

















advent–epiphany  
 journey joyfully

november–december

<p><b>NOVEMBER</b> 29</p> <p><b>First Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>          Isaiah 63:16–17, 19, 64:2–7          Psalm 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19          1 Corinthians 1:3–9          Mark 13:33–37</p> 	<p>30</p> <p><b>Feast of Saint Andrew</b></p>	<p><b>DECEMBER</b> 1</p> <p>In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus said to "watch" and "be ready." Create a special space in your home to welcome the Advent season.</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Make plans for your family to receive the Sacrament of Penance this Advent.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p><b>Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier</b></p> <p>Saint Francis Xavier was a cofounder of the Society of Jesus (also known as the Jesuits). Spend some time today praying the <i>Examen</i>, a popular Jesuit form of prayer.</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>In today's Gospel, Jesus helps the blind men. Spend some time thinking about how you can help people in your community this Advent.</p> 	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p><b>Second Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>          Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11          Psalm 85:9–14          2 Peter 3:8–14          Mark 1:1–8</p> <p><b>Feast of Saint Nicholas</b></p> 	<p>7</p> <p><b>Memorial of Saint Ambrose</b></p> <p>In Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist preaches on Baptism and repentance. Pray together the Act of Contrition.</p> 	<p>8</p> <p><b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b></p> <p>Today we celebrate Mary having been born without sin. Pray the Rosary, focusing on the joyful mystery of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38).</p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Read Psalm 85:9–14 as a family. Find or draw a picture of God's Kingdom to display in your Advent space. Share what you can do this Advent to bring forth God's Kingdom.</p> 	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</b></p> <p>Many migrants look to Our Lady of Guadalupe as a source of strength and intercession. Take some time today to pray for migrants around the world.</p> 
<p>13</p> <p><b>Third Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>          Isaiah 61:1–2, 10–11          Luke 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54          1 Thessalonians 5:16–24          John 1:6–8, 19–28</p> 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Identify who is in need within your community and ways your family can provide for those in need. Take some time today to reflect on today's Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 34.</p> 	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Today begins the traditional "O Antiphons" of Advent. Each antiphon is a name of Christ, as mentioned in the Scriptures. Research them, find them on YouTube, and pray with them!</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>This weekend, make a plan as a family to perform an important work of mercy by sending Christmas cards to those who are imprisoned.</p> 



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december–january

<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p><b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>        2 Samuel 7:1-5,        8-12, 14, 16        Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29        Romans 16:25-27        Luke 1:26-38</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>Reflect on Sunday's Gospel. How is God calling you to say yes to his call? See ideas below.</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p><b>Christmas Eve</b></p> <p>Talk about the contrast of light and dark, and the difference the Light of Christ makes in the world. End the day in prayer, around the lighted Christmas tree or candles.</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p><b>Christmas Day</b></p> <p>Jesus is born! What gifts has God given you? Like the little drummer boy, what gift can you offer Jesus, this week? Be sure to thank God today!</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p><b>Feast of Saint Stephen</b></p> <p>As we remember Saint Stephen, the first martyr, take some time to pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p><b>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>        Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14        Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5        Colossians 3:12-21        Luke 2:22-40</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p><b>Feast of the Holy Innocents</b></p> <p>Remembering the Holy Innocents, pray with your family for other families with young children in your community.</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>To prepare for the Epiphany, stand and pray under the stars. Talk about the trust it must have taken to follow the star over Bethlehem, and what it's like to search for God and find him!</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p><b>New Year's Eve</b></p> <p>How will you begin this new year? See ideas below.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p><b>JANUARY</b>  <b>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</b></p> <p>Read and reflect on today's Gospel, Luke 2:16-21, and think about the experiences that you hold in your heart. Pray the Hail Mary as a family.</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p><b>Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen</b></p> <p>Saint Basil the Great was dedicated to helping the poor. Find a way to donate goods or your time to a local food shelter.</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><b>Epiphany of the Lord</b></p> <p><b>Readings:</b>        Isaiah 60:1-6        Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13        Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6        Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p><b>Embrace Advent, the beginning of your journey this year!        Share with others the Light of Christ in you!</b></p> <p><b>Ideas to begin the New Year</b></p> <p>Write to, call, or email a lonely relative weekly • Make peace with someone in your life • Spend some time with someone who needs a friend • Set aside more time each day for prayer and reflection • Read the Bible as a family</p>					