



Advent 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 NOVEMBER Light one purple candle on the Advent wreath	30	1	2	3	4	5 Set out shoes for a treat for St. Nicholas Day tomorrow
6 Light two purple candles on the Advent wreath	7	8 Immaculate Conception Enjoy a white dessert (something vanilla or covered in powdered sugar)	9 St. Juan Diego Serve Mexican food or Mexican hot chocolate	10	11	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Decorate with roses (make your own out of tissue paper)
13 Feast of St. Lucy Go and look at Christmas lights Light two purple candles and the pink on the Advent wreath	14	15	16	17 Pray the O Anthiphons O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!	18 Pray the O Anthiphons O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!	19 Pray the O Anthiphons O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!
20 Pray the O Anthiphons O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness! Light all the candles on the Advent wreath	21 Pray the O Anthiphons O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death.	22 Pray the O Anthiphons O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!	23 Pray the O Anthiphons O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!	24 Christmas Eve Place the figure of Baby Jesus in the Nativity scene	25 Christmas Day	26 St. Stephen Send a thank-you card to the deacon in your parish
27 Feast of the Holy Family Pray the Third Joyful Mystery of the Rosary (the Nativity)	28 Feast of the Holy Innocents Bless your children today	29	30	31	1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of Jesus Pray the Hail Mary together before your family meal	



Celebrate Advent and Christmas with your Family



Catholic Mom
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

FOR EVERY FAMILY

- ✧ The evening before the first Sunday of Advent, host a New Year's Eve party to celebrate the beginning of the new Church year. This year's theme: the Year of Grace.
- ✧ Take a drive to look at the Christmas lights in your neighborhood.
- ✧ Bake Christmas cookies and share some with friends/neighbors.
- ✧ Donate diapers and formula to a local crisis pregnancy center. Larger size diapers are always particularly needed.
- ✧ Each evening as you light the Advent candles, pray for the people who sent you Christmas cards in the mail.
- ✧ Have a birthday cake for Jesus for Christmas Day dessert.
- ✧ Host an Advent tea with treats and an Advent book.
- ✧ Make posters about the true meaning of Christmas. Hang them in your windows.
- ✧ Clean out toys and give away those in good condition.
- ✧ Make Christmas cards for shut-ins or for a food pantry to include with Christmas dinners.
- ✧ Use your Advent wreath every day, but after dinner so you are not rushed. Each person in the family can take a turn lighting the candle and saying a prayer.
- ✧ Do someone else's chores for a day without telling them
- ✧ Watch a Christmas movie about Jesus.
- ✧ Give out candy canes when you go shopping.
- ✧ Attach a thank-you note to a water bottle for delivery drivers.
- ✧ Make a list of all things you are thankful to God for.

FOR FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

- ✧ Read a Christmas storybook together by the light of the Christmas tree.
- ✧ Move the figures of Mary and Joseph closer to the Nativity scene every day during Advent.
- ✧ Use pink and purple paper to make a paper chain that shows children how many more days until Christmas. Remove one link from the chain each day.
- ✧ For each good deed or selfless act, put straw or crinkly paper in the manger to get ready to welcome Jesus.
- ✧ Read Luke 2 or Matthew 1; draw a picture of a Nativity scene.
- ✧ Make a good deed paper chain decoration. Every time someone does something kind, write it on a strip of construction paper and add it to the chain. Use Advent or Christmas colors.
- ✧ Pray one decade of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, the Annunciation for pregnant women; or the Birth of Jesus for those giving birth that day.
- ✧ Make a card for Mary and Joseph congratulating them on their new baby.
- ✧ Decorate stars and put them in your windows.
- ✧ Make paper plate angels.
- ✧ Draw a picture for Jesus.
- ✧ Make a paper crown to remember that the Three Kings came to honor Jesus.
- ✧ Make a lamb or shepherd's crook in honor of the shepherds who came to visit Jesus.

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FOR FAMILIES WITH TWEENS/TEENS

- ✧ Fill a shopping bag with nonperishable grocery items and deliver to a food pantry.
- ✧ As you light the Advent candles each night, sing a verse of an Advent hymn.
- ✧ Make prayer ornaments for your Christmas tree with the names of people you'd like to pray for during this season.
- ✧ When you set up your Nativity, learn about how St. Francis started this tradition.
- ✧ Pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary with intentions for women who are pregnant.
- ✧ Read one chapter of the Gospel of Luke each day.
- ✧ Eat dinner by candlelight.
- ✧ Make a Christ candle for the center of your Advent wreath and light all the candles on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day when you enjoy your family meal.
- ✧ Write a letter to Jesus.
- ✧ Send Christmas cards to people who will be alone at Christmas.

FOR EMPTY NESTERS

- ✧ Pray Night Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours together during Advent.
- ✧ Send a Christmas thank-you card to your pastor and parish staff, with a personal note of thanksgiving for their service to your parish community.
- ✧ Purchase a toy or gift card for children in need.

