Advent & Christmas Paper Chain

Print this document double-sided. Color each strip, cut them out, and either loop them together to form a chain in date order or add one loop each day to decorate as you go. Each day, remove or add a link to reveal a prayer, reflection, or activity for Advent and Christmas. For more prayer resources, scan the QR code.

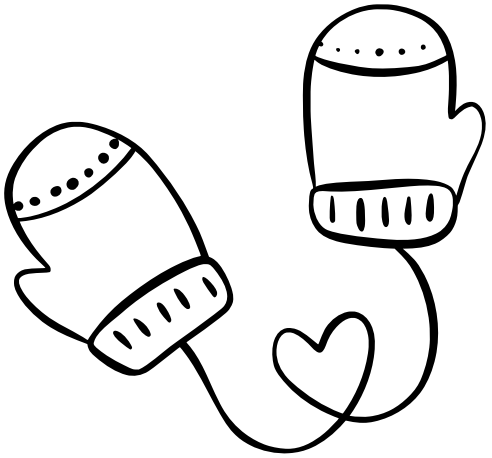
May Family Rosary accompany and bless your family throughout Advent and Christmas!

Sunday, November 29
First day of Advent



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, November 30



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, December 1



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Family Rosary

HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, November 29
First day of Advent

Activity:

If you haven't already, create an Advent wreath with your family. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you like. Light the first purple candle each day this week (perhaps at dinner). Pray an "Our Father," "Hail Mary," and/or "Grace" together.

Monday, November 30

Prompt:

Ask each family member to choose a Fruit of the Holy Spirit—such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, or gentleness—to practice more intentionally during Advent.

Tuesday, December 1

Prompt:

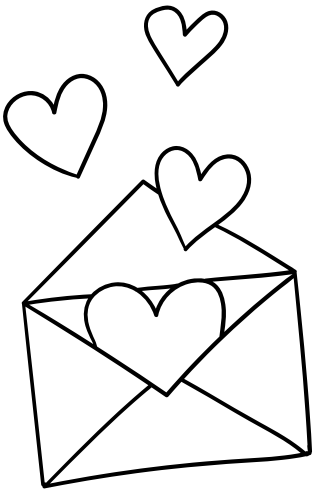
Think of some ways you can incorporate prayer into your Advent season, such as grace before meals, weekly Rosary, sharing the Catholic Mom Daily Gospel Reflections, or nightly prayer before the Nativity scene (creche).

Wednesday, December 2



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, December 3



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Friday, December 4



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Saturday, December 5



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, December 2

Prompt:

Say a "Hail Mary," a decade, or an entire Rosary for someone on your mind or someone who really needs God's help today.

Thursday, December 3

Activity:

Ask each member of your family to write short "thank you notes" to each person in the family. Then, share the notes with each other during dinner, prayer time, or before bed.

Friday, December 4

Prompt:

Take turns sharing your favorite Christmas memories. If you have time, look through old family photos or videos.

Saturday, December 5

Activity:

Start each day with Jesus through a simple prayer, whether you pray on your own or together as a family.

Sunday, December 6
Feast of Saint Nicholas
Second Sunday of Advent



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, December 7



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, December 8
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, December 9
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, December 6
Feast of Saint Nicholas
Second Sunday of Advent

Activity:

Light two purple candles on your Advent wreath. In honor of St. Nicholas, make or buy a gift for someone in need or make a donation to a children's charity.

Monday, December 7

Activity:

Do something kind for a neighbor or friend.

Tuesday, December 8
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Activity:

Today is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you are not familiar with this special day, consider spending some time as a family learning more.

Wednesday, December 9
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Activity:

Draw or color a picture of the Blessed Mother as she appeared to Saint Juan Diego. You may also enjoy reading an account of Saint Juan Diego's encounter with Our Lady in 1531.

Thursday, December 10



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Friday, December 11



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Saturday, December 12



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, December 13

Feast of Saint Lucy

Third Sunday of Advent



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, December 10

Activity:

Help someone in your family with a chore today.
Offer your good deed to Jesus as a prayer.

Friday, December 11

Activity:

Take a walk or drive around with your family
to enjoy local Christmas lights and decorations.

Saturday, December 12

Prompt:

Cut red or pink paper into flower shapes and gently roll or fold the petals to make roses. Add green paper leaves and give your roses to Mary as a special gift for Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Sunday, December 13
Feast of Saint Lucy
Third Sunday of Advent

Activity:

After you light two purple candles and one rose candle on your Advent wreath, pray a decade of the Rosary with your family, meditating on the Joyful Mystery of the Annunciation.
Visit FamilyRosary.org for more prayer resources.

Monday, December 14



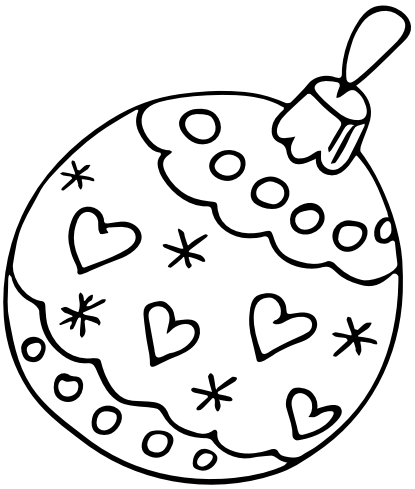
Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, December 15



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, December 16



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, December 17



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, December 14

Activity:

Light a candle and invite a family member to read
the story of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26–38) aloud.

Tuesday, December 15

Activity:

Prepare for Christmas by checking when Confession is offered
at your parish and going as a family. For children too young for
the Sacrament, talk about saying sorry and forgiving others.
Find age-appropriate examinations of conscience online
to help everyone prepare.

Wednesday, December 16

Prompt:

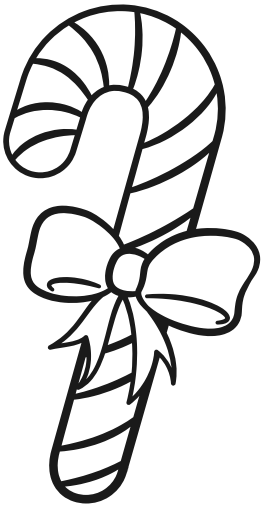
Say a prayer together asking Mary to help you prepare to
welcome Jesus, her Son, into your heart and home.

Thursday, December 17

Prompt:

Begin praying the "O Antiphons" each day until Christmas Eve.
Try reading one aloud after dinner or before bed each evening.

Friday, December 18



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Saturday, December 19



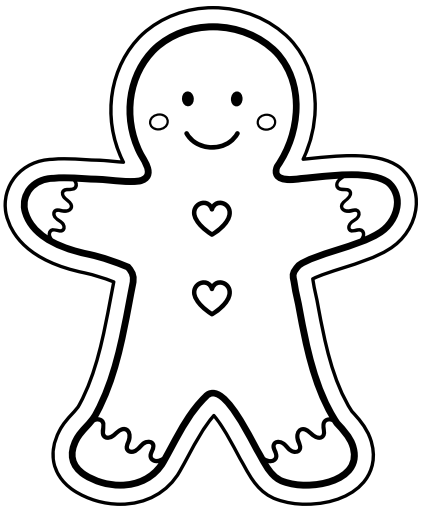
Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, December 20
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, December 21



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Friday, December 18

Activity:

Listen to all verses of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(videos with lyrics are available on YouTube),
and feel free to sing along.

Saturday, December 19

Activity:

Make a card for any priests, deacons, or religious at your parish,
wishing them a Merry Christmas and thanking them for their
"yes" to God's calling and all they do for your church.

Sunday, December 20
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Activity:

After lighting all four candles of your Advent wreath,
share what you're most looking forward to this Christmas
(aside from gifts, of course!).

Monday, December 21

Prompt:

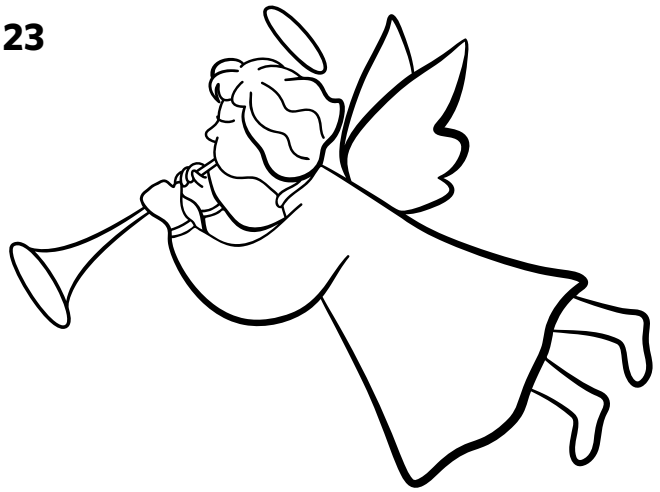
"God is Love" (1 John 4:16). Share some (of the many) ways we
experience God as love.

