

FAITH FORMATION

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

December 2017

ST. ANTHONY FAITH FORMATION

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MAKE OR BUY AN ADVENT WREATH, BLESS IT, LIGHT IT EACH NIGHT AT DINNER.

Advent: Waiting and Preparing

Happy New Year! Yes, Advent marks the beginning of a new Liturgical Year and we begin by keeping watch and preparing to celebrate the Incarnation—Jesus Christ's birth.

Not only does the season of Advent help us prepare for Christmas, but also to prepare ourselves for Christ's Second Coming. Each Sunday of Advent will help lead us closer to God as we hear the stories and read the Gospel messages of being watchful, preparing ourselves, repenting of our sins, and praying for the coming of Christ in our hearts and lives.

To help your family prepare for Christmas beyond the decorations and presents, use some of

the resources available to you from the Catechists, website, bulletin, and social media.

There are interactive Advent Calendars online, there are special activities and prayers that you can do at home as a family, you can make your Christmas traditions more meaningful if you add in the religious significance and teach it to your children.



Visual reminders of Advent that are fairly simple are the Advent Wreath, an Advent Calendar with Scripture verses each day, or a Jesse Tree. Or you can try some of the activities listed below to help bring the Spirit of Advent and Christmas into your family.

Advent Activities

- * Pick an angel off the tree and purchase gifts for less fortunate people in our community
- * Help sort or deliver the gifts
- * Bake treats to share with neighbors or elderly friends and family
- * Send Christmas cards with a Scripture verse
- * Help children remember the importance of people, not things, at Christmas
- * Send cards or pictures to people in prison or the hospital
- * Each family member do special tasks for other family members without the other person knowing
- * Above all PRAY together this Advent season and make it a family habit and tradition all year!

DECEMBER 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 1st Sunday Advent	4	5	6 Regular Classes w/ Confessions	7	8	9
10 Sacramental Prep class 9AM—Malinowski Center	11	12	13 Regular Classes w/ Confessions	14	15	16 Reconciliation Retreat 9AM-noon Mal. Center
17 3rd Sunday Advent	18	19	20 No Classes—Have a wonderful Holiday!	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday Advent Christmas Eve!	25 	26	27 No Classes! 	28	29	30
31						

JANUARY 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Feast of Mary, Mother of God	2	3 No Classes	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Regular Classes	11	12	13
14 Sacramental Prep Class 9AM—Malinowski Center	15	16	17 Regular Classes	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Regular Classes Adult RE Class—"Who is Jesus?"	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Regular Classes			

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Some December Saints and Feast Days

Dec. 3—1st Sunday of Advent; St. Francis Xavier

Dec. 6—St. Nicholas

Dec. 8—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)

Dec. 9—St. Juan Diego

Dec. 10—2nd Sunday of Advent

Dec. 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dec. 13—St. Lucy

Dec. 17—3rd Sunday of Advent

Dec. 24—4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve

Dec. 25—Feast of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Sacramental Preparation Information

9:00AM in the Malinowski Center

- December 10—Class
- December 16—Retreat and 1st Confessions 9:00AM—noon

Children and parents come for the lessons on Reconciliation. Please bring the children's book with you.

If you missed the first classes, it's not too late. Contact Mrs. Beth for details or questions.

Items of Interest in our Gift Shop:

- ◆ Children Bibles
- ◆ Adult Bibles
- ◆ First Communion Bibles
- ◆ First Communion Gift sets
- ◆ Confirmation Gifts
- ◆ Religious Art
- ◆ Religious Jewelry
- ◆ Rosaries
- ◆ Prayer Books
- ◆ *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*
- ◆ Crosses and Crucifixes

We can only accept cash in exact change or checks during RE evenings. During office hours, there is change available.

