


ADVENT CALENDAR 2017

Family
Activities

DECEMBER

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Prepare the Advent Wreath: 3 purple candles, 1 pink candle, and some greens. Place all on a tray or large plate; light 1st Candle and pray, "Come, Lord Jesus."</p> <p>3</p> | <p>Together, as a class or as a family, compose an Advent Prayer.</p> <p>4</p> | <p>Say a prayer for someone in your family, a classmate, or a friend.</p> <p>5</p> | <p><i>Feast of Saint Nicholas</i> Listen to a story about Saint Nicholas, one read by a teacher, catechist, or parent.</p> <p>6</p> |
| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
| <p>Construct a small manger from a cardboard box or other materials. From a sheet of yellow construction paper, cut small strips each time you do a kind act during Advent. Place these strips inside the manger to represent the "straw" that will become the bed for the baby Jesus.</p> <p>7</p> | <p><i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</i> Honor Our Lady by being obedient in all you are asked to do.</p> <p>8</p> | <p><i>Feast of Saint Juan Diego</i> Listen to a story of Saint Juan Diego, one read by a teacher, catechist, or parent.</p> <p>9</p> |  |

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| <p>Light the 2nd Advent Candle and pray the prayer you wrote on December 4.</p> <p>10</p> | <p>Pay extra attention today in class and at home.</p> <p>11</p> | <p><i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Listen to a story about this feast read by a teacher, catechist, or parent.</p> <p>12</p> | <p><i>Feast of Saint Lucy</i> Listen to a story of Saint Lucy, one read by a teacher, catechist, or parent.</p> <p>13</p> |
| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
| <p>Remember to say grace before meals.</p> <p>14</p> | <p>As a family, perform a kind act for a friend or a stranger.</p> <p>15</p> | <p>Help a parent or sibling to prepare a snack or meal to enjoy together.</p> <p>16</p> |  |

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| <p>Light the 3rd Advent Candle, which is pink because this is rejoice Sunday. Today begins the O Antiphons. These are special prayers as the birth of Jesus draws closer. Think about these questions with your class or family. <i>O Wisdom of our God Most High!</i> Jesus, you are our wise teacher. What does this mean to you?</p> <p>17</p> | <p><i>O Leader of the House of Israel!</i> Jesus you are our leader. Do you turn to Jesus as your leader?</p> <p>18</p> | <p><i>O Flower of Jesse's Stem!</i> Jesse and King David were Jesus' ancestors. Who are your relatives? How do they impact your life?</p> <p>19</p> | <p><i>O Key of David!</i> Jesus opened the gates of Heaven for us. Say a prayer of thanks as Christmas draws near.</p> <p>20</p> |
| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | |
| <p><i>O Radiant Dawn!</i> Jesus is our light! Who sees us as "light?" How can you be light for someone today?</p> <p>21</p> | <p><i>O King of All Nations!</i> Jesus is the king who unites us all. Pray today as a family or a class.</p> <p>22</p> | <p><i>O Emmanuel!</i> We believe that Jesus is with us always. Who could use your company today with a phone call or a visit?</p> <p>23</p> |  |

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DECEMBER

SUNDAY

Light the 4th Advent Candle and pray the Family Advent prayer you wrote. Come Lord Jesus Come! Pray for one another and put the manger and straw under the Christmas tree.

24

MONDAY

Christmas

Christ is Born! Let us Rejoice! Thank God for the greatest gift, the gift of his Only Son!

25



Saint Nicholas Day Blessing of Candy Canes

Gracious God,
In the spirit of Saint Nicholas we turn to
you and ask for your blessing on these
candy canes.
May their flavor sweeten our hearts with
compassion and kindness.
May their shape remind us to be shepherds
of grace and generosity.
May their bright colors attune us to the
delightful sights and sounds of this
sacred season.
Inspire us to be like Saint Nicholas,
who brought comfort and joy to children
and their families.
We ask this in the name of the Holy Child,
Jesus, whose coming we await with
anticipation and love.

Amen.



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WEEK 1

Light one candle and sit for a moment in silence.

*Christ our Light,
Shine in our lives with hope and promise.
Give us right vision so that we remain attentive
to this holy season.
Remind us to look for you in small acts of
kindness and love.
We await your coming with wonder.*

Amen



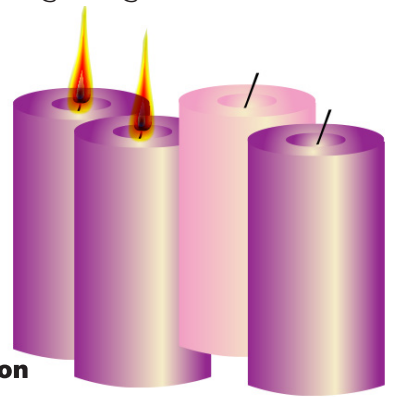
Sadlier Religion

WEEK 2

Light two candles and sit for a moment in silence.

*Christ our Hope,
Illuminate our hearts with your grace.
Enlarge our vision so that we recognize our
kinship with all the people of the world.
Help us to give to others in ways that meet
their deepest needs.
We await your coming with gratitude.*

Amen.



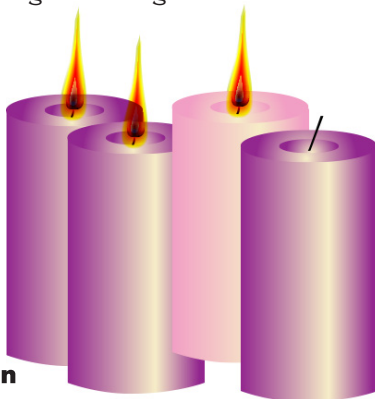
Sadlier Religion

WEEK 3

Light three candles and sit for a moment in silence.

*Christ our Joy,
Brighten our homes with your presence.
Clarify our vision so that we might see you
in the people we cherish.
Make every holiday activity an opportunity
to spread your light and love.
We await your coming with delight.*

Amen.



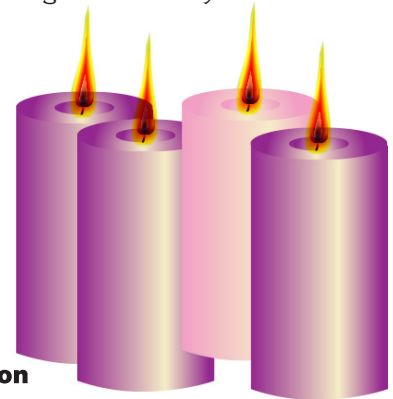
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WEEK 4

Light four candles and sit for a moment in silence.

*Christ our Peace,
Glow brightly in each moment.
Enlighten our vision so that we see beyond
the trappings of the holidays.
Relieve us, if just for a moment,
of our worries and stress.
We await your coming with serenity.*

Amen.



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Advent Light

Color the stained-glass window. Cut it out and hang it on an inside window pane at home. When you look at it, remember Jesus is our light. We can prepare to celebrate Christmas by letting his light shine through us.

