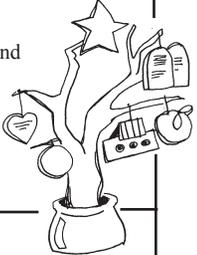




# Family Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>December 1</p>  <p>Mt 24:37-44</p> <p>Make and bless an Advent wreath. Light the first purple candle each night this week.</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Set up your Nativity scene, but leave out the Holy Family.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Read together about Elizabeth and Zechariah's special blessing in Luke 1:5-25.</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Make Christmas cards and bring them to a nearby hospice or nursing home to cheer the residents.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Together, write your Christmas cards. Let older kids address the envelopes and younger ones seal them.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Clean out your closets of unwanted clothes or toys in good condition. Donate them to a shelter or other charity.</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>Ask a family member you have hurt in the past year for forgiveness. Offer it to one who has hurt you.</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>Mt 3:1-12</p> <p>Light two purple candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>In honor of Mary's Immaculate Conception, attend Mass and pray a family Rosary tonight.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Read about the angel's remarkable visit to Mary in Luke 1:26-38. Talk about ways we can also say, "yes," to God.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Send Christmas cards to your pastor, priests, and religious or ordained ministers who are important to your family.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Set out a rose tonight in honor of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>Cut and paste pictures you receive into ornaments for your tree.</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>Put up and decorate your family Christmas tree.</p> 
<p>15</p>  <p>Mt 11:2-11</p> <p>Light two purple candles and the pink one for joy. See which of you can sing loudest at Mass today.</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Pick a Christmas card you've received this week and pray for the person who sent it.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Set the Mary and Joseph figures of your Nativity set across the room from the rest of the scene.</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>Write letters to Baby Jesus telling him that you look forward to his coming.</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>Put a lamp or electric candle in a window to welcome the Christ child. Light it each night until Christmas Day.</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>Gather some friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling.</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>Attend Confession as a family and go out for a treat afterward to celebrate forgiveness!</p>
<p>22</p>  <p>Mt 1:18-24</p> <p>Light all four candles in the wreath tonight. Read today's Gospel reading, Matthew 1:18-24.</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>Decorate a "Jesus Candle" with symbols of Jesus. Light it during Christmas dinner.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Place Mary and Joseph in the Nativity scene. Add grass or straw to the manger to get it ready.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Put the Baby in the manger and read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20.</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Take a drive or walk around your home to look at the Christmas decorations or displays.</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>Family Movie Night: Make some popcorn and watch a Christmas movie together.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Give each family member a chance to say "thank you" for a blessing God has given this year.</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>Celebrate the feast of the Holy Family by gathering for a special family meal today.</p>	<p>30</p>  <p>Send a thank-you note to the priests or other parish ministers who enriched your seasonal celebration.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Resolve to pray as a family for at least 15 minutes every night during the coming year.</p>	<p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Luke 2:1-7).</i></p> 			