



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

#### **Cycle C - I Sunday of Advent**

Jeremiah 33, 14-16; Psalm 24; 1Thessalonians 3:12-4, 2; Lucas 21, 25-28,34-36 **Be Alert...** 

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

#### Reflection

The gospel speaks of the second coming of Jesus and the signs that will happen before. They are described, not to scare us, but so we may be prepared and protected by Jesus because we do not know when they will happen. What does the gospel say we should do continuously? (Avoid vices and pray.) Prayer brings us close to God so He can guide us on the right path. Every year at Christmas time, we celebrate the first time Jesus came to earth, when He was born in a stable in Bethlehem. Every year He is born in our heart. What are the signs that show Christmas is approaching? (Christmas decorations in the stores and in



houses, Christmas songs on the radio, Christmas cards arrive and are written.) **How should we prepare our heart so it's ready for Jesus on Christmas Day?** (Also avoiding vices, praying often, sharing with and helping others, offering small sacrifices to Jesus...) **This pleases Him greatly.** 

#### **Activities**

On the following page, talk about the symbols of the Advent wreath. Have the children match the descriptions on the bottom of the page with the symbol they describe. On the other page, make the advent calendar. Explain that their good works, sacrifices, and prayers help prepare their hearts, making it warm and welcoming for Jesus' birth on Christmas. Read the prophesies of the Savior's birth. On the last page, complete the Advent word search.

#### **Prayer**

Dear Jesus, you are true God and true man. We thank you for coming to live amongst us. Teach us to share your peace and love with our families and friends. Help us to prepare well to receive you on Christmas Day. Amen.

**Song:** The King Is on the Way, David's Dynasty, (Ctrl Click) <a href="https://youtu.be/V6kluetbQdY">https://youtu.be/V6kluetbQdY</a>

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## THE SYMBOLS OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Match the boxes below with the symbols.

### The green leaves

## The circular shape

The candles of the 1st, 2nd, and 4th weeks are purple symbolizing a time of preparation and sacrifice. The 3rd week is Pink symbolizing the joy we feel that Jesus will soon be born.

### The 4 candles

The red ribbon a

Represents
our love for
God and
God's love
that
envelops us.

Represents the color of hope and life. Represents
Christ's light that
lights the
darkness caused
by sin that
separates us from
God.

It's a sign of God's
eternal love, without
a beginning or an end
and our love for God
and Neighbor which
should never end





#### ADVENT CALENDAR

#### Let's accompany Mary and Joseph in preparing for the coming of baby Jesus.

Sunday of Hope FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT PRAYER: To you, Lord, I lift up my soul. I trust in you.	Monday of Hope Jesus and Mary lived in Nazareth doing with joy their daily chores.  I Will do my work today well and with joy, for love of God.	Tuesday of Hope  Joseph received the order from the Roman emperor to go to Bethlehem to register his family. He obeyed and prepared to go.  I Will obey my parents, teachers and all in charge of me.	Wednesday of Hope  Mary fixed her house and packed for the trip without complaining  I Will not complain today, even if I have to do things I don't like.	Thursday of Hope Mary and Joseph travelled on a donkey.  I Will be happy with what I have and won't ask my family for more or better things.	Friday of Hope Mary and Joseph ate very simple food on the trip. I Will eat healthy today. I Will thank God for the food I have and I Will pray for the hungry.	Saturday of Hope  After a day of travel, Mary prepared a meal for Joseph. He found her a place to rest.  I Will do something special to give joy to my parents and my family today.
Sunday of Peace SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT PRAYER: Come Lord Jesus and save all the nations.	Monday of Peace Mary and Joseph travelled with many people to Bethlehem; they were kind to all. I Will be kind to all today, especially those I don't like.	Tuesday of Peace Mary and Joseph were very tired at the end of the day because travel was uncomfortable and hard.  I will help my parents with some chores to give them time to rest after a difficult day at work.	Wednesday of Peace When Mary and Joseph reached Bethlehem, they were pressed by the crowd, but they stayed calm.  I will keep calm and not lose my temper when I am pushed or treated rudely.	Thursday of Peace Joseph tried for, Mary's sake, to find a clean, comfortable place to stay.  I will honor Mary in a special way today by being cheerful. I will pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.	Friday of Peace  Joseph went from door to door, but in every place, he heard "No room!"  I will make room in my heart for others and will try to show special love for someone who seems lonely or unhappy.	Saturday of Peace Mary felt sorry for those who had no room. She knew they would like to have helped.  I will ask Mary to help me make room for Jesus in my heart by doing what he wants me to do.

Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." (God with us.) Isaiah 7:14

He Will be a descendent of David and will bring Reconciliation. **Isaiah 11,1-9** 





# ADVENT CALENDAR Let's accompany Mary and Joseph in preparing for the coming of baby Jesus.

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Sunday of Joy THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT PRAYER I will be happy, O Lord, for you are near!	Monday of Joy Mary and Joseph were offered only a poor stable to stay in and they accepted gratefully. I will excuse others when they are thoughtless, and I will try to be more thoughtful of others today.	Tuesday of Joy The animals helped to warm the stable by being there.  I will share the warmth of my friendship with others, especially with someone I do not like.	Wednesday of Joy Joseph cleaned the stable for Mary and for Jesus, who would soon be born. I will keep my heart pure today by thinking and doing only pure things and by saying only kind things about others.	Thursday of Joy Mary put fresh straw in the manger to make a bed for the Christ Child.  I will brighten the day for others by smiling and showing how happy I am that Jesus is coming.	Friday of Joy Joseph made a bed of clean straw for Mary to sleep on during the night.  I will secretly do a kind act for someone who is not very friendly toward me.	Saturday of Joy Mary unpacked the swaddling clothes that would keep baby Jesus warm.  I will warm my heart with love for Jesus by doing a kind act for each person in my family.
Sunday of Love FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT PRAYER: Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel	Monday of Love  Mary and Joseph waited patiently for the coming of Jesus.  I will try to be patient today, especially when others keep me waiting or do things that bother me.	Tuesday of Love  Mary and Joseph thanked God for taking care of them.  I will thank God for all he gives me. I will show my parents I am grateful for all they do for me.	Wednesday of Love  Mary and Joseph were at peace because they trusted God to care for them.  I will trust God to help me today to be a peacemaker in school and at home.	Thursday of Love A beautiful, bright star shone in the night sky over the stable.  I will bring the brightness of joy to everyone I meet today.	Friday of Love  Mary and Joseph prepare to receive Jesus.  I will be helpful at home these last days before Jesus' birthday.	CHRISTMAS Love is Born  Mary and Joseph welcomed Jesus with great love!  I will welcome Jesus with great love also and offer him all my good acts and prayers during the weeks of Advent.



The Messiah Will be born in Bethlehem. (House of Bread) **Micah 5,1-4** 

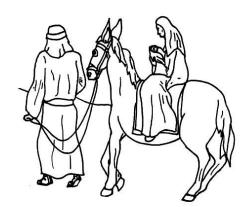




#### Instructions:

- 1. Cut the calendar and the ítems on this page.
- Cut 4 strips of brown construction paper (8x3.5"). Cut lines from the bottom towards the top, 1 and 1/8" apart and leaving 1/8" above to glue to the calendar.
- 3. Cut a triangle on brown paper. (Base 9", height 4", sides 6")
- 4. Glue the calendar onto a paper (11x17"), starting with the 2nd page of the calendar on the bottom border.
- 5. Glue the strips to the top of each week.
- 6. Glue the roof (triangle) to the top.
- 7. Cut and color Mary and Joseph and the message: "Lets accompany..." and glue to the roof.
- 8. Cut the symbols and glue to the week to which they correspond.
- 9. Glue the prophesies to the top corners.









#### Let's accompany Mary and Joseph in preparing for the coming of baby Jesus.

