



# WELLSHIRE FAMILIES



## PRAYER

There are many ways to pray:

- listening and waiting for God,
- remembering God's gracious acts,
- crying out to God for help, or
- offering oneself to God.

Prayers may be spoken, silent, sung, or enacted in physical ways.

Pray the following and add actions as you pray.

Loving God, open our hands to receive the gifts You have in store for us this year. Give us time to be, to reflect, to learn and grow. Give us time to love our neighbors, to seek justice and mercy and time to draw close to our Holy God. Amen

## FAITH CONVERSATION

Family faith is formed in everyday life. How is your family already, or how can your family, weave faith-shaping practices intentionally and seamlessly into the rhythms of your daily living?

- When can we pray each day?
- When can we listen for God each day?
- Where do we see Jesus in the activities our family is already doing?

## DID YOU KNOW?

Epiphany, on January 6, is the official end of the 12 days of Christmas. Many Christians celebrate this day by remembering the journey of the Magi. The Magi found their way to Jesus by following a bright heavenly body, usually represented by a star. On Sunday, January 5, we observe Epiphany at Wellshire and each receive a star word to guide our year.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 5	Star Sunday / Epiphany observed
January 12	Baptism of the Lord Sunday school resumes
January 19	Club 45 (4:00– 5:00 pm)
January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

## FAMILY/PARENTING RESOURCES, TOPIC: BAPTISM

On January 12 we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. In his own baptism, Jesus identified himself with sinners—yet God claimed him as a beloved Son, and sent the Holy Spirit to anoint him for service.

### WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is the sign and seal of our adoption into Jesus Christ. As Paul wrote, through the gift of Baptism we are “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (Romans 6:11).

### WHY DO WE GET BAPTIZED?

Baptism is the bond of unity in Jesus Christ. When we are baptized, we are made one with Christ, with one another, and with the Church. When baptized, we are responding to God’s redeeming grace offered to all people.

### WHO CAN BE BAPTIZED?

God’s redeeming grace is offered to all people. Both believers and their children are included in God’s covenant of love. The baptism of our young children witnesses to the truth that God claims people in love even before they are able to respond in faith.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

In January, children will wonder at the baptism of Jesus, recognize that Jesus faced difficult choices and rejected temptation. They will then begin to learn about Jesus’ teachings with the beatitudes.

## NOTE TO PARENTS

*Nurturing faith in children in today’s fast-paced and overscheduled world is a daunting proposition. Please know you are doing a great job—you’ve got this! We are here to help you: resources, educational opportunities and community—please let me know how we can equip you for nurturing faith at home.*

*Kendal*

## CONTACT INFO

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## FAITH CONVERSATION CHALLENGE



By checking the box for the month, track below that you have completed your monthly faith conversation and bring your completed page to Kendal in May for a prize for your family. (It is not too late to claim your December prize.)

### JANUARY—MAY 2020 FAITH CONVERSATIONS

January—Family faith practices

February

March

April

May

FAMILY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### SEPTEMBER—DECEMBER 2019 FAITH CONVERSATIONS

September—Love

October—Meals

November—Gratitude

December—Advent

FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_