

# 2020 Advent calendar

## SUNDAY

29 NOVEMBER

### First Sunday of Advent: Hope

Today we light the first Advent candle, which represents hope and reminds us that Jesus is coming.

6

### Second Sunday of Advent: Love

In today's first reading the prophet says, "Prepare the way of the Lord!" (Isaiah 40:3) Reflect on how you are preparing room in your heart for the coming of our Lord.

13

### Third Sunday of Advent: Joy: Gaudete Sunday

The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice." On this day, priests will wear the color "rose" which represents joy. We also begin to focus on the anticipation of Jesus' birth.

20

### Fourth Sunday of Advent: Peace

On this fourth and final Sunday of Advent, we hear Mary's yes, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). May we also say yes and have trust in the Lord's plan for our lives.

## MONDAY

30

### Action:

Put up an Advent wreath in your home. The Advent wreath serves as a powerful visual reminder of the holiness of the season of Advent. It is an invitation to wait and pray in anticipation of the coming of Christ as we reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

7

**Feast of Saint Ambrose:** "Open wide your door to the one who comes. Open your soul, throw open the depths of your heart to see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the sweetness of grace. Open your heart and run to meet the sun of eternal light that illuminates all men."

14

**Feast of Saint John of the Cross:** "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34). St. John of the Cross lived his life just like this verse. May we learn from his example and live our lives following Christ with confidence and love.

21

### Reflect:

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern."  
St. Teresa of Kolkata

## TUESDAY

1 DECEMBER

### Action:

Giving Tuesday. Support your parish or school by donating to #IGiveCatholic. Visit [salina.givecatholic.org](http://salina.givecatholic.org) to see which local organizations are participating.

8

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Holy Day of Obligation\*

The Immaculate Conception refers to the very moment of Mary's conception in the womb of her mother, Anne. Mary was born free from all sin to prepare her to bear the son of God into the world.

15

### Action:

Pray the rosary together as a family.

22

### Action:

Take time to set goals for your faith for the next year, individually and as a family.

## WEDNESDAY

2

### Pray:

Lord, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift and a sign of your love. Help each of us to walk in that love during these weeks of Advent as we wait and joyfully prepare for his coming. Amen.

9

**Feast of Saint Juan Diego,** the simple and humble man whose faith and trust in the Lord brought 9 million people in Mexico to convert to Catholicism after the miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

16

### Pray:

Ask God for the courage and strength to share your faith and love for Christ with others.

23

### Pray:

As a family, pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

## THURSDAY

3

**Feast of Saint Francis Xavier:** Each of us is called to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). Let us confidently share our love for the Lord with others, not only with our words but by how we live our lives each day.

10

### Action:

As a family, donate food to a local food pantry or gifts to another charity.

17

### Reflect:

"It is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an 'Advent,' a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ... therefore, Advent is, so to speak, an intense training that directs us decisively toward him who already came, who will come, and who comes continuously."  
St. John Paul II

24

### Christmas Eve: Action:

Read the story of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-14) to prepare for the Nativity of the Lord.

## FRIDAY

4

### Reflect:

"Advent is here. What a marvelous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come — for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us: Ecce veniet! — He is about to arrive!"  
St. Josemaría Escrivá

11

### Reflect:

How have you allowed the Gospel to affect your life? How attentive are you to the voice of God as he has spoken through the saints and the Church?

18

### Action:

Do a random act of kindness for someone today.

25

### The Nativity of the Lord: Holy Day of Obligation\*

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David, a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

## SATURDAY

5

### Reflect:

"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down."  
Pope Francis via Twitter, 2014

12

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe:** "Am I not here, I who am your mother?" Today, reflect on your own relationship with our heavenly mother. Do you trust in her intercession and help? Do you know that Jesus has entrusted you to her care?

19

### Reflect:

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man."  
Pope Francis via Twitter, 2013

\* During the global pandemic, the Sunday and Holy Day obligation of the faithful to attend Mass is dispensed. The 2020 Advent Calendar is courtesy of The Register, Diocese of Salina, copyright 2020. Please feel free to visit [SalinaDiocese.org](http://SalinaDiocese.org) to download a printable copy for your home or classroom. Nativity window located in St. Edward Church, Belleville.