

Slow down. Quiet. It's Advent!

TWENTY-TWO DAYS TO MAKE ROOM IN YOUR LIFE FOR JESUS

DEC 3
SUN
First Sunday of Advent
In church today, both Jesus and Paul tell us to wake up and stay awake. That's good Advent advice. Start the process by lighting that first candle on your Advent wreath.

DEC 4
MON
Read the Gospel of Mark in one sitting. (It's short.) It's the gospel we'll read in church this year.
Mark's symbol: a winged lion.

DEC 5
TUE
Today, the church remembers St. Clement of Alexandria, a Second-century Greek, who argued for the right use of material goods. "Whatever your station in life, decisions about your material goods are spiritual as well as practical."

DEC 6
WED
In honor of the Feast of St. Nicholas of Myra (a.k.a., Jolly Ol' St. Nick) reflect on his words of wisdom:
"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, through faith and this is not of ourselves."

DEC 7
THU
Read Mark 1:1-8, the gospel for this coming Sunday. Think about what it means to prepare the way of the Lord: See if you can learn any lessons from John the Baptist.

DEC 8
FRI
Psalm 62:6: For God alone my soul in silence waits. Truly my hope is in Him. Where is your hope? What are you waiting for this Advent?

WORK THAT MATTERS
A GOOD FRIEND.
PEACE IN MY HEART.
JESUS.

DEC 9
SAT
In some parts of the world, children write Christmas letters to the baby Jesus. Try this yourself!

Dear Jesus,
Thanks for showing up that first Christmas. You really started something so great. How's the weather up there?
Love, Bobby

DEC 10
SUN
The Second Sunday of Advent
In today's reading from the book of Isaiah, the prophet makes this promise: "The Lord God will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will gather his lambs in his arms."
A great promise!

DEC 11
MON
Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-17
Work on those two things today.

DEC 12
TUE
The Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

DEC 13
WED
This Advent, is your to-do list out of control? Do less. Be more.

DEC 14
THU
Read the gospel for next Sunday: John 1: 6-8, 19-28. It tells us John the Baptist was not the light but came to testify to the light. How can you testify to the light today?

DEC 15
FRI
You can help God's good creation - practice the three R's: Recycle, reuse, reduce.

DEC 16
SAT
Find a way to celebrate Las Posadas, a nine day celebration of the Search for room in the inn.

ANY ROOM?
BETHLEHEM
NAZARETH

DEC 17
SUN
The Third Sunday of Advent
In today's reading from the book of Isaiah, the prophet makes a promise of good news to the oppressed, liberty to captives, release to prisoners. Celebrate that good news today.

DEC 18
MON
Food sustains our bodies. It is also a gift - especially for those in great need. It is a gift you can help provide.

MAY I SHOW YOU TO YOUR TABLE?
HELP

DEC 19
TUE
Today, the church remembers Lillian Trasher, who provided a home for orphaned children in Egypt from 1911 until her death in 1961. Pray for children in need in all the countries of the world.

THANK YOU LILLIAN!

DEC 20
WED
Anxious about conversations (political and otherwise) over holiday meals? Remember the Wisdom of Rumi: Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing there is a field. I'll meet you there.

DEC 21
THU
Feast of St. Thomas, of doubting fame
If I could not doubt, I should not believe.
- HENRY DAVID THOREAU

DEC 22
FRI
Is someone you know struggling with grief or illness or loneliness? Visit or write or phone that person.

THANK YOU.

DEC 23
SAT
When IV Advent is also Christmas Eve (as is the case tomorrow), many folks pass on church in the morning. But Christmas Eve will be richer if you find a IV Advent service tomorrow morning. We know. You're crazy busy. But give yourself the gift of IV Advent worship tomorrow. Remember the reason for the season. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

DEC 24
SUN
Fourth Sunday of Advent
It's also CHRISTMAS EVE

DEC 25
MON
The Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas Day
Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives.