



Prince of Peace Faith Formation Newsletter

December 2020

Sunday Edition

Take a look at what we're learning

CALENDAR

Date	Topic	Saint
Dec. 6	Advent	St. Nicholas
Dec. 13	Nativity/ Birth of Christ	Juan Diego
Dec. 20	NO CLASS	MERRY CHRISTMAS
Dec. 27	NO CLASS	HAPPY NEW YEAR
Jan.10	First day Back to Faith Formation	Birthday Party for Jesus

Advent: a period of spiritual preparation in which many Christians make themselves ready for the coming, or birth of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Annunciation: God's announcement to Mary through the Archangel Gabriel that she was chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God

Incarnation: God taking on human nature (becoming man) in the Person of Jesus Christ to achieve the salvation of mankind
YouCat 10, 76-78

Immaculate Conception: the special privilege that God gave to Mary by which she was free from Original sin from the first moments of her life. A Holy Day of Obligation (December 8) to celebrate that Mary was conceived without original sin. **YouCat 83**

Holy Day of Obligation: a day of celebration set aside by the Church in which we must attend mass and refrain from unnecessary work. There are 8 holy days as well as all Sundays.

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

1. What liturgical (Church) season are we in? *Advent (a time of preparation)*
2. What color(s) is/are worn during Advent? *Purple and pink*
3. What happened at the annunciation? *Gabriel (an angel) visited Mary to tell her that she was going to have a baby, Jesus the son of God.*
4. How did Mary answer Gabriel? *I am the handmaid of the Lord; Be it done unto me according to your word (she said YES! I will do what God asks of me)*
5. What is the name of the mystery of God becoming Man in the person of Jesus? *Incarnation*
6. Tell me about Juan Diego or St. Nicholas. *See their brief stories on the back side of this sheet.*
7. Where was Jesus born? Why there? *In a stable in Bethlehem because Joseph and Mary had to travel there for the census ordered by Cesar. All the rooms were full and there was no other place to stay.*
8. Who is Jesus Christ? *The Second person of the Trinity, The son of God who became man, true God and true Man.*
9. Why did the Son of God become man? *To save us from sin and open the gates of Heaven*
10. Was Joseph Jesus' true father? *No, he was Jesus' foster father. God was His true father.*
11. What person (besides Jesus) was born without original sin? Why? What is that called? *Mary because she was to be the Mother of God. Immaculate Conception....*

SAINT WHO?

St. Nicholas



Want to learn more about St. Nick or Juan Diego?

Visit the following:

stnicholascenter.org

teachingcatholickids.com

Catholic.org

Great videos for kids of both saints on Formed.org

Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe



Nicholas was born into a wealthy family. His parents died when he was young and he spend the rest of his life giving all he had to the poor, sick, and needy. Legend has him delivering gold through an open window to a poor farmer so he had the necessary dowry for his daughters to marry.

Mary appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico asking him to request a Church be built in her name (Our Lady of Guadalupe). He approached the bishop with the request and when asked for proof, Mary provided roses for Diego in the desert. Diego picked the roses, returned to offer them to the Bishop and miraculously an image of the Virgin appeared on Juan's tilma. A Church was built and the tilma was displayed for all to see.

MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Lighting an Advent wreath is a custom that began with Christians in 16th-century Germany. The Advent Wreath is traditionally made using evergreens in a circular shape. Evergreen is chosen as the base because green represents hope and new life. The circle shape of the wreath has no beginning and no end symbolizing the fact that God is the alpha and omega (no beginning and no end).

Each Advent Wreath contains four candles (3 violet and 1 rose), one for every week of Advent. The candles provide a strong contrast between dark and light. Jesus is the light of the world that came down to dispel the darkness that exists in our hearts and in the world because of the darkness of sin.

Each week, a new candle is lighted gradually dispelling more and more of the darkness as we draw ever closer to the coming of Christ at Christmas. By the final week of Advent, all four candles are lit reminding us that the time to rejoice has finally arrived! Some Advent Wreaths also contain a fifth white candle (the Christ Candle) that symbolizes purity and is lit during the Christmas Season.

Prayer of the Month

Please recite daily with your children!

Angel of God

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
to whom God's love commits me here,
ever this day be at my side
to light to guard to rule to guide.
Amen.

Questions, Concerns, Comments?

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