THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you."

Luke 1:28

Mary was chosen by God from the first moment of her life.

WALK WITH MARY THROUGH DECEMBER

Immaculate Conception & Our Lady of Guadalupe



MARY, CHOSEN BY GOD

December Packet Theme Statement

During Advent, Mary teaches us to prepare our hearts for Jesus. Through the examples of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe, we learn to live with purity, faith, and trust in God's plan.

🌹 ❄️ ⭐ **Walking With Mary: Growing in Purity** ⭐ ❄️ 🌹

This gives December a strong Advent focus while beautifully connecting the two major Marian feasts of the month, the virtue of **Purity**, and the prayer focus of the **Memorare**. It also sets up wonderful opportunities for lessons on Saint Juan Diego, the tilma, Marian symbols, and preparing our hearts for Christmas.

Featured Feasts

December 8

The Immaculate Conception

The Church celebrates that Mary was preserved from Original Sin from the moment of her conception and prepared by God to be the Mother of Jesus.

December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mary appeared to Saint Juan Diego in Mexico in 1531, bringing a message of faith, hope, and love for all people.

Marian Virtue—Purity

Purity means loving God with a clean heart, making good choices, and seeking what is true, good, and beautiful.

Monthly Virtue Focus

Students will learn how Mary:

- listened to God
- trusted God completely
- remained faithful to God's plan
- teaches us to live with pure hearts

Prayer Focus--Memorare

TEACHER OVERVIEW

Objectives

Students will:

✓ Learn about the Immaculate Conception
✓ Learn about Our Lady of Guadalupe
✓ Practice the virtue of purity
✓ Reflect on Mary's "yes" to God
✓ Pray the Memorare

Essential Question

How can we follow Mary's example of saying "yes" to God?

Key Vocabulary

- Immaculate Conception
- Guadalupe
- Grace
- Juan Diego
- Purity
- Virtue

Preparing for Christmas

When Christmas is coming, we prepare. We decorate.
We give gifts. We spend time with family.
Most importantly, we prepare our hearts for Jesus.
Mary helps us get ready for Jesus.

K-2 LESSON

Mary Was Prepared by God

The Immaculate Conception https://youtu.be/RdMjQssEw3A?si=_cMUkkQFo-6TZZ55

God chose Mary to be the Mother of Jesus.

Mary loved God with her whole heart.

When the angel Gabriel brought God's message, Mary trusted God and said “yes.”

Because of Mary's faith, Jesus came into the world for us.

Discuss Together

1. Who was chosen to be Jesus' mother?
2. Did Mary trust God?
3. How can we trust God?
4. What is a virtue?

Note for teacher: There is a difference between virtues and rules, Rules are established by others-- parents, teachers, the church, the government. Virtues come from within. That’s when a child does what is right, without anyone else telling them because it feels right to the child.

Prayer to Mary: (simplified *Memorare* for younger children)

Mary, we know that you always want to help those who pray to you. Please hear our prayers and take our needs to your Son, Jesus.

Mary Says “Yes”

