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My Little Advent 2011

Advent Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, please help me through this Advent. I want to remember the long waiting for Jesus, and the story of His birth. Help me prepare the gift of my heart for Jesus' Birthday. Amen.

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November 27
1st Sunday of Advent



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. (Isaiah 9:2a)

Am I preparing my heart for the Light of the World to come?

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November 28

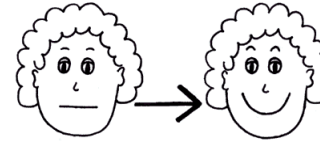


Think about the Annunciation.

Dear Mary, I want to be like you in saying yes to God immediately and always.

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November 29



I will try to be cheerful today, keeping a smile on my face.

Dear Mary, please help me to be cheerful, thinking of the happiness of others instead of mine.

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November 30
St. Andrew, Apostle



St. Andrew, please help me to carry my cross and love Jesus like you did.

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December 1



Help clean up the yard or the house for your mom or a neighbor.

May my work remind me to keep my soul clean and tidy, to prepare for Jesus.

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December 2



Sing *People Look East* while you help around the house to "trim the hearth and set the table".

Jesus, help me to prepare for you both inside and out, and all my work be done with joy.

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December 3
St. Francis Xavier



Dear St. Francis, help me to carry Jesus with me at all times so that others can know Him.

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December 4
2nd Sunday of Advent



For to us a child is born to us a son is given; ... and His name will be called "Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

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December 5



Pray the *Angelus* today.

Think especially about the words. Does this seem like an Advent prayer? What are we remembering?



**December 6
St. Nicholas, Bishop**



Dear St. Nicholas, patron of children and lover of the poor, help me to always be a good child of God and help others in need.



**December 7
St. Ambrose of Milan**



Eat something made with honey in honor of the Honey-Tongued Doctor. St. Ambrose, please help me to always keep my words sweet and kind.



**December 8
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**



God created Mary without any sin on her soul right from the beginning of her life.

Dear Mary, help me keep my soul pure as snow like yours.



**December 9
St. Juan Diego**



Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to St. Juan and gave him her beautiful image. St. Juan always honored Mary and Jesus. St. Juan Diego, help me to love Mary and Jesus.



December 10



Think about the Visitation of Mary to St. Elizabeth.

Dear Mary, help me to be like you, in thinking of others first.



**December 11
3rd Sunday of Advent**



Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.
(Isaiah 7:14)

Let us be filled with joy on Gaudete Sunday; Christmas is almost here!



**December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe**



Mary left her image to remind us how much she cares and loves us and helps us to know and love Jesus. Patroness of the Americas, help me to love your son more.



**December 13
St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**



Dear St. Lucy, your name means "light". Your suffering was a light, showing Jesus to others. Help me offer up things today to welcome the Light of the World.



**December 14
St. John of the Cross**



Dear St. John, please help me learn more about my Faith and love God every day more and more.



December 15



Think about St. Joseph and how he obeyed God and took care of Mary and Jesus.

Dear St. Joseph, help me to be obedient to my parents, and take care of my brothers and sisters.



December 16



Think about Mary and Joseph's hard journey to Bethlehem.

Dear Mary and Joseph, you did not complain with all the hard things on your trip to Bethlehem. Help me to not grumble.



December 17
O Antiphons: O Wisdom



O Antiphons are a very old part of the Liturgy that recall the long waiting for the Savior. Each verse of *O Come Emmanuel* is a different "O".

O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily, to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain.*



December 18
4th Sunday of Advent
O Lord and Ruler (Adonai)



O come, O come, thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height In ancient times didst give the law In cloud and majesty, and awe. *Refrain.*



December 19
O Root of Jesse



Sing *O Come Emmanuel:*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem, From ev'ry foe deliver them That trust Thy mighty power to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.



December 20
O Key of David



Sing *O Come Emmanuel:*

O come, thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.



December 21
O Rising Dawn



Sing *O Come Emmanuel:*

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night. And death's dark shadow put to flight.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.



December 22
O King of Nations



Sing *O Come Emmanuel:*

O come, Desire of nations, bind, In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of peace.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.



December 23
O Emmanuel



Sing *O Come Emmanuel:*

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.



December 24
Christmas Eve



Joseph and Mary arrive in Bethlehem, but there is no room in the inn.

Do I answer the knocks on my heart and make room for Jesus?



December 25
Christmas Day



Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus!

Do I have my gifts ready for Baby Jesus?