

Christ Our Light Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
9677 HIGHWAY 6 • NAVASOTA, TEXAS

OFFICES AND MAILING ADDRESS
510 Manley Street • Navasota, TX 77868

Phone: 936-825-3920 • **Fax:** 936-825-7612

Religious Education: 936-825-1869

After hour emergencies: 936-825-3920

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:15am - noon & 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Friday 9:15am- noon

Other times by appointment

Website: www.christourlight.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopéz

Grant Holt, Permanent Deacon

Garry Janota, Permanent Deacon

Russell Pasket, Permanent Deacon

Gregory Jelinek, MD, Permanent Deacon (Retired)

Ryan Burns, Seminarian in Resident

ADMINISTRATION & BOOKKEEPER

Nelda Kurten

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carolyn Katkoski

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC

Susan Russell

SACRISTAN

Samuel Pry

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Michael Culver (Chairperson), Teresa Morales, Jason Katkoski, Laura Quirino, and Sam Pry

FINANCE COUNCIL

Teresa Morales, Carolyn Katkoski

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

Deacon Grant Holt, Jason Katkoski, Bill Heathcott, Gregorio Gonzalez

RE BOARD

President: Brandi Tejeda, Vice President: Jessica Herrera

Secretary: Teresa Morales, Board Members: Lucy Coronilla, Jason Katkoski, Allyson Sweeney, Den Grant Holt

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Deacon Grant Holt, Danny Clark, Richard Krolczyk, and Joe Rangel

YOUTH MINISTER COORDINATOR

Jessica Herrera

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: (English) 8:00am

Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

First Saturday 9am

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30am

Tuesday 6:00pm (English)

Thursday 6:00pm (Spanish)

ROSARY PRAYED IN COMMON

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:40pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8:10am

Saturday: 5:15pm

Sunday: 7:15am & 12:15pm

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Tuesday, Thursday and

2nd & 4th Saturdays 5:00-5:45pm

and by appointment 936-825-3920

RECONCILIACION/CONFESIONES

Los Martes, jueves y el

segundo y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45pm

y por cita 936-825-3920

November 28, 2021 - First Sunday of Advent

Christ Our Light Catholic Church • Navasota, Texas

November 27 & 28, 2021

Under the Patronage of St. Patrick and Our Lady of Guadalupe

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

No Mass

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

12:00 PM Nelly † and Sterling † Denman

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01

8:30 AM Poor Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02

8:30 AM Larry Wisnoski †

6:00 PM* Serafin Murillo †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 03 (1st Friday)

8:30 AM Spanish Legion of Mary, Living & Deceased

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 04 (1st Saturday)

9:00 AM English Legion of Mary, Living & Deceased

6:00 PM George Malek †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 05

8:00 AM Benefactor's of Memorial Fund

1:00 PM* Martin Ruiz, Jr.

*Spanish

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

5:00 PM Spanish, Legion of Mary, Cry room, CH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Confession, CH Advent
Penance Service, English & Spanish

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01

6:00 PM CCE Grades, 1st-5th, SPCC

6:00 PM RCIC, SPCC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02

12:00 PM English, Legion of Mary, Cry room, CH

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

7:00 PM Spanish, Choir Practice, CH

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 03

5:30 PM TIMY Men's Club, SPH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 04

10:00 AM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, SPH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 05

10:15 AM CCE Grades 6-12th, SPH

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Confirmation Workshop, SPH

4:00 PM to 5:30 PM First Holy Communion
Workshop, SPH

Christ Our Light Catholic Church



The Architecture of Celebration - Houston

The Church is open every day from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for people to come stop by and Pray.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

8:30 am to 11:30 am, SPH
December 11, 2021



E-Mail Addresses for the Parish

To e-mail Fr. Elias...fr.eli@christourlight.org

To e-mail Nelda: nelda@christourlight.org

To e-mail RE Board: reboard@christourlight.org

Christ Our Light web-site: www.christourlight.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE TUESDAY 12:00 NOON

Announcements and or articles are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office, or faxed to 825-7612 or e-mailed nelda@christourlight.org.

