

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 collect	Listen to "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Meredith Andrews	Pray the weekly collect and for all those who hope to get well during the pandemic.	Only use kind words with your family and friends.	Make an instagram post with 3 things you hope to happen in the next year. Tag stmaa_youth	Write a note to an adult in your life and thank them for all that they do for you.	Deliver candy-canies 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 collect	Listen to "Your Peace Will Make Us One" by Audrey Assad	Pray the weekly collect. Imagine what it looks like for the world to be filled with peace.	Call a family member or friend who is struggling to check on them.	Think of someone who is difficult to like. Pray for them and ask God to help you love them.	Reflect on what it means to live in peace with others. How can you participate in that today?	Call a food pantry and donate the food they need for Christmas.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Joy: Light three candles on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly collect	Listen to "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" by Lauren Dangle	Pray the weekly collect and thank God for all the things that give you joy	Plan a family game night and enjoy time with people who love you. (Invite extended family/friends on Zoom)	Create an ornament that represents something that brings you joy.	Make a present or card for a teacher and thank them for all they have done to help you this semester.	Donate gently used clothes and toys to a charity in town.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Love: Light four candles on your advent wreath. Pray the weekly collect	Listen to "You are Love and Love Alone" by All Sons and Daughters	Pray the weekly collect and remember how deeply you are loved by God	Do the dishes or another chore without being asked	Bake cookies while having a dance party to your favorite Christmas Music.	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 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 who live far away	6th day of Christmas Create a tik-tok/instagram reel about Christmas	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 Play a board game as a family!
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?

Though Advent appears at the end of our calendar year, it is the beginning of the Christian year. The deep darkness of the natural world around us is an echo of the nurturing darkness of the dawning of Creation. It is in this holy space we begin re-telling our Sacred Stories. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means "coming" or "arrival." During Advent we prepare and wait for the coming of Christ at Christmas and for Jesus to return and make all things new!

Weekly Collects

Week One	Week Two	Week 3	Week 4
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.	Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.