

2020 Advent calendar



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

November 29

December 6

Advent can be a transformational time as we wait for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Begin this special season with an intention. This Advent I will

Visit the Advent homepage and read the new scriptural reflection. What comes to

mind as you reflect on its message? How

<u>Visit the Advent homepage</u> and read the new

scriptural reflection. Send it to at least one

other friend whom you think could benefit

<u>Visit the Advent homepage</u> and read the new

meditating in silence on what it means to you.

"But when you pray, go into your room and

shut the door and pray to your Father who is in

secret. And your Father who sees in secret will

Pray for healthcare workers around the world.

poor as so many more people have struggled

with poverty during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pray for organizations and people who help the

scriptural reflection. Spend 10 minutes

is God speaking to you through the

reading and this Advent?

December 13

December 20

December 21

reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

from it.

November 30

This has been a difficult year, but as Christians we try to remain hopeful as we joyfully await the birth of Christ. If you haven't already, read the Sunday scriptural reflection on the Advent homepage and spend 10 minutes in silence, letting the Lord speak to you.

December 7

Embody a Laudato Si' Christmas: Spend time sharing moments instead of materials, or give experiences rather than objects. What is one way you and your loved ones can embody Pope Francis' message of hope this Christmas?

December 14

always helpful for our spirits to spend 10 minutes contemplating creation.

"We need to be silent, we need to listen, and we need to contemplate."

Pope Francis shared those remarks during the Season of Creation, but it's contemplate creation's beauty. Today,

December 22

"Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope." (LS 244)

What's helped you create #AdventHope the most this season? Let us know by tagging us on social media with your reply and #AdventHope.

December 1

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

We too often worry about things out of our control and fear events that never happen. Today, reflect on a time God surprised you with kindness and helped you feel hopeful about the future.

December 8

Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**

Pope Francis warns against consumerism in Laudato Si'. His Holiness proposes solutions to overcoming the "indifference induced by consumerism." This Advent, show concern for a public place, such as a fountain or a landscape, and strive to protect, restore, improve, or beautify it as something belonging to everyone.

December 15

Embody a Laudato Si' Christmas this week by eating one more meatless meal than you usually do. Click here for helpful recipes.

December 23

Last-minute shopping can wait: use the time you might have spent buying things to deeply reflect on the changes you've seen in yourself this Advent, and how you can build on what the Lord has helped transpire through you.

If there isn't a Circle in your area, consider connecting with family mem-

December 9

bers or friends.

December 2

We all need a community to live the

Laudato Si' message. Laudato Si'

Circles are small groups that meet

regularly to deepen their relationship

with God as Creator and all members of

creation. Click here to learn more about

joining or forming a Laudato Si' Circle.

"Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems." (Laudato Si' 61)

The "Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us." (LS 13) Let go and let God handle a nagging worry that has recently bothered you.

December 16

"Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love." (FT 55)

What fills your heart and lifts your spirit?

"If we confess our sins, he who is

faithful and just will forgive us our sins

Give yourself grace. Sure, you might

have fallen short a time or two. But we do that; we're human. God

attempts to be more like the person He wants us to become. Today, consciously spend time forgiving yourself and giving yourself grace.

December 24

and cleanse us from all

unrighteousness." (John 1:9)

forgives us and smiles at our

December 3

Too much of everything ends in the trash. With your friends or family, play Secret Santa and give hand-made gifts with recycled materials. Plan a socia-Ily-distant meetup to exchange gifts, if the pandemic requires such actions.

Most of us can live more simply than we

do. Today, try fasting in between meals.

strength to help you throughout the day.

Jot down how you feel explicitly relying

No snacks, just meals. Rely on God's

December 4

"We must not lose our ability to listen . . . Saint Francis 'heard the voice of God, he heard the voice of the poor, he heard the voice of the infirm and he heard the voice of nature." (Fratelli Tutti 48)

How do we listen to creation? Spend five minutes outdoors, reflecting on creating #AdventHope.

Hear the voice of the poor: If you're able,

donate to a charity in need in your area,

or, if you're able and it's possible, make

plans to volunteer at a similarly-minded

organization in January 2021.

December 5

As St. Francis of Assisi did. listen to the voice of the poor, the voice of the most vulnerable among us. Spend some time reading news stories about how the poorest sisters and brothers in your area could use our help this Advent.



December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

"All it takes is one good person to restore hope!" (LS 71)

Create hope: Call someone who lives alone or can't be in touch with family because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

December 17

on God's strength.

December 10

"'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

As you did it to one of the least of my sisters and brothers, you did it to me. Stop and think about those words. Whatever we do to the least of those among us, we do to Jesus. What does that mean to you, and how do you feel reading it?

December 18

December 11

On United Nations International Migrants Day 2020, pray for our most vulnerable sisters and brothers by reading the Prayers of the Faithful here.

December 19

"The hand that blesses is an instrument of God's love and a reflection of the closeness of Jesus Christ, who came to accompany us on the journey of life." (LS 235)

Act like Jesus and accompany someone else on the journey of life by sending a text or an email about #AdventHope.



December 25

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

> Jesus is born. Celebrate Christmas! Merry Christmas!