Events, meeting etc. for the Parish Calendar are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office in advance.

AFTER MASS WEEKLY PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline Tuesday, 12:00 Noon. Announcements are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office. The Pastor reserves the right to pick and choose which announcements are made in this forum as there is a need to keep these to a minimum.

Todos los anuncios deben ser presentados por escrito en la oficina de la parroquia no mas tarde que los martes al mediodía. El Pastor decidirá si las noticias son de importancia para ser pronuncia das.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, **please** notify the parish office, 825-3920.

Sacrament of Baptism Schedule

English Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM, January 8th **PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR TO CLASS.** To register please contact Deacon Grant Holt at 936-825-6448 or Lucy Coronilla at 936-419-9296.

Spanish Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM, January 23rd. For Information, call Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974



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ALL DOCUMENTS AND FORMS must be completed and turned in before Baptism Date. **SCHEDULED** Baptism will be celebrated once a month at 11:30 AM in English every 4th Saturday at 11:30 AM in Spanish following completion of the baptismal classes the prior month and **Fr. Eli has been informed in advance.** The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebration. Therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated here.

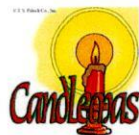


**PRAY for THE CONTINUING
RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF
the infirmed and homebound
members of our community.**

Sarafina Alo, Andrew Castillo, Jo Ann Clepper, Frank Crouch, Elizabeth Culmer, Herman Culmer, Eva Estrada, Liz Estrada, Lois Finke, Fabryna Hitchcock, Liz Johnson, Rachel Kammel, Mary Ann Knowles, Liz Kubricht, Glenda Lawrence, John Lawrence, Nancy Lopez, Ramon Mendez, Christian Mills, Leslie Mills, France Munoz, Delia Nunez, Anita Olguin, Leona Pasket, Cecelia Pearson, Angelina Peterson, Wallace Peterson, Irene Ramirez, Lucila Rivera, Zek Rueda, Rosalinda Salazar, Josh Sechelski, Sherrie Shiflett, Dana Sowell, Lydia Torres, Jessie Torres, Robert Mario Torres, Jessie Valadez, III, Crystal Winkler.

Call the parish office when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 825-3920.

Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, **please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list.**
Thank you.



New Memorial Candles

The new Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.



**YOUR PARISH
SUPPORT
SU APOYO
PARROQUIAL**

TRESASURE YOU HAVE SHARED:

GIFTS FOR GOD — YOUR TITHE REPONDS

November 20 & 21, 2021

(74) Offertory Envelopes/Loose Checks, On Line Giving,	
Mail Ins, Drop Ins	3,689.13
Children Offering	41.00
II Coll., Campaign for Human Development	555.00

Thank you thank you for Mailing, Bringing in, and On Line Giving your Offertory. Baskets will be passed during the Offertory. Baskets will also be passed when we have a II Collection.



The Flowers this past weekend were in Memory of Donnie Abad, Jr. The parish thanks Mary Abad.

In Our Prayers

We remember in prayer our friends and loved ones in active military duty, both in and out of harms way, in the service of their our country. Pray for peace in the world and for our leaders.

SSG Jorge Aguilar, Jr., Alexander Cortez, Jesus Cortez, Spec. SFC Antinia Franco, 1SG, Jason Malek, Antonio Magallon, Jose Rene Milan, Christopher Munoz, Javier Salinas, Shelby Seale, SSgt Allen Thane

**OUR HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS
FOR NOVEMBER**

Universal Intention — People who suffer from depression. We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.



**P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic
Reparative Adoration)**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. following the 8:30 AM Masses and will be reposed at 9:00 PM on Wednesdays and Friday and Thursdays at 5:45 PM before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass.

The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."

Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024 to sign up for a time slot on Thursdays.

