

Advent & Christmas Calendar 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Hope Light the first candle on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly prayer	Motivation Monday: Bake cookies, but you have to wait until after dinner to eat them.	Tell the story: Read Mark 13:24–37. Talk about what stands out to you. Pray the weekly prayer together.	Ways to be kind: Make a Thank You sign for the mail carriers and delivery drivers.	Dinner Discussions: Name 3 things you hope will happen in the next year!	Grateful Friday: Make a present or card for a teacher and thank them for all they have done to help you this year.	Donate Saturday: Deliver candy-canes to neighbors anonymously. (In honor of St. Nicholas)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Peace: St. Nicholas Day Light two candles on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly prayer	Motivation Monday: Go on a walk with your family. Take a breath and enjoy the peace of nature.	Tell the story: Read Mark 1:1-8. Talk about what stands out to you. Pray the weekly prayer together	Ways to be kind: Only use kind words with others today.	Dinner Discussion: Have you ever had to forgive someone? Was it difficult to do?	Reflect on what it means to live in peace with others. How can you participate in that today?	Donate Saturday: Donate gently used clothes and toys to a charity in town.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Joy: Light three candles on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly prayer	Motivation Monday: Have a family game night. If game nights aren't your thing, watch a movie together.	Tell the story: Read Luke 1:46-55. Talk about what stands out to you. Pray the weekly prayer together.	Ways to be kind: Call a family member or friend who lives far away to check on them.	Dinner Discussion: Talk about what makes you happy! Bonus if you share happy/funny memories and laugh together.	Grateful Friday: Write a note or draw a picture for an adult in your life and thank them for all they do for you!	Donate Saturday: Call a food pantry and ask what they need donated for the holidays.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Love: Light four candles on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly prayer	Motivation Monday: Go for a drive in your pajamas to look at Christmas lights.	Tell the story: Read Luke 1:26-38. Talk about what stands out to you. Pray the weekly prayer together.	Ways to be kind: Do the dishes or another chore without being asked.	Dinner Discussion: Name one (or more) thing you love about each person in your family!	Christmas Day Read Luke 2:1-14 and light the Christ candle. Add Jesus to the nativity	2nd day of Christmas Watch your favorite Christmas Movie. Move the Wisemen on their journey to Jesus
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3rd day of Christmas Build a fort in the living room, drink hot chocolate and read Luke 2:22-40.	4th day of Christmas Move the three Wisemen closer to the manger scene.	5th day of Christmas FaceTime or Video-call family/friends you couldn't see this Christmas	6th day of Christmas Have a dance party in the kitchen to your favorite Christmas music!	7th day of Christmas Look at all your Christmas cards and pray for who sent them.	8th day of Christmas Time to move those Wisemen again!	9th day of Christmas Use only Christmas mugs for all your drinks for the entire day.
3	4	5	6			
10th day of Christmas Rock an Ugly Christmas Sweater all day. Read John 1:1-18	11th day of Christmas Talk about things that made you grateful in 2020. Thank God for them.	12th day of Christmas Sing the 12 days of Christmas. Bonus if you know all the words!	Epiphany Bring the Wisemen to the manger. Go stargazing as a family			

What is Advent?

Advent is a strange word, because it comes from a different language. Advent means coming. During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but we also check in to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again.

Weekly Family Prayers

Week One	Week Two	Week Three	Week Four
<p>God of Hope,</p> <p>Sometimes we feel afraid.</p> <p>When fear grows inside us, help us hold hope because we know how much you love us.</p> <p>Help us be brave and share your messages of hope with our friends and neighbors.</p> <p>Amen.</p>	<p>Dear God,</p> <p>Thank you for giving us the language of music.</p> <p>Give us peace and remind us we are not alone.</p> <p>We pray for peace in our home, in our community, and in our world. Help us to be peacemakers, singing a song of peace to the world.</p> <p>Amen.</p>	<p>God of great joy,</p> <p>When fear becomes too loud inside our head, help us to open our hearts and feel your presence with us.</p> <p>We feel great joy when we see you with us.</p> <p>Amen.</p>	<p>Loving God,</p> <p>Thank you for loving each one of us, no matter what. Choosing love is hard, especially when we are anxious or frustrated.</p> <p>Give us the courage to open our hearts and choose love even when it is not easy.</p> <p>Amen.</p>