



St. Joseph Church Advent Calendar 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 New Liturgical Year Begins</p> <p>Begin Advent with a feeling of HOPE for the journey ahead. Begin a journal of your reflections and record your thoughts. Take time to reflect how you can prepare spiritually for Christmas this year. Read Eph 1: 3-10</p>	<p>3 St. Francis Xavier</p> <p>St. Francis Xavier said "the impressions of childhood are never obliterated." Today find simple beauty in everyday events and within yourself and others. Be a friend to someone who may need it most. Read Is 1:16-17</p>	<p>4 St. John Damascene</p> <p>Operate with patience as we wait for the birth of the Christ child. When circumstances cause you to wait today, try to do so with patience, turning it into an opportunity for prayer and reflection. Read James 5: 7-8</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Reflect on those things help to ignite your faith. Journalize those times when the path seemed unclear, but ultimately God helped you find your way. Read John 6: 67-69</p>	<p>6 St. Nicholas</p> <p>St. Nicholas was known for his charitable giving. Today look deeper at how you approach material goods and find ways to extend sharing to those in real need. Perhaps a contribution to the SVDP would be a lovely gesture. Read 2 Cor 9:6-8</p>	<p>7 St. Ambrose</p> <p>St. Ambrose had a great love for the poor. He also authored many writings and hymns. Like Father Rivers, he expressed his faith in beautiful music. Today sing a song of faith for Advent Sing <i>O Come O Come Emmanuel</i></p>	<p>8 Solemnity: Immaculate Conception</p> <p>The Advent Liturgy puts great emphasis on Mary, as the model of humility, faithfulness, love, and hope. Today, tell someone, who you believe emulates her qualities, how wonderful he/she is. Read Luke 1:46-55</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Begin the second week of Advent with a feeling of LOVE as we gather as a community to celebrate the season. Pray for and contribute to the retired religious today as an expression of your gratitude for their selfless service to the Church. Read Romans</p>	<p>10 Advent is not only a time of waiting but also of repentance through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Call the parish office to schedule an appointment with Father Rey, to strengthen and affirm your faith and return to the Lord during the Advent season. Read Acts 3: 19-21</p>	<p>11 Advent encourages us to hope; it is a season of comfort and assurance. Journalize what you fear most; turn those fears over to the coming Christ. Make an effort to be an encouraging voice to those with whom you live and work. Read Matthew 14: 26-33</p>	<p>12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast</p> <p>On this feast day, remember OLG's words, "Now go and put forth your best effort." We should set these words in our hearts and always be a beautiful, shining example of faith, service and love for one another. Read Psalm 9:1-2, 7-10</p>	<p>13 St. Lucy</p> <p>Traditional greenery at Christmas calls to mind the <i>tree of life</i>, the figure of Christ, God's gift to humanity. Life stays <i>evergreen</i> if we value friendship, forgiveness, and reciprocal listening. Make a date with a friend today and really be one. Read 1 Cor 13:1-13</p>	<p>14 St. John of the Cross</p> <p>St John said, "If you do not learn to deny yourself, you can make no progress in perfection." It is true that in every suffering, we can find the light of salvation. Journalize how through your own suffering, you received such gifts. Read 1 Timothy 4: 5-8</p>	<p>15 Mary made room for Jesus in her life. Are you making room for Him too, or do you have <i>clutter</i>? In preparing our hearts for this birth, think about giving up something that is <i>clutter</i>. Instead, focus on prayer and reflection. Read Luke 1: 30-35, 38</p>
<p>16 Begin the third week of Advent with a feeling of JOY as we await the birth of Christ at Christmas. Don't get caught up in doing things, rather than being present in the moment and finding joy with people you love. Relish being in their presence. Read Matthew 18: 1-4</p>	<p>17 Yesterday was Gaudette Sunday when we shifted from "the Lord is coming" to "the Lord is near." If joy is a gift from the Lord, then the Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift, and the only one that will never tarnish or break or fade. Read Psalm 100.</p>	<p>18 In the prologue of John's gospel, he writes about mystery of the Incarnation. Make time to enjoy God's creation and how you may learn more about your faith in the coming year. Join our Bible study, perhaps? Read John 1: 1-15</p>	<p>19 Take time to reflect on your family's creche and simplicity of its design. Its display is in stark contrast to the merchandising of Christmas, obscuring the meaning of this holy season. Reflect on Christ's humble entry to this world. Read Eph 2: 4-7</p>	<p>20 [We must] open ourselves...to the horizon of God's spirit, without being afraid of what he asks of us or of where he leads us. Let us entrust ourselves to Him." (Pope Francis) Consider how you can reach out to others in His name. Read 1 Peter 3:1-115</p>	<p>21 St. Peter Canisius</p> <p>As you get your home in order for the holidays, journalize how you can prepare your soul for the coming of the Christ child. Compose a private prayer to commemorate this sacred event. Read Is 9: 1-6</p>	<p>22 Advent is a proclamation of hope, which touches our lives. Even though the world may be moving in the wrong direction, the Lord will guide you toward hope and confidence. Reflect on how He has impacted you're the important moments of life Read Romans</p>
<p>23 Begin the fourth week of Advent with a feeling of PEACE. Rejoice in the Lord always for the Son of God will heal all wounds of the world. Make your heart ready and filled with anticipation for the joy that is Christmas. Read Zechariah 9: 9</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve</p> <p>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive a bear a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel, which means "God is with me." (Mt 1:23). Read Matthew 1 and 2 and Luke 6:20-23</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p> <p>Have a blessed Christmas! Read Luke 2:10-12</p>	<p>St Joseph Catholic Church 745 Ezzard Charles Drive Cincinnati, Ohio 45203</p> <p>Christmas Eve Mass: December 24 at Evergreen Retirement: 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass: December 24 at St Joseph Church: 10:30 PM Christmas Day Mass: December 25 at St. Joseph Church: 12:30 PM</p>			