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

Web site is FORMED.ORG

The Parish Code to access the website is
MVMZKF

Then register to create an account.

**There are 2 easy ways to connect to
FLOCKNOTE (pick one):**

NOTE: Do not use Mozilla Firefox browser.

1. Visit our church at: www.flocknote.com/christourlightchurch
2. Text SPOLG to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.



First Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021

I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do with it right and just in the land.

—Jeremiah 33:15

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Every 1st weekend of the month (Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses) blessing of all who have a birthday or Wedding Anniversary during the month.

MONTHLY REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASSES

Refreshment will be served after Masses the first Sunday of each month. The refreshments and service will be provided by the following:

Altar Society—January and July
Pastoral Council—February and October
Finance Council—March and September
R.E. Board—April and August
Stewardship—May and November
Choir—June and December

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

1st Sunday of Advent *"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise our heads because your redemption is at hand."* Luke 21:28 We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

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REFLEXIONES DEL BOLETIN DE CO-RESPONSABILIDAD

1er. Domingo de Adviento *"Cuando estas señales empiecen a suceder, levántense y alcen la cabeza porque su redención está cerca"* Lucas 21:28 Celebramos el Adviento cada año en preparación para EL NACIMIENTO DE Jesús, Su primera venida, mientras esperamos Su segunda venida. ¿Qué hará en forma diferente esta temporada de Adviento para crecer en la amistad y el amor de Jesús? ¿Cómo inspirará a otros a hacer lo mismo? Comience por compartir su historia con Dios con los demás. Especialmente aquellos más cercanos a usted. Invítelos y acompañelos en su viaje de fe este Adviento.

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NOVEMBER 28, 2021



FIRST
Sunday
OF
Advent

There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars.
... When these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.

Luke 21:25, 28

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**Pray for
Vocations**



PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

to the Priesthood and Religious Life especially in our

Archdiocese.

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MEMORIALIZING THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you are interested in memorializing the Sanctuary candle, in memory of, in personal reverence and petition or Special Intention for the week, stop by the parish office for more information.

ParishSOFT
Giving

SIGN UP NOW

Sign Up for Christ Our Light
Online Giving Now

Christ Our Light now accepts online giving. Parish Soft is our parish's online giving program. Enroll at the link the below. It is secure and easy to use. You will be able to use Parish Soft for normal tithing and special collections throughout the year. Apps are available, so your cell phones/tablets can be used for online giving.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/dl?uid=chri510191>

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II Collections in November & December

November 27th & 28th — DSF Shortfall of Our Assigned Goal

December 04th & 05th — Retirement Fund for Religious (Sisters)

December 11th & 12th — Maintenance Fund

December 25th & 26th — DSF Shortfall of Our Assigned Goal

DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND 2021

DSF Goal \$25,000.00
Gifts Received \$18,742.00
58 Donors

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IGNITE

Ignite Parish Goal \$208,632.00
Gifts Amount Received \$70,875.00
39 Donors

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An Invitation

"All Women in the BCS Deanery are invited to a special presentation on December 4 from 1-3 PM at the PAC at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bryan, Texas. Kevin Wells, an award-winning journalist, author, evangelist, and great defender of the Catholic faith, will give a talk on "THE WOMEN WE NEED TO NOURISH THE CHURCH." He has spoken on the National Catholic stage including EWTN, TIMY, Legatus, and at hundreds of other men's and women's conferences. Don't miss this opportunity. Admission is free.

Organizer-Meredith Olson, a parishioner at St. Thomas Aquinas olsonjm25@aol.com
Monica Mize monica.mize87@gmail.com

This is a Deanery-wide event for women.

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ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Servicio penitencial de adviento

Prepare the way of the Lord

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, November 30, 2021 WHERE: Christ Our Light Catholic Church TIME: 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. There will be several priest to hear confessions in English and Spanish.