Name: _____

Check Ways You Can Say “Yes” to God

☐ Pray

☐ Being unkind

☐ Help Others

☐ Listen

☐ Waste food

☐ Try hard

☐ Tell a lie

☐ Share

☐ Be Kind

☐ Tell the truth

☐ Go to Mass

☐ Being unkind

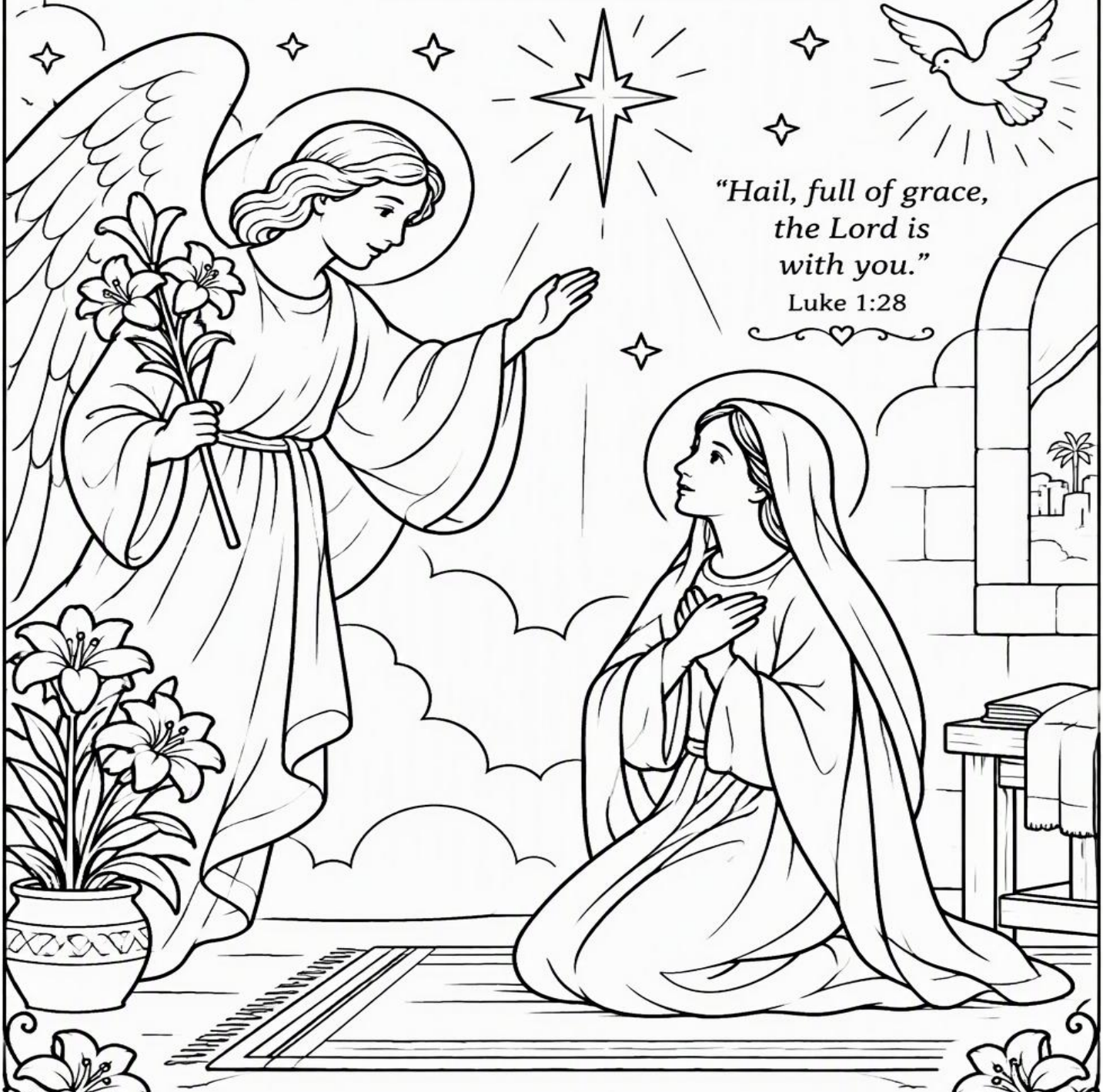
☐ Refusing to help

Draw a Picture

Draw yourself doing something kind for another person.

MARY SAYS YES TO GOD

Name: _____



"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you."
Luke 1:28

"Let it be done to me according to your word."
Luke 1:38

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Many years ago in Mexico, Mary appeared to a man named Juan Diego.

Mary spoke kindly to him and asked him to share her message.

To help people believe, beautiful roses appeared and an image of Mary appeared on Juan Diego's tilma. Today people around the world honor Mary as:

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe video
https://youtu.be/u2K6RAY10A?si=j_f8vaxZOkif7Zc9

Teacher Extension Activities

Art Activity

Rose Bouquet for Mary

Students color and cut out paper roses.

Each rose contains one way they can prepare for Jesus.

Dramatic Play

Act out:

- Mary's Yes at the Annunciation
- Juan Diego meeting Mary
- Bringing roses to the bishop

Music Connection

Teach:

"Immaculate Mary" or **"Sing of Mary"**

GRADES 3-5 LESSON

The Immaculate Conception

The Immaculate Conception refers to Mary being preserved from original sin from the first moment of her life.

God prepared Mary for her special role as the Mother of Jesus.

Mary's life reminds us that God prepares each person for a special mission just for them.



Reflection

- How does God prepare people for important missions?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

- Why is it important to pray to Mary?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

GRADES 3-5 ACTIVITY

Mary's Virtues

Name:_____

___

Match the Virtue to the Action.

Purity _____

Faith _____

Obedience _____

Love _____

Actions:

A. Trusting God

B. Helping Others

C. Following God's Will

D. Choosing What Is Good

My Response

How can I imitate Mary's virtues this week?

How can I imitate Mary's virtues this week?

Growing in Purity

Purity means loving God with your whole heart.

Put a check beside actions that show purity.

☐ Telling the truth

☐ Being kind

☐ Helping others

☐ Praying daily

☐ Gossiping

☐ Being selfish

☐ Respecting others

☐ Trusting God

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Our Lady of Guadalupe

In 1531 Mary appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico. Mary asked that a church be built.
As a sign, beautiful roses appeared in winter. When Juan Diego opened his tilma, Mary's image appeared on it. Millions of people came to know Jesus through this message.

Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
Immaculate Conception	Mary's special grace from the beginning of her life
Guadalupe	A title of Mary based on the location in Mexico where she appeared to Juan Diego
Purity	Loving God with a clean heart
Advent	The season of preparing for Jesus' coming.
Tilma	The cloak worn by Juan Diego
Trust	Believing in God's plan

Scripture Reflection

Read Luke 1:38. "May it be done to me according to your word."

GUADALUPE ACTIVITY

Name: _____

Answer the Questions

1. Who did Mary appear to?

_____

2. What flowers appeared?

_____

3. What image appeared on the tilma?

_____

Think About It

Why do you think Mary appeared to Juan Diego?

_____

_____

_____

Draw the Tilma of Juan Diego

Closing Prayer Mary, Immaculate Mother, Help me follow your example. Teach me to trust God, serve others, and prepare a place for Jesus in my heart. Amen.

SAINT JUAN DIEGO WORKSHEET

Messenger of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Name: _____Date: _____

WHO WAS SAINT JUAN DIEGO?

Juan Diego was:

☐ A king ☐ A bishop ☐ A humble farmer ☐ A soldier

THE STORY OF GUADALUPE

Fill in the blanks.

Mary appeared to _____. The apparition took place in _____.

Mary asked that a _____ be built. Roses appeared even though it was _____. An image of Mary appeared on Juan Diego's _____.

WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM JUAN DIEGO?

Juan Diego showed:

☐ Humility ☐ Faith ☐ Obedience ☐ Trust ☐ Courage

Why are these virtues important?

REFLECTION

If Mary asked you to share a message about Jesus, what would you tell others?

Prayer

Saint Juan Diego, help me trust God, listen to Mary, and share God's love with others.Amen.

Advent Heart Activity

Next to each heart, write one way you can prepare for Jesus.

❤️ Pray_____

❤️ Help_____

❤️ Share_____

❤️ Forgive_____

❤️ Listen_____

Personal Reflection

This Advent, I can prepare my heart for Jesus by:

The virtue I want to grow in is:

---

because

Symbols of Mary

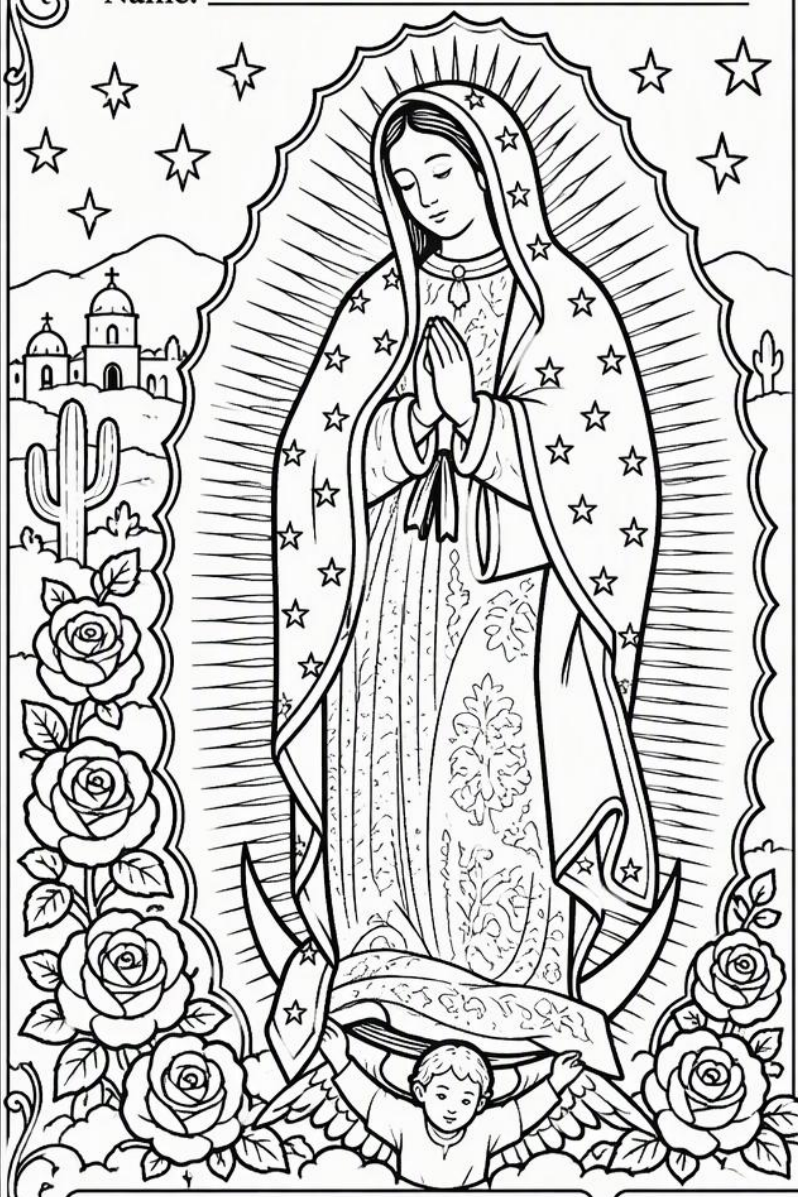
Match the symbol to its meaning.

White Lily _____	A. Mary's love for God
Rose _____	B. Purity
Star _____	C. Mary leads us to Jesus
Heart _____	D. Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe Symbol Hunt

Color the symbols and discover what they teach us about Mary.

Name: _____



Find and color each symbol in the picture.

☐ 

Roses
A sign of God's love and a special message to Juan Diego.

☐ 

Stars
The stars on Mary's mantle show her as the Mother of Heaven.

☐ 

Angel
The angel supports Mary and reminds us that she is close to heaven.

☐ 

Crescent Moon
The moon shows that Mary is greater than the world.

☐ 

Golden Rays
The rays show Mary's glory and the light of Jesus.

☐ 

Blue Mantle
The blue mantle shows that Mary is our Mother and protects us.

What is your favorite symbol? Why?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Draw your favorite Guadalupe symbol.

"Am I not here, I who are your mother?"
Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12

GRADES 6-8 LESSON

Understanding the Immaculate Conception

What Does the Immaculate Conception Mean?

The Immaculate Conception teaches that Mary was preserved by God's grace from Original Sin from the moment of her conception. This teaching is about Mary, not the conception of Jesus.God prepared Mary for her special mission of becoming the Mother of Christ.

Marian Virtue: Purity

Essential Question: Why was Mary uniquely prepared to become the Mother of Jesus?

Scripture Connections

Luke 1:28--"Hail, full of grace."

Luke 1:38--"May it be done to me according to your word."

Why Is This Important?

Mary's life shows:

- Trust in God
- Complete openness to God's will
- Faithfulness
- Purity of heart

She serves as a model for every Christian disciple.

The Church teaches that Mary was preserved from original sin through a special grace from God.
This grace prepared Mary for her role in salvation history.

The doctrine reminds us that God takes the initiative and invites our response.

Discussion How are grace and free will connected?

GRADES 6–8 WORKSHEET

Name: _____Date: _____

GRADES 6-8 REFLECTION

Name: _____

1. Why is the Immaculate Conception important?

2. How does Mary model discipleship?

3. Which Marian virtue is most needed today?

VOCABULARY

Match each term.

Immaculate Conception	A. God's life within us
Purity	B. Loving God with a clean heart
Guadalupe	C. Juan Diego's cloak
Tilma	D. Mary's special privilege
Grace	E. Title of Mary

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Read Luke 1:38. What does Mary's response teach us about faith?

SHORT RESPONSE

Why was Mary uniquely prepared for her mission?

THINKING DEEPER

How does modern culture sometimes challenge purity?

How can young Catholics respond?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

One area where I can say "yes" to God is:

MARY'S "YES" AND MY "YES"
Reflection Activity

Name: _____

MARY'S YES

Read Luke 1:26–38. Mary trusted God even when she did not know exactly what would happen. She responded: "*May it be done to me according to your word.*"

COMPARE

Mary's Yes	My Yes
Trusted God	
Showed Courage	
Accepted God's Plan	
Served Others	

THINK ABOUT IT

Have you ever had to trust God during a difficult situation? Describe what happened.

JOURNAL RESPONSE

How can Mary's example help you make good decisions?

Prayer

Mary, help me say "yes" to God, even when His plans seem difficult. Teach me courage, faith, and trust.

Advent Enrichment Activity

PREPARING A PLACE FOR JESUS

Advent With Mary

Name _____Date _____

Advent Journey

Mary prepared her heart for Jesus. During Advent, we prepare our hearts too.

Week 1: HOPE

My prayer goal:_____

My act of kindness:_____

Week 2: PEACE

My prayer goal:_____

My act of kindness:_____

Week 3: JOY

My prayer goal:_____

My act of kindness: _____

Week 4: LOVE

My prayer goal:_____

My act of kindness:_____

Reflection

Which Advent week speaks most to your heart?

Why? _____

Prayer

Mary, help me prepare a place for Jesus in my heart. Teach me to grow in hope, peace, joy, and love. Amen.

Geography Connection

PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO

Following the Footsteps of Juan Diego

Name _____Date _____

Map Activity

Locate and highlight

☐ Mexico

☐ Mexico City

☐ Tepeyac Hill

☐ United States

☐ Gulf of Mexico



Why Do People Go on Pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a special journey to a holy place. People visit shrines to:

- Pray
- Learn about their faith
- Grow closer to God
- Ask for Mary's prayers

Pilgrim Reflection

If you could visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, what would you pray for?

_____

_____

_____

Travel Journal

Imagine you visited Tepeyac Hill. Write a short journal entry.

Cultural Appreciation Activity

CELEBRATING OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Feast Day Traditions

Catholics celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe with:

☐ Prayer

☐ Music

☐ Processions

☐ Flowers

☐ Mass

Compare and Contrast

Immaculate Conception

- _____
- _____

Our Lady of Guadalupe

- _____
- _____

Both

- _____
- _____

Symbol Search

Match the symbol to Guadalupe.

Symbol	Meaning
1. Rose	_____ Mary's motherhood
2. Stars	_____ Miracle sign
3. Tilma	_____ Juan Diego's cloak
4. Black Ribbon	_____ Queenly dignity

Reflection

Why do people throughout the Americas love Our Lady of Guadalupe?

SAINT FOCUS

Saint Juan Diego

Who Was He?

- Humble farmer
- Faithful disciple
- Witness to Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Messenger of Mary's love

Reflection

How can God use ordinary people in extraordinary ways?

FAMILY FAITH PAGE

Advent With Mary

Family Discussion

What gift can our family offer Jesus this Christmas?

Family Advent Challenge

Complete as many as possible before Christmas.

☐ Pray the Memorare

☐ Attend Mass together

☐ Read Luke 1:26–38

☐ Light Advent candles

☐ Learn about Juan Diego

☐ Practice a hidden act of kindness

☐ Pray for someone in need

☐ Thank God for your blessings

Family Reflection

How is our family preparing for Jesus?

