

Celebrate Christ! From Water to Life (Family & Friends Activity)

Advent & Christmas: For each of the weeks during these two seasons, check out the readings and questions below and discuss them with your families or friends and see how the sacraments have impacted your life / their life. Don't forget to check out the specific pamphlets that go with each season, they can be found attached to this email, as well as, on the liturgy page of the Diocesan Website.



Advent

The First Sunday of Advent: November 29, 2020 / Baptism Pamphlet

First Reading: Isaiah 63. 16b-17; 64. 1, 3-8

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 80. 1ab+2, 14-15, 17-18 (R.3)

R. Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

We wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Mark 13. 33-37

Keep alert, for you do not know when the master of the house will come.

Discussion: How does your Baptism connect you to the reading today? What do you know about your own baptism? The date? The Godparents? The Church?

The Second Sunday of Advent: December 6, 2020 / Baptism Pamphlet

First Reading: Isaiah 40. 1-5, 9-11

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 85.8ab+9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.7)

R. In his days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound forever.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3. 8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

Gospel: Mark 1. 1-8

Make Straight the paths of the Lord.

Discussion: What part of these readings can help you explain to others why Baptism has saved you? Do you continue to be changed by baptism? Has it brought you into the bigger Church family?

The Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2020 / Confirmation Pamphlet

First Reading: Isaiah 61. 1-2a, 10-11

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Lk 1. 47-48, 49-50, 53-54 (R. Isa 61.10b)

R. My soul shall exult in my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5. 16-24

May your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: John 1. 6-8, 19-28

Among you stands one whom you do not know.

Discussion: As baptized and confirmed Christians we are members of the “community of the faithful.” After hearing the readings today, especially the Gospel, do you feel like your community is inviting? As a confirmed member of the body of Christ, what improvements could you bring?

The Fourth Sunday of Advent: December 20, 2020 / Confirmation Pamphlet

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7. 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

The Kingdom of David shall be made sure forever before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 89. 1-2, 3-4, 26+28 (R. 1a)

R. Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 16. 25-27

The mystery, so long held secret, is now revealed to all.

Gospel: Luke 1. 26-38

You will conceive in your womb and bear a son.

Discussion: After hearing the readings today how has the Holy Spirit revealed itself to you? Which of the gifts of the Holy Spirit do you need most at this time in your life?

Christmas

Sunday, December 27, 2020 / Eucharist Pamphlet

First Reading: Sirach 3. 2-6, 12-14

Those who respect the Lord honour their parents.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 128. 1-2, 3, 4-5 (R. 1)

R. Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.

Second Reading: Colossians 3. 12-21

Family life in the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2. 22-40

The child grew, filled with wisdom.

Discussion: What is important to you about receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in Communion? How have the readings today connected you to understanding better what it means to be in God's family?

Sunday, January 3, 2021 / Eucharist Pamphlet

First Reading: Isaiah 60. 1-6

The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 72. 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (R. see 11b + Ps 98. 3c)

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3. 2-3a, 5-6

Now the mystery has been revealed: now the Gentiles have become fellow heirs of the promise.

Gospel: Matthew 2. 1-12

We have come from the East to pay homage to the king.

Discussion: How do the readings today, especially the Gospel and the wise men help you to always continue to look for Jesus? What are your memories of receiving First Communion? If you are not a Catholic or have not received yet, what does Communion mean to you?

Sunday, January 10, 2021 / Eucharist Pamphlet

First Reading: Isaiah 42. 1-4, 6-7

Here is my chosen servant in whom my soul delights.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 29. 1-2, 3ac,-4, 3b+9c-10 (R. 11b)

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10. 34-38

The Lord anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 3. 13-17

When Jesus had been baptized, he saw the Spirit of God coming upon him.

Discussion: Just as Jesus was Baptized in the Gospel today, how does our initiation to the Church bring across God's mission? In what ways do you see Communion as a sign and symbol of unity and community?



As an Activity to go with our look at the sacraments this year, make a sacrament board at home. Add to it as we go through talking about the sacraments this coming year, including pictures and memories as members of your family or friends who have received their own sacraments!



*The above readings and descriptions has been taken from the 'Ordo: Liturgical Calendar 2020-2021' published by the CCCB.