

ST PATRICK SCHOOL

*Reverence, Respect,
Responsibility... What
starts here can change
the world.*

We are beyond grateful for your generosity! Online giving has officially closed for [#igivecatholic](#) but you can still give your gift of check or cash directly until December 5th and it will count toward our goal! We have already raised over \$6,000 from our generous donors!

As we enter the season of Advent, we want to share with you an excerpt from the USCCB website.

“The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus’ promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.”

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Print the Family Advent calendar from the last page of this newsletter to help your family fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.



December 1, 2023

ST PATRICK SCHOOL

LEGO League



Good luck to our 3 Robotics Teams tomorrow, 12/2, as they compete for a chance to advance to State!


S PATRICK SCHOOL

Reading Buddies



ST PATRICK SCHOOL

Festival of Nativities



THE PEORIA AREA
Community Festival of
NATIVITIES

O Holy Night

November 30
December 1-3, 2023

Thursday 3PM-9PM
Friday & Saturday 10AM-9PM
Sunday 12PM-6PM
— FREE ADMISSION —

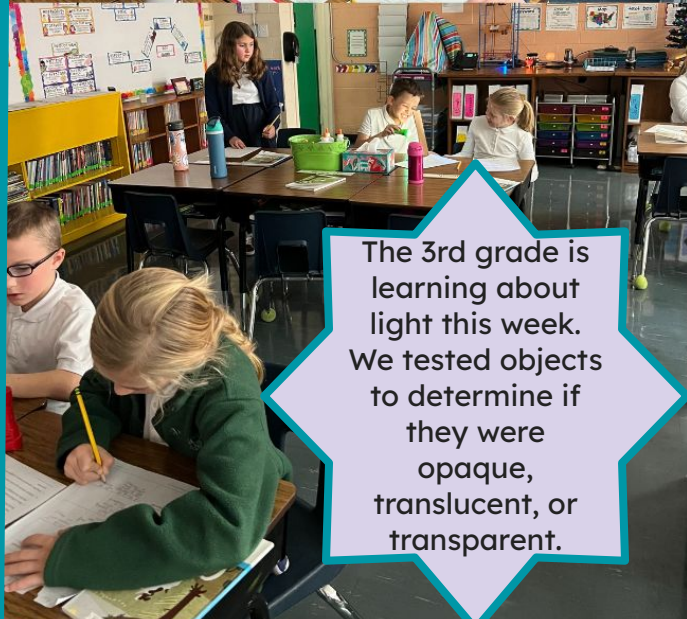
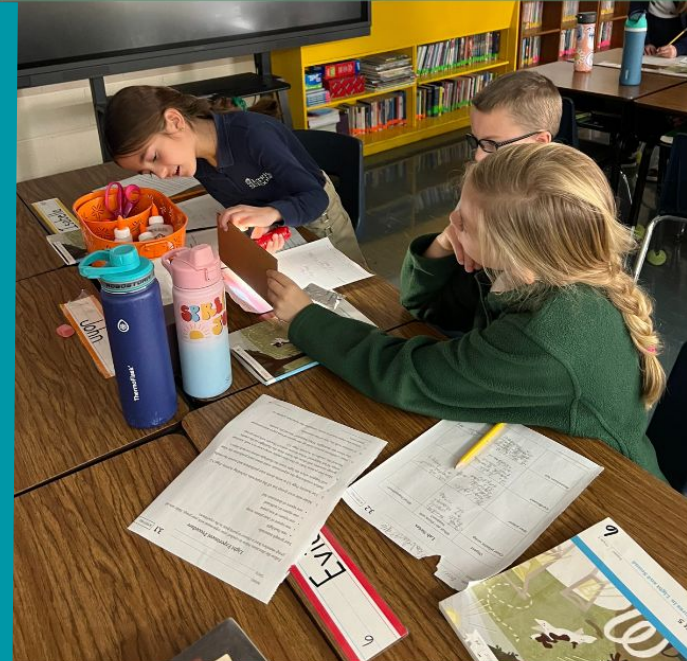
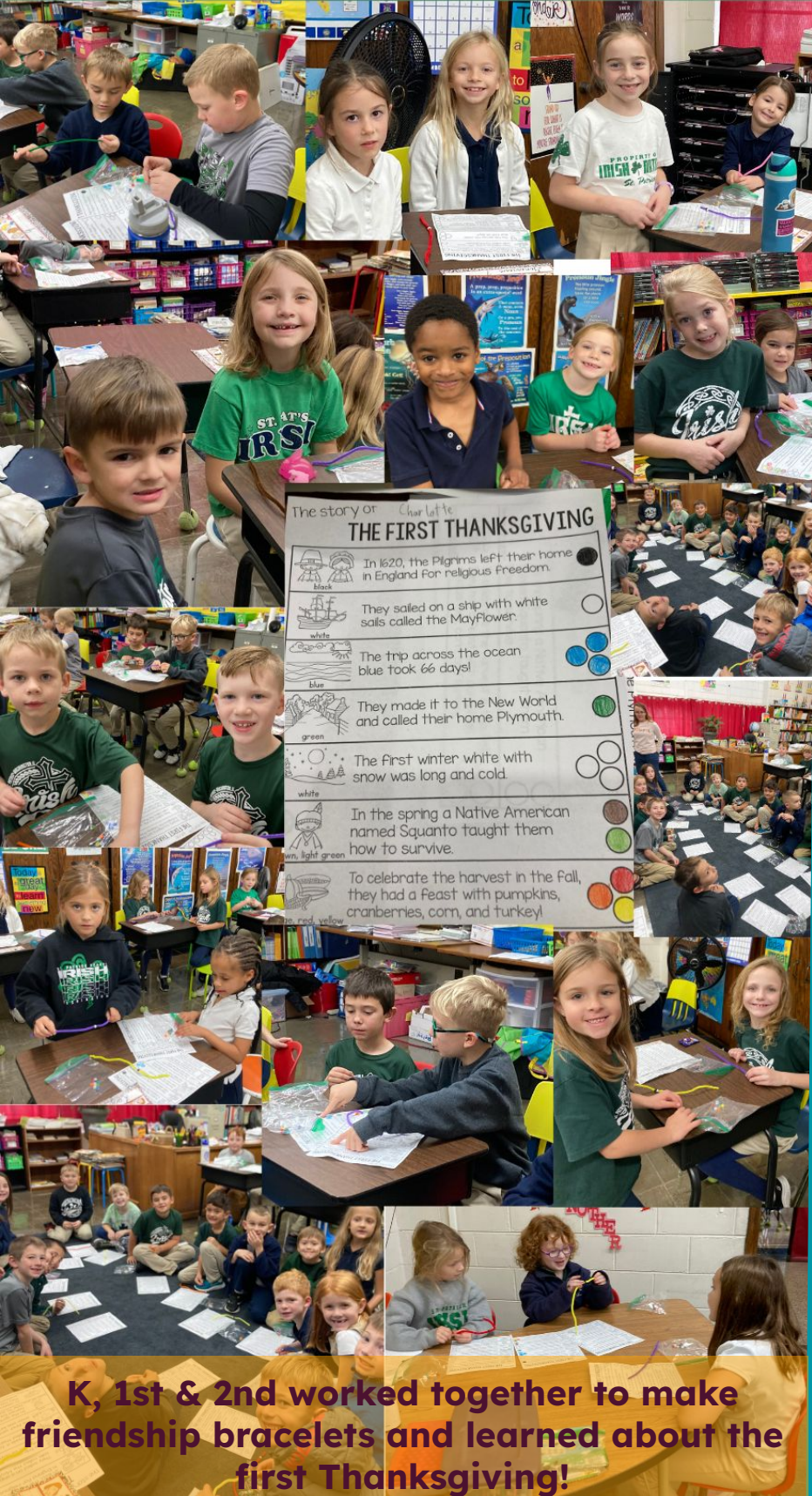
3700 W. Reservoir Blvd., Peoria, Illinois
CommunityFestivalofNativities.com
750+ NATIVITIES • MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

Live Nativity
Thursday, November 30
4:30-6:30 p.m.



ST PATRICK SCHOOL

Recent Happenings



The 3rd grade is learning about light this week. We tested objects to determine if they were opaque, translucent, or transparent.