Tuesday, December 22



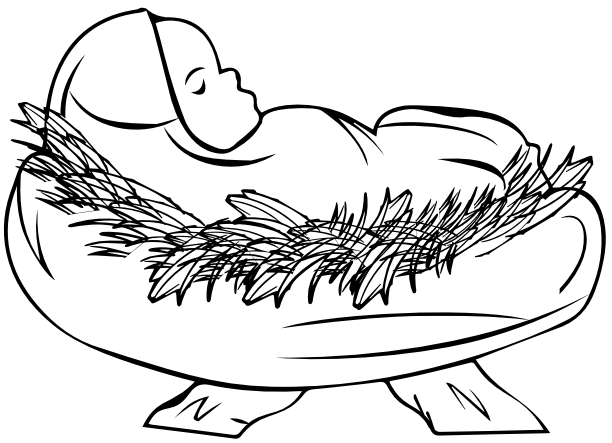
Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, December 23



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, December 24
Vigil of Christmas



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Friday, December 25
Christmas Day



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, December 22

Prompt:

At a meal with your family, share examples of how you saw Christ present throughout your day. Discuss how you can be more attentive to Him as you get ready for Christmas.

Wednesday, December 23

Prompt:

"The 'good news' of Christmas was this: God had come into the world, yet Mary might never have known without an angel's foretelling. In the cold cave of Bethlehem, the Infant Infinite lay in her arms as a very human baby.
~ Venerable Patrick Peyton

Thursday, December 24
Vigil of Christmas

Prompt:

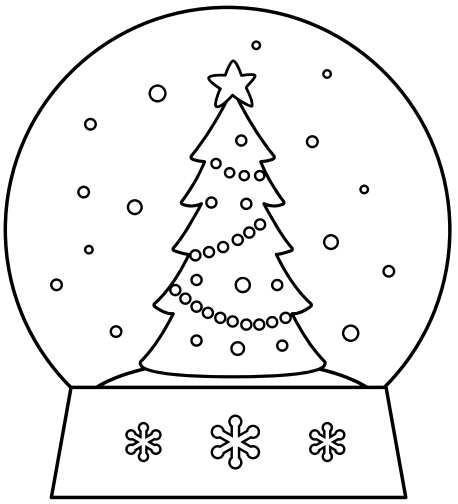
Today is Christmas Eve! Read the Bible story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1–20. Then take turns sharing what Jesus' birth means to you and why it is such a special gift.

Friday, December 25
Christmas Day

Prompt:

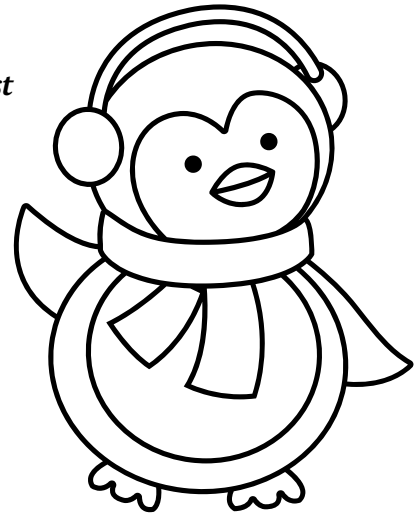
Merry Christmas! Take five quiet minutes to pray to Jesus, thanking Him for coming to redeem us. Attend Mass as a family; be sure to invite any visiting family to join you.

Saturday, December 26
Feast of Saint Stephen



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, December 27
Feast of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist



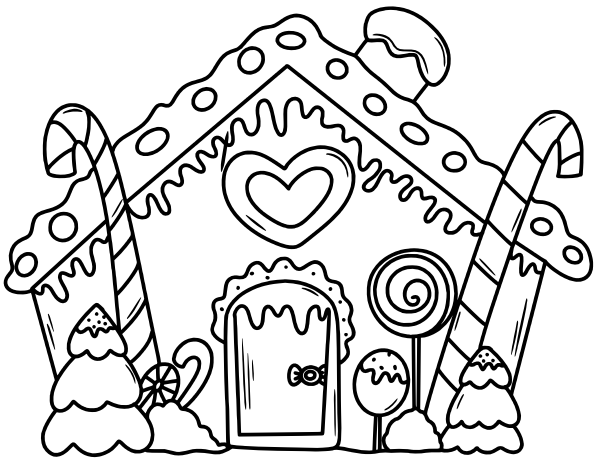
Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, December 28
Feast of the Holy Innocents



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, December 29



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Saturday, December 26
Feast of Saint Stephen

Activity:

Saint Stephen was one of the Church's first deacons (ordained with the specific call to humbly serve those in need). Today, offer a Corporal or Spiritual Work of Mercy.

Sunday, December 27
Feast of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

Activity:

Make a meal together as a family! Enjoy time together, share stories, and remember that God is always with your family.

Monday, December 28
Feast of the Holy Innocents

Activity:

Buy diapers, baby formula, or baby clothes to donate to a local pregnancy support center and help a family in need.

Tuesday, December 29

Activity:

It is still the Christmas Octave!
Sing Christmas carols with your family today.

Wednesday, December 30
Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, December 31
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Friday, January 1
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Saturday, January 2



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, December 30
Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

Prompt:

As the end of the year approaches, gather as a family to pray one decade of the Rosary. During each Hail Mary, invite each person to quietly thank God for one blessing from the past year.

Thursday, December 31
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Prompt:

Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family by creating a family prayer jar filled with the names of loved ones and special intentions, then take turns drawing one and praying for that person together.

Friday, January 1
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Prompt:

Pray together as a family, thanking Mother Mary for her "yes" to being Jesus' mother. Make a list of ways you can ask her to help you grow closer to Him every day.

Saturday, January 2

Prompt:

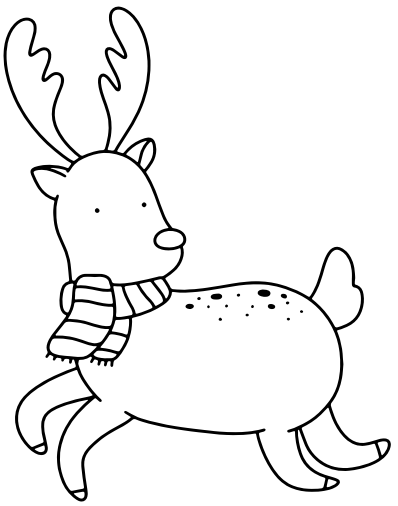
Discuss as a family, one thing you can each do this year to learn more about the Catholic Faith.

Sunday, January 3
Holy Name of Jesus



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Monday, January 4
Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton



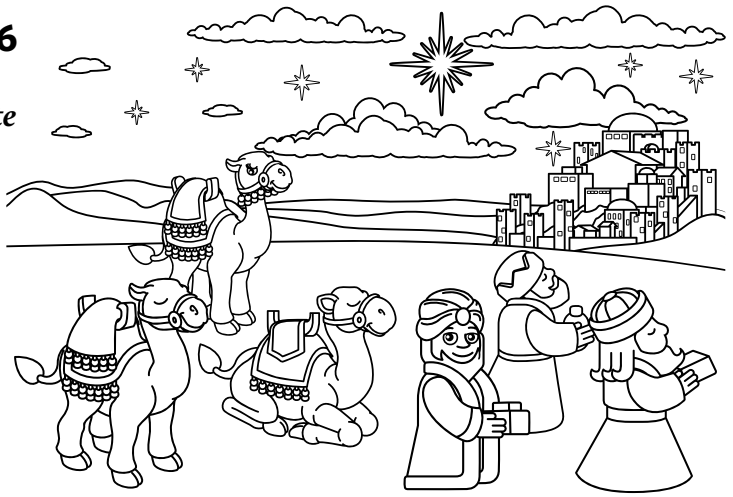
Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Tuesday, January 5



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday, January 6
Feast of the Epiphany
Feast of Saint André Bessette



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sunday, January 3
Holy Name of Jesus

Prompt:

Read Matthew 1:18–25. Did you know that one of Jesus' names, Emmanuel, means "God is with us"? Share the meaning of your name and whether you were named after someone special, then talk about the stories behind everyone's names in your family.

Monday, January 4
Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Prompt:

Pray for teachers, catechists, and parents today.

Tuesday, January 5

Activity:

Visit someone who may be lonely or would love to see you. If you can't visit in person, give them a call or video chat, and let each family member take a turn saying hello!

Wednesday, January 6
Feast of the Epiphany

Prompt:

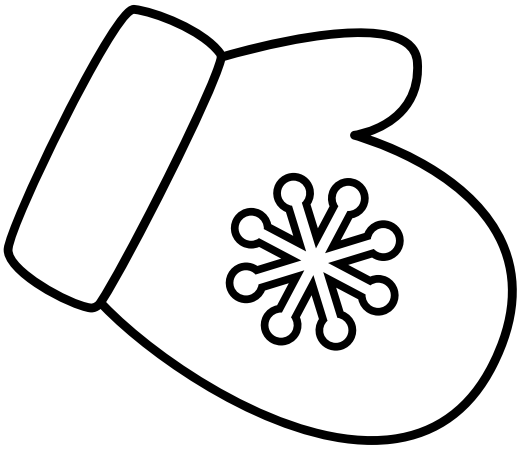
Like the Magi, give Jesus a gift today! The best gift we can give Him is our love, so spend five minutes talking to Jesus and telling Him that you love Him.

Thursday, January 7



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, January 8



Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thursday, January 8
The Baptism of the Lord

Prompt:

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus!
Pray one decade of the Rosary while reflecting on the First Luminous Mystery: the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River.

Thursday, January 9

Prompt:

Today marks the anniversary of Venerable Patrick Peyton's birth!
Visit FatherPeyton.org to pray a novena, asking God for a miracle for your family through Father Peyton's intercession.

Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES