**Advent Calendar Ideas**

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| Shovel someone’s walk or rake up leaves on someone’s yard without being paid. | With your allowance or personal money, purchase a gift for a child – donate it to your parish or school gift drive.  | Visit a friend or relative in a nursing home, or write a Christmas greeting letter to a resident at a nearby retirement home. |
| Share a cheerful “Merry Christmas” with three adults you pass by today. | Collect and drop-off non-perishable food items at a local food pantry. | Create a card for a child in the hospital, or someone in your parish who is homebound or sick. |
| Write down a list of three people you want to pray for. Keep the list with you and pray for each person today. | Play a game with your family, instead of watching television tonight. | Find a special quiet place and pray for those in need in your family, your neighborhood and our world.  |
| Spend time with a younger brother, sister or neighbor, reading, playing a game, or making a Christmas ornament. | Lead the meal prayer tonight – share something you are thankful for and ask others to do the same. | Ask a parent or older sibling how you can be of help to them today. |
| Give up electronics for today and spend the time thinking about the kind of person that Jesus wants you to be. | In the Bible, read Luke 1:39-52. Spend time thinking today: What has God done for me that I am especially thankful for? | Write a note to another family member telling them what you appreciate about them. |
| Look for someone who is left out or alone at school today and spend time with them during recess or lunch break. | Ask a parent to share a story about Christmas when they were growing up. | Help a child create a list for Santa, talk to them about gifts they might ask for that don’t cost money. |
| Write a letter to a grandparent, an aunt or an uncle – share with them a wish you have for their new year. | Take ten minutes in a quiet place or on a walk and talk to God about something that is bothering you – ask God for help. | Write down a list of things you are thankful for. Spend time saying “Thank You” to God in prayer.  |
| Create a Christmas decoration for a room or table in your house that is a reminder of what Christmas is really about. | At the library or church, read about St. Nicholas. Think of two ways you could be like St. Nick during Advent. | Clean a part of the house without being asked or paid, just to surprise your parent. |
| Help make dinner, and create a special atmosphere in which to share the meal as a family.  | Forgive a friend who hurt you, and let them know they are forgiven.  | Be especially nice to someone who bothers you today. |

**🕯 My Advent Calendar 🕯**

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| **1** | **9** | **17** |
| **2** | **10** | **18** |
| **3** | **11** | **19** |
| **4** | **12** | **20** |
| **5** | **13** | **21** |
| **6** | **14** | **22** |
| **7** | **15** | **23** |
| **8** | **16** | **24 Christmas Eve** |
|  |   | **25 Christmas Day!** Spend the day with loved ones celebrating God’s gift of Jesus. Take some time to thank God for this special day. |