RESERVE LA FECHA: MARTES 30 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2021 Dónde: Iglesia Católica Cristo Nuestra Luz Habrá varios sacerdotes para escuchar confesiones in inglés y español.

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PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

November 28, 2021 — That we have the courage to share our faith story with others and accompany them on their journey.

ORACION DE LOS FIELES

28 de noviembre de 2021 —Que tengamos la valentía de compartir nuestra historia de fe con los demás y de acompañarlos en su viaje.

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Jokes Why aren't chickens allowed in Church? Because they use fowl language.

Why was the snowman looking through a bag of carrots. He was picking his nose.

November 28, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

First Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16 | 1 Thes 3:12-4:2 | Lk 21:25-28,34-36

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

As the days grow shorter and darker, I am especially ready for Advent wreaths and nativity sets; sparkling lights and singing angels. More than ever, I eagerly anticipate the joyful celebration of Christ's birth. But today's readings for the first Sunday of Advent point us to the end of time, when Jesus returns in glory. Wait a minute, what? I don't want to think about the dismay and fright that Jesus foretells in the Gospel, I want to think about shepherds and holy nights. We really can't do one without the other, however, and the underlying message of the readings is one of hope and reassurance: Our God keeps his promises. He is faithful to the covenants he makes. He loves us so much; he offers us new beginnings. Our God became one of us, died to save us, and will give us the strength to be ready to greet him when he comes again. "Stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand," Jesus says. Pray that our preparation for Christ's birth will make us all the more ready for his return.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We are a society and culture that focuses a lot on the outward signs of preparation, and there is a lot of pressure to make it all perfect. Pinterest boards, social media groups, magazine photos, clothing catalogs: all show perfectly dressed people with perfectly adorable dogs standing in front of exquisitely perfect Christmas trees, on perfectly unblemished snow. But perfection on the exterior is not the Christian goal. Our interior preparation – how we make ourselves ready for Christ now, and at the end of time – is the focus of Advent. It is an opportunity for repentance, and a joyful new beginning in our relationship with God. It is a time to recommit ourselves to the covenant he made with us, and the psalm and the second reading offer assistance in doing so. Make time each day to dive in and explore what Scripture reveals about "conducting yourselves to please God."

PRAY Pray the psalm from the first Sunday of Advent each morning. Ask God to open your heart to ways you can be more just. He will teach you, guide you, and strengthen your heart so that you can stand upright to face whatever challenges come your way.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior,
and for you I wait all the day.

December 2021

November '21							January '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6		2	3	4	5	6	7	1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
28	29	30					30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	29	30	1 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	2 8:30am COL Fr. Eli	3 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 5pm Luther Trustee Camp Fr. Eli	4 9am COL Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
5 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	6	7 6pm Vigil COL English Fr. Eli	8 Immaculate Conception 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam	9 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 10am Nursing Home Fr. Eli	10 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	11 8:30am Luther Unit Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
12 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	13	14 NO MASS AGH PRIESTS Christmas Party	15 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	16 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 10am Golden Creek Fr. Eli	17 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 7:30pm Lessons & Carols @ COL Choir	18 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli
19 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	20	21	22 8:30am COL Fr. Eli 12pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli	23 8:30am COL Fr. Eli	24 4:00pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	25 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 12pm COL Fr. Eli 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Paul 6pm COL Fr. Eli
26 8am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 1pm COL Fr. Eli	27	28 6pm COL Fr. Eli	29 8:30am COL Fr. Eli	30 8:30am COL Fr. Eli	31 4:15pm St. Stanislaus Fr. Eli 6pm COL Fr. Eli	1 10am COL Fr. Eli 10am St. Stanislaus Fr. Adam 12pm COL Fr. Eli
2	3	Preaching Schedule: Deacon Grant 12/4-5 Fr. Eli 12/11-12 Deacon Garry 12/18-19 Deacon Russell 12/25-26				

ADVENT

LIVING IN CHRIST'S LIGHT

In the northern hemisphere, Advent begins during