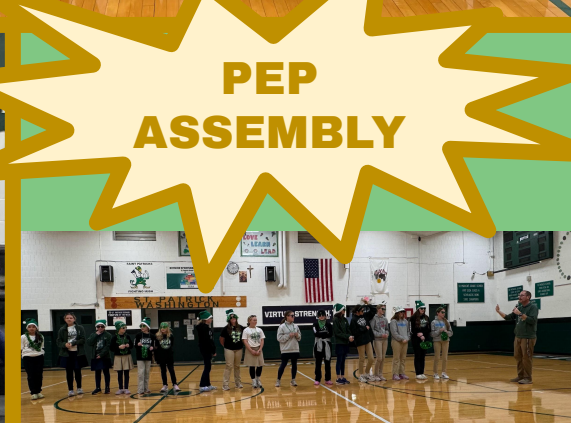
K, 1st & 2nd worked together to make friendship bracelets and learned about the first Thanksgiving!

ST PATRICK SCHOOL

State Send Off



Blessing at Mass



PEP
ASSEMBLY



School Run Through



CURRENT VIRTUE



RESOLUTION

Strive to smile at others. Make an effort to make others feel welcome and wanted even if you are not in the best of moods.

Lord, You were the perfect example of LOYALTY as You made us more important than Yourself and You made so many sacrifices for us.

Help us to be LOYAL to one another.

May we be more and more like You each day.

Let us love and help each other!

Our Father is in Heaven,

And Jesus is our Brother,

And Mary is our Mother,

And the Blessed Saints above

And the friends on earth we love,

Nay every human creature is the child of our dear Father in Heaven.

Let us love and be loved, forgive and be forgiven.

WHO OR WHAT DO YOU PUT FIRST IN YOUR LIFE?

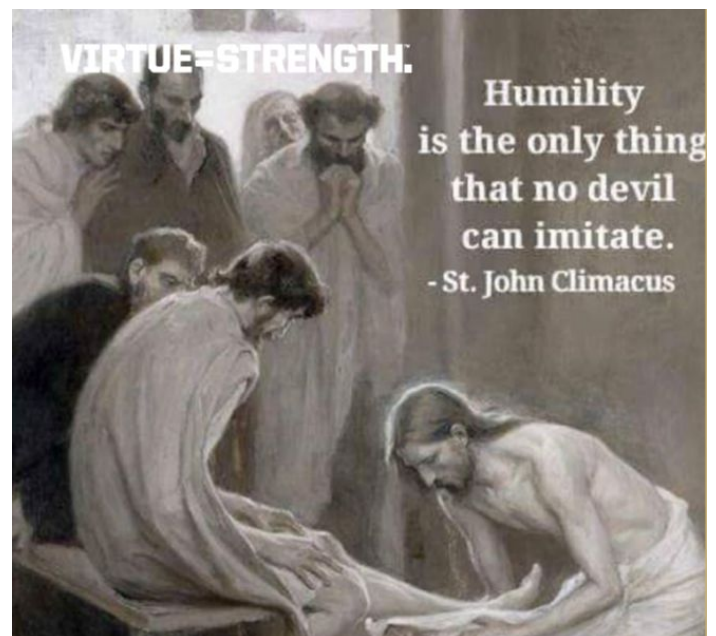
(click to watch a quick clip)



UP NEXT...



~~ARROGANCE~~



VIRTUE=STRENGTH.



We encourage all of our *Irish Family* to pray this **December Novena TOGETHER** as a family each night, for nine days, beginning on *December 11th*.

Put it on your calendar, and make it a priority!



HUMILITY

MONTHLY NOVENA

DECEMBER 11-19

Monthly Intention: Let us pray that we may grow in the virtue of humility, the strength to put God and others before ourselves.

ADVENT NOVENA

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment In which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.

In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires,

(Mention your request).

through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

What is a Novena?

The word "novena" is derived from the Latin word for nine, or "novem."

Typically, a novena refers to **nine days of prayer**, asking **God** for a **specific intention**, often through the intercession of the Virgin Mary or a Saint.

How Do You Pray a Novena?

Simply **pray** the novena prayer that **corresponds** with each of the nine dates.

Some novenas **repeat** the same prayer each day, while others have a specific prayer for each day of the novena.

ST PATRICK SCHOOL

IRISH Athletics

Thank you.

STUDENTS, TEACHERS, STAFF, ALUMNI, FAMILY & FRIENDS
for your support of our 7th grade girls basketball team as
we continue our season. We have the BEST family of fans!



SECTIONAL CHAMPS!!!

7th Grade Girls defeated the Flanagan Falcons to secure another trip to the State FINALS!

