



Advent 2024

Liturgical Living

Helping Families Live Out the Faith at Home

What is Advent?

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas (USCCB).



Make an Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is a reminder to us that Jesus, the Light of the World, is coming. Each Sunday of Advent, we light one of the candles on the Advent wreath symbolizing Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, and a 5th white candle is lit on Christmas to represent the birth of Jesus.

1. To make your Advent wreath, remove the air dry clay from the pouch and mold it into a circle. You can add decorative designs by carving with a pencil or by placing beads or glitter.
2. Place your large white tea light candle in the middle of your ring and the 3 purple and 1 pink candles around the wreath.
3. Leave to dry overnight. As a family pray the blessing of an Advent wreath, then light your Advent wreath each Sunday in the order purple, purple, pink, purple, and the white candle on Christmas!

**Blessing of Advent Wreath
from the United States
Conference of Catholic Bishops**



Dec 6: St. Nicholas Day

St. Nicholas was a Bishop who was incredibly generous to the poor. There was a poor man with 3 daughters who didn't have any money for their dowries (to get married). For 3 nights in a row, St. Nicholas visited their house, leaving a bag of gold coins so that each of the daughters could get married. They were so grateful to St. Nicholas. Each year on Dec. 6, Catholics leave their shoes out in hopes that St. Nicholas will visit and leave them goodies!

To celebrate the feast: Choose something your family can do to care for the less fortunate this holiday season.

- St. Basil Giving Tree- Pick out a gift for a child in need!
- Sandwich Saturday 12/14 at 9:00 am in the Parish Center- Bring peanut butter and jelly and help make sandwiches.
- Food pantry- We collect food the last Sunday of the month for the St. Catherine Food Pantry. This month's collection is on Dec. 29.

Dec 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego asking for a Church to be built in her honor, but the Bishop wanted proof that it was really Mary. She appeared again and told him to pick roses to show the bishop, but it was winter when roses would not grow!

Juan Diego filled up his cloak, or tilma, with the roses and when he showed the bishop, the image of Mary appeared on his tilma!



Mexican Hot Chocolate

- 3/4 cup chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 cups milk
- Dash of vanilla extract
- Pinch of chili powder or cayenne (optional)
- Whipped cream (optional for topping)

Add ingredients to a saucepan and stir constantly over medium heat until the chocolate is melted and well combined and the milk is warmed through. Be careful not to boil. Top with whipped cream and extra dash of cinnamon. *To make an easier version- add a dash of cinnamon to a packet of hot chocolate!*

For little ones: Play "Pray & Learn with Our Lady of Guadalupe | Our Lady of Guadalupe Story for Kids" from The Little Rose Shop on YouTube

Dec 13: St. Lucy

Lucy was a young girl who brought food to the persecuted Christians hiding in the catacombs in Rome during the persecution of Diocletian. To be able to carry the food and see in the dark, she wore candles on her head. Today, it is a Swedish tradition that the oldest daughter in the family wears a white dress and red sash, and a crown of candles and greenery to bring Lucia Buns, traditionally made with saffron, to her family.

There are many ways to live liturgically and honor these traditions. An easy way would be to celebrate is with store bought cinnamon rolls, or you can try these homemade cinnamon rolls!

St. Lucy Cinnamon Rolls

Dough

- 1 packet yeast
- 1 cup lukewarm milk
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ⅓ cup softened butter
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 4 cups all-purpose flour

Filling

- 1 cup brown sugar (packed)
- 3 tablespoons cinnamon (ground)
- ½ cup butter

Cream Cheese Icing

- 1 stick softened butter
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1 block softened cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Pinch salt

Scan the QR Code for the full recipe!



St. Lucy Crown

Make a crown just like St. Lucy! Scan the QR Code to get access to the free St. Lucy crown template!



Materials needed: Coloring supplies, tape, printed crown template



Dec 17-23: O Antiphons

The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.



O Antiphon Ornaments

Throughout the Season of Advent, invite your kids to color the O Antiphon ornaments. Cut them out and add a ribbon to create an ornament.

Starting on December 17, hang one ornament on the tree each day, and as a family pray the O

Antiphon for the day together. There is one extra ornament that kids can decorate with a Nativity scene and place on the tree December 24! This is a beautiful and simple way to pray with the coming of Jesus as a family!

*Materials needed:
Coloring supplies,
ribbon or string,
scissors, and printed
ornament template*

**Scan the QR Code to
download the free O
Antiphon Ornaments
template!**



We would love to see pictures of your family Living Liturgically this Advent! Please share them with us on Facebook and Instagram @stbasilthegr8!

