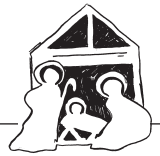
Family Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Make and bless an Advent wreath. Light the first purple candle each night this week.	**4** Set up the Nativity scene together, but leave out the Holy Family. 	**5** Resolve to pray as a family for at least 15 minutes every night during Advent.	**6** To honor St. Nicholas, fill an old shoe with treats and leave it outside someone's door.	**7** Decorate a "Jesus Candle" with symbols of Jesus. Light it at Christmas dinner.	**8** In honor of **Mary's Immaculate Conception,** attend Mass and pray a family Rosary tonight.	**9** Clean out your closets of unwanted clothes or toys in good condition. Donate them to a shelter or other charity.
10 Light two purple candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."	**11** Send a thank-you note to the priests or other parish ministers who enriched your seasonal celebration.	**12** Set out a rose tonight in honor of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.	**13** Today, try to go the whole day without complaining or arguing.	**14** Help children make a good examination of conscience and go to Confession together. Then go out for a treat afterwards to celebrate forgiveness.	**15** Family Movie Night! Make some popcorn and watch a Christmas movie together.	**16** Put up and decorate your family Christmas tree.
17 Light two purple candles and the pink one for joy. See which of you can sing loudest at Mass today.	**18** Put a lamp or electric candle in a window to welcome the Christ Child. Light it each night until Christmas Day.	**19** Set the Mary and Joseph figures of your Nativity set across the room from the rest of the scene.	**20** Take a drive or walk together around your home to look at the Christmas decorations or displays.	**21** Give each family member a chance to say "thank you" for a blessing God has given this year.	**22** Write letters to Jesus telling him that you look forward to his coming.	**23** Place Mary and Joseph in the Nativity scene. Add grass or straw to the manger to get it ready.
24 Light all four candles in the wreath tonight. Reread today's Gospel Reading, *Luke 1:26-38*.	**25** Rejoice! Place the Baby in the manger and read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20.		*"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).*			

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