



# ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>November 28</b></p> <p><b>The First Sunday of Advent</b> Begin your Advent journey by <a href="#">blessing</a> your Advent wreath. Light the first violet candle and sing “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Use this Advent season to ready your heart for Jesus. In what ways can you improve your relationship with him?</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle</b> “He was truly a man of faith and hope...Andrew enjoyed precious moments of intimacy with Jesus.” (Pope Benedict XVI, General Audience, June 14, 2006)  Spend a few moments with Jesus today.</p>	<p><b>December 1</b></p> <p>Jesus came to unite himself to every human being, calling us to be brothers and sisters to each other. We are all created in God’s image. Pray for an <a href="#">end to racism today</a>.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>“Trust in the LORD forever! For the LORD is an eternal Rock.” —Lectionary, Is 26:4</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest</b> In honor of St. Francis Xavier, one of the first Jesuits, practice an <a href="#">Examination of Conscience</a>.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>“Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.” —Lectionary, Is 30:18d</p>
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b> “Advent invites us to a commitment to vigilance, looking beyond ourselves, expanding our mind and heart in order to open ourselves up to the needs of people, of brothers and sisters, and to the desire for a new world.” —Pope Francis, Angelus, 2018.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>St. Joseph acted as the faithful protector of both Mary and Jesus. St. Joseph, defender of life, <a href="#">pray for us!</a></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Today is the Memorial of St. Ambrose, one of the Doctors of the Church. He baptized St. Augustine and is the patron saint of catechumens. Today, pray for those seeking to join the Church.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>On this <a href="#">Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception</a>, attend <a href="#">Mass</a> and pray the <a href="#">Hail Mary</a> before meals.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation of the birth of Christ. It can be easy to lose sight of this, focusing more on gift giving and receiving. Set aside time to pray with your family to refocus on the greatest gift.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: All flesh shall see the salvation of God.” —Lectionary, Lk 3:4,6</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>“Social problems must be addressed by community networks and not simply by the sum of individual good deeds.” (Pope Francis, <i>On Care for Our Common Home [Laudato Si’]</i>, no. 219)  Seek out volunteer opportunities in your neighborhood this week.</p>
<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b> Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</b> “Lucy reminds us of a value which seems to me very important for you too: courage. ‘Lucy’: a person is ‘full of light’ to the extent that he or she is a gift to others. In reality, every person is a gift, he or she is a precious gift!” —Pope Francis, Dec. 13, 2014</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>Memorial of St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b> There are 10 days left in Advent. In honor of a saint known for his deep spirituality and compassion, reflect honestly on your own spiritual journey so far this season.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Bring joy to someone today. Text or call a friend, help a stranger in need, or share today’s Gospel with your loved ones.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><a href="#">Las Posadas</a>, a reenactment of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter before the birth of Jesus, traditionally begins today. <a href="#">Pray for migrants</a> seeking shelter around the world.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Today marks the beginning of the “<a href="#">O Antiphons</a>”. This tradition, which comes from Evening Prayer, has been around since at least the eighth century.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>“Jesus, Mary, and Joseph themselves were refugees in Egypt. . . the Holy Family has become a figure with whom Christian migrants and refugees throughout the ages can identify, giving them hope and courage in hard times.” (USCCB, <i>Strangers No Longer</i>, no. 26)  How can you welcome the stranger today?</p>
<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> “Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?’” (Lk 1:41-43)</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. <a href="#">Bless your family’s crèche</a>.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>The Advent season, 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, is coming to an end. Is your heart ready to welcome Jesus?</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and remains in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. Share this <a href="#">blessing</a> with your family and friends.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Gather your friends or family and watch a <a href="#">Christmas classic</a>.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>“In the tender compassion of our God / the dawn from on high shall break upon us, / to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, / and to guide our feet into the way of peace.” (Lk 1:78-79)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Merry Christmas!</b></p>

