esteem and respect for others, once kindness becomes a culture within society it transforms lifestyles, relationships and the way ideas are discussed and compared (Fratelli Tutti, 2020. #224).