7th Grade Class 1A Girls Basketball State Finals

Assumption Central A & M Middle School
404 Colegrove St., Assumption, IL

GoFan Ticket Information: 7th Grade

Dates: Dec. 2 & 7, 2023

Saturday Gate: \$10.00 (Adult/H.S.), \$5.00 (Sr. Citizens/K-8)
Saturday GoFan: \$8.00 (Adult/H.S.), \$4.00 (Sr. Citizens/K-8)
Thursday Gate: \$10.00 (Adult/H.S.), \$5.00 (Sr. Citizens/K-8)
Thursday GoFan: \$8.00 (Adult/H.S.), \$4.00 (Sr. Citizens/K-8)
Preschoolers admitted Free

IRISH PLAY
SATURDAY
2:30PM
(& if they win,
again at 6:30PM)

STATE QUALIFIERS



2023



7TH GRADE GIRLS
IRISH BASKETBALL



8th Grade HIGHLIGHTS

8th grade beat Blessed Sacrament recently by 9 thanks to a 21 point 3rd quarter and 17 points from Lucas B



7th Grade HIGHLIGHTS

7th grade beat Dee-Mack by 13 in their last game with a big scoring output from Jaxson H.



Boy's Basketball Records

7th Grade: 9-2

8th Grade: 8-3



IRISH BOYS BASKETBALL ACTION



Save the Dates

Christmas Programs

K-8TH GRADE
12/18/23, 6PM
FIVE POINTS
WASHINGTON



PRESCHOOL
12/20/23, 8:30 AM
SR. MARY ANN GYM
ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

Upcoming Dates

12/2/23	Lego League Robotics Qualifiers @ LCHS
12/2/23	Boys Basketball vs St. Phil's @ Home 9 AM
12/2/23	7th Girls Basketball State Quarter & Semi Finals Central A&M Assumption, IL
12/3-5/23	Parish Advent Mission with Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers in Church 6 PM
12/4/23	Boys Basketball vs Hollis @ Home 5:30 PM
12/5/23	Boys Basketball @ St. Jude TBD
12/6/23	8th Girls Basketball Sectional vs R/B @ Home 6:30 PM
12/7/23	Boys Basketball vs St. Mary's @ Home 5:30 PM
12/7/23	7th Girls Basketball State Finals State Central A&M Assumption, IL
12/8/23	Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)
12/11/23	Boys Basketball vs Delavan @ Home 5:30 PM
12/12/23	Boys Basketball @ Robein TBD

The mission of St. Patrick School is to foster the spiritual growth and academic life of its students, faculty, and staff and to teach children, with the cooperation of parents, a Catholic way of life.

WCHS CHEER CLINIC 2023



CLINIC

Sunday, December 3 12-2 p.m.
WCHS Torry Gym



\$30 includes clinic,
t-shirt, and admission
for cheerleader and a
guardian



Learn chants, cheers,
jumps, and stunts with
your WCHS basketball
cheerleaders!



PERFORMANCE

Saturday, December 9-
Boys Basketball Game, 6:30pm



CONTACT US



@WASHINGTONCOMMUNITYHSCHEER



kkkamienski@wacohi.net

Believe

a St. Patrick's Advent Mission
featuring

*Deacon Harold
Burke-Sivers*

Dec 3 6:00pm

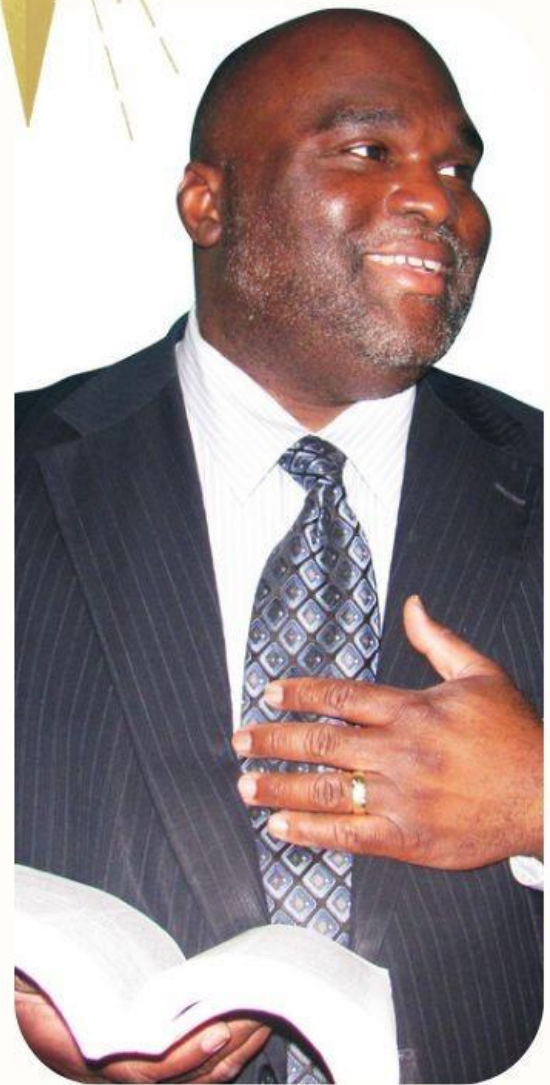
Topic: Why Be Catholic?

Dec 4 6:00pm

Topic: My Flesh for the Life of the
World: The Eucharist & Evangelization.

Dec 5 6:00pm

Topic: The True Meaning of Christmas:
The Eucharist & Evangelization.





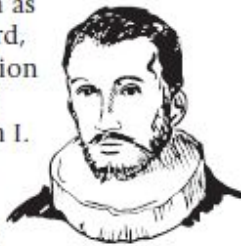
St. Patrick School
Cassi Smith, Principal



Thoughtful Moments

St. Edmund Campion

St. Edmund Campion had a coveted position as lecturer at Oxford, and the admiration of his peers and Queen Elizabeth I. He renounced everything to become a Jesuit missionary. He traveled England secretly to administer the Sacraments to persecuted Catholics. He was betrayed by an informer pretending to be Catholic, and was taken to the Tower of London. He was martyred for refusing to deny his faith.



Our Lady of Guadalupe

At a time of great upheaval in Mexico (1531), Jesus' Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego with messages of hope, and conversions began occurring at an astounding rate. By 1539, almost nine million had converted. Mary is Jesus' first and best disciple to bring the message of hope and salvation.

"Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ"
(2 Corinthians 4:6).



Add peace to Advent this year

There is no denying that it may be more challenging to find peace and joy during Advent this year, given all that's happening around the world. Still, we know that the world isn't where we find our joy. Instead, try modeling your family celebration after the first Christmas to find more peace and joy this year.

Sweep the inn. Jesus chose lowly circumstances for His birth to encourage detachment from worldly goods. Together, choose clothing, gifts, and toys in good condition that you don't truly need and donate them to people who do. Then limit the number and value of gifts you give. This will free up attention and affection for

what really matters.

Select shepherds. Although the people watching the sheep in the fields that night weren't the most successful nor the most popular in town, God chose them to greet His newborn Son. Children benefit from healthy, loving company. Accept and extend only those holiday invitations that will provide precious, loving time together.

Ponder in your heart. When her remarkable Son was born, *"Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart"* (Luke 2:19) so she could savor the joy of each moment. Don't forget to savor time with your own remarkable family so that you can ponder every wonderful moment in your own heart.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call Jesus "Emmanuel"?

"... And his name shall be called Emman'u-el' (which means, God with us)" (Matthew 1:23). Jesus is God and He came, not just to save us, but also to be with us. In fact, He promised, *"I am with you always"* (Matthew 28:20).



Jesus is invisibly but powerfully present with us now in the Church, the Scriptures, the souls of the faithful, the priest celebrating the Sacraments, prayer, and, most especially, in the Eucharist.
God is truly with us.

Make Christmas last ...

Christmas ends for some people when the stores are empty and the presents are unwrapped. For Catholics, the Christmas Season starts Christmas Day and ends January 8, The Baptism of the Lord. Let your Christmas joy last through the entire Season.

Stay decorated. Rejoice in the great mystery of the Incarnation. Displaying your manger scene until the end of the Season reminds your family of the deeper meaning of Christmas. Keep your Christmas lights up as a reminder that Jesus brought light to the darkness.



Host an Epiphany party. The Feast of Epiphany celebrates the visit of the Magi and their gifts to the Christ Child. Host a party featuring candlelight, wonderful food, Christmas carols and hymns, and people who are a blessing to your family.

Make a visit. On that first Christmas, Jesus came to us and remains in the Eucharist. If you have days off from work and school, consider attending daily Mass or Adoration. Keeping company with the Christ Child is the gift that He desires from us.

Scripture LESSON

Luke 2:22-40, God fulfills His promises

Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who did what their faith required to celebrate and thank God for the birth of their son. They couldn't afford the customary offering of a lamb, instead presenting two doves or pigeons. To the uninformed observer, Jesus' birth was unremarkable and His family quite ordinary.