Our Family Advent Promise

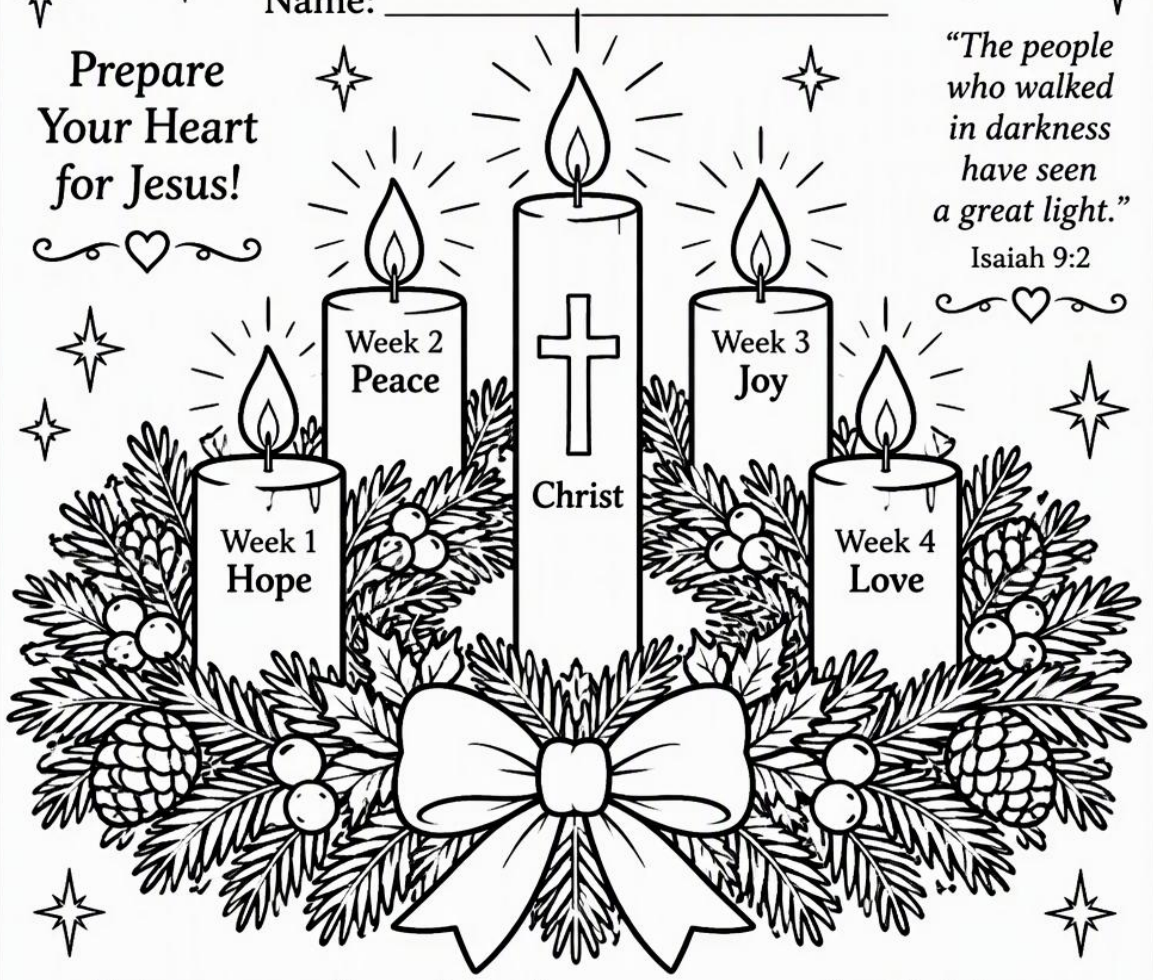
This month we will:

ADVENT WREATH
PRAYER ACTIVITY

Name: _____

Prepare Your Heart for Jesus!

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."
Isaiah 9:2



Color one candle each week as you prepare for Christmas.
Pray together as a family!

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Hope	**Peace**	**Joy**	**Love**
Lord, help us to wait for You with hope.	Lord, help us to be peacemakers in our homes and in the world.	Lord, fill our hearts with joy as we prepare for Your coming.	Lord, help us to show Your love to everyone.

"Let us walk in the light of the Lord!"
Isaiah 2:5

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



"Am I not here, I who am your mother?"

December 12

Mary's message of faith, hope, and love continues to inspire people throughout the world.

Siempre Juntos en la Fe (Always Together in Faith)

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
Ruega por Nosotros