

# Advent 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p><b>M</b>ake and bless an Advent wreath with three purple candles and one pink one. Light the first purple candle tonight.</p>	<p>28</p> <p><b>A</b>dvent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a prayer anytime you have to wait during Advent.</p>	<p>29</p> <p><b>L</b>et your Bible fall open and contemplate the reading the Holy Spirit puts before you.</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>I</b>nclude in your Christmas cards a note about the blessings you have received this year as a witness to God's love.</p>	<p>1</p> <p><b>O</b>ffer your parish the gift of your time, talent, or treasure. Describe it in a Christmas card and send it to your pastor.</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>P</b>ick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Resolve to conquer it during Advent.</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>S</b>et a timer or other reminder to help you pray every morning and every evening this month. Continue after Advent.</p>
<p>4</p> <p><b>L</b>ight two purple candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sit in silence and enjoy the quiet.</p>	<p>5</p> <p><b>T</b>oday, try to remember stories from the Bible of God's merciful treatment of sinners.</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>S</b>how love on St. Nicholas Day by making at least one generous act today.</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>T</b>he presence of Jesus in our lives speaks of our hope in God's mercy. Today, list your reasons for hope in the future.</p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>T</b>oday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrating Mary's birth without Original Sin. In her honor, attend Mass.</p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>S</b>t. Juan Diego was a simple and loving man. In his honor, pray a Rosary to recognize his devotion to Our Blessed Mother.</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>P</b>erform a thorough examination of conscience today. Then attend Confession to ready your soul to greet the Savior.</p>
<p>11</p> <p><b>T</b>oday is Gaudete Sunday - the halfway point of Advent. Light two purple candles and the pink one for joy.</p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>T</b>o honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase in your home and pray a "Hail Mary" whenever you pass it.</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>L</b>ight a candle and sit in silence for 15 minutes. Remember for whom it is you are waiting.</p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>I</b>n honor of St. John of the Cross, offer any suffering or difficulty you experience today to our Savior, Jesus.</p>	<p>15</p> <p><b>P</b>ut a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ child. Light it each night until Christmas.</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>P</b>ray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families.</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>E</b>ven if you live alone, put up a Christmas tree. Put just a few ornaments on each day and finish up on Christmas Eve.</p>
<p>18</p> <p><b>L</b>ight all four candles in the Advent Wreath tonight and all week. Reread today's Gospel reading, <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>.</p>	<p>19</p> <p><b>M</b>ake time today to feed the hungry. Look for someone who is physically hungry or one who is hungry for kindness, too.</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>C</b>hoose a candle as your "Jesus Candle." Light it every night until Christmas to remind you of the light Jesus brings.</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>T</b>ake a drive or a walk around your home to look at the Christmas decorations. Let yourself get swept up in the excitement of the season.</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>S</b>et up your Nativity scene. Picture yourself in the scene and think about how you would act if you were there.</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>G</b>ather some friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling at a nursing home or homeless shelter.</p>	<p>24</p> <p><b>T</b>his can be a sad time for those who are alone. Include anyone in your own gatherings who might otherwise be forgotten.</p>
<p>25</p> <p><b>R</b>ejoice! Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20. Think about how joyful it will be to finally meet Jesus when he comes.</p>	<p><b>"... For "(un)to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11)</b></p> <p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.</i></p> <p><i>While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." (Luke 2:1-7)</i></p>					

