



# FAMILY ADVENT CALENDAR 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>December 3</b></p> <p><a href="#">Bless</a> your Advent wreath today! Light one of the violet candles marking the season's first week as you sing a verse of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Have fun making a <a href="#">Jesse tree</a> today! You can add to it every day until Christmas and learn about Jesus's heritage.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Have you started Christmas shopping yet? Consider buying your gifts <a href="#">Fair Trade</a> this year.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Today is the Feast of St. Nicholas, a saint known for giving gifts to the poor. How will you help the poor this Advent season?</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>"We have to reach out to others and seek their good" (Pope Francis, <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i>, no. 9). Make a list of where you see good in others.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Today we honor Mary, the mother of Jesus, who was born without sin. <a href="#">Take time to pray to her today.</a></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>St. Juan Diego welcomed Our Lady of Guadalupe and did her bidding. Remember him today by praying for immigrants and newcomers to your parish or community.</p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Light the second violet candle on your Advent wreath today as you pray for all priests and religious brothers and sisters in your parish.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>"If we say that we have not sinned, we make [God] a liar, and his word is not in us" (1 Jn 1:10). <a href="#">Have you gone to confession this Advent?</a></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><a href="#">Pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe</a> today that she may help us in "bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society."</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Today's feast of St. Lucy is marked by pageants and festivals in Scandinavia &amp; Italy. Research an Advent or Christmas custom of your own family's ethnic heritage and try it this year!</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>St. John of the Cross, whom we honor today, was known for his deep spirituality and compassion. Make a list of how you help others in your community.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Make it a family movie night tonight! Pick out your favorite Christmas movie and watch it together.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>On this day, Latin Americans begin <a href="#">las Posadas</a>—reenactments of the Holy Family's journey to Bethlehem. Pray for the difficult journeys of migrants and refugees.</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>On Gaudete Sunday, we light the rose (pink) candle on the Advent wreath and shift our reflection from "the Lord is coming" to "the Lord is near."</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Start adding the "<a href="#">O Antiphons</a>" into your mealtime or bedtime prayer. Only one more week until Christmas!</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><a href="#">Take time today to bless the family crèche.</a> Based on your family's tradition, you may hide the baby Jesus until Christmas morning.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>As Christmas draws nearer and we wrap presents, remember the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta: "It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>As we draw nearer to Christmas, take a moment to lift up in prayer the struggles faced by neighbors in your community and around the world.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><a href="#">Bless your Christmas tree</a> tonight and sing "Silent Night" as a family.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Practice sharing your faith with others by carrying the spirit of evangelization with you into the Christmas season and beyond.</p>

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Read the Christmas story ([Luke 2:1-4](#)) together as a family and reflect on the gift of Christ's life.