Yet, Simeon immediately recognized Jesus as the Messiah. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he prophesied that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel" (Luke 2:32).

Simeon was not alone in recognizing the Lord's presence in the temple. Anna was also filled with the Holy Spirit and gave thanks to God. Her faith in God's promises gave her hope. The hope God places in our hearts gives us a desire for the kingdom of heaven.

What can a parent do?
Teach children to look for Jesus in the world and to pray to Him often. Tell them the Holy Spirit will reveal the presence of the Lord to those who want to know Him, receive Him, and to be with Him forever.

Parent TALK

I lost my job during the pandemic and fortunately got another one, but at a much lower pay rate. I am grateful that my new job allows us to pay the important bills and even save some, but it doesn't allow for extras. As Christmas



approached last year, we explained to the children that there were going to be fewer gifts under the tree and why, and asked them to pare down their Christmas lists.

The girls spent a lot of time going over their requests, but they didn't seem to be upset. One night at dinner, they handed their lists to me and each one had just three gift requests. Chris explained that if three gifts were good enough for Jesus, three gifts were good enough for us. What they really wanted was family time. We agreed. And Christmas turned out to be a joyful, blessed celebration of Love.

Feasts & Celebrations

December 3 - First Sunday in Advent. We anticipate Christ's birth and His second coming on the last day. Catholics everywhere light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

December 9 - St. Juan Diego (1548). St. Juan Diego was visited by Our Lady at Tepeyac Hill, Mexico. She requested a chapel be built and sent him with roses to the bishop as a sign. When St. Juan emptied the roses before the bishop, his cloak (tilma) retained the miraculous image of the Blessed Mother.

December 17 - St. Olympias (408). Born to a wealthy family in Constantinople, this holy widow devoted her large fortune to caring for the poor and supporting her friend, St. John Chrysostom, in his work.

December 31 - The Holy Family (1st century). We celebrate the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph - three people who lived for God. By their love and support of one another the Holy Family is a model for all Christian families.





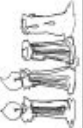















Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

2023 Family Advent Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3 December</p> <p>Buy or make an Advent wreath and bless it. Light the violet candle every night this week.</p> 	<p>4</p>  <p>Assign "Advent Angels." Draw names at random and encourage good works in secret.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Set out the empty Nativity scene. Add characters gradually throughout Advent. Save Baby Jesus for last.</p>	<p>6 St. Nicholas of Myra</p> <p>Encourage everyone to perform an act of kindness in honor of today's generous saint.</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>Buy gifts for children in need. Consult your parish office for suggestions.</p>	<p>8 The Immaculate Conception of Mary</p> <p>On this Holy Day of Obligation, attend Mass together. Pray for the United States of America.</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Decorate a Jesse tree and discuss its meaning. Learn more at www.usccb.org.</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Light two violet candles nightly this week. Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Call or email your parish office and ask how your family can help with upcoming preparations for Christmas.</p>	<p>12 Our Lady of Guadalupe</p> <p>Put a vase of flowers before a statue of Mary and sing "Hail, Holy Queen" to celebrate.</p> 	<p>13</p>  <p>At dinner, ask each person to share one way God blessed him or her that day.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Before bedtime, perform an examination of conscience using the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-11).</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>Contact Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS or www.catholicrelief.org). Ask how you can help.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Seek God's mercy in Confession as a family to greet the Savior with clean souls.</p> 
<p>17 Gaudete Sunday</p> <p>Light two violet candles and one rose one for joy. Have a small treat to celebrate.</p> 	<p>18</p>  <p>Place a candle in the window to welcome Baby Jesus. Light it nightly until Christmas.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Encourage everyone to practice patience today.</p> 	<p>20</p>  <p>Tonight, offer extra prayers for the troops who will spend Christmas overseas and for their families.</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>Share favorite Christmas family memories over hot chocolate and cookies.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Ask everyone to make a small sacrifice, just for God, just for today.</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>The King is coming! Tidy up the house and prepare to welcome Him.</p> 
<p>24</p> <p>Reveal Advent angels! Read about the good news the angel shared in Luke 1:26-38.</p> 	<p>25 Rejoice!</p> <p>After Mass today, place Baby Jesus in the manger and sing, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing!"</p>	 <p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the 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. 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 place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:1-7)</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Light the red candle every night this week. Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."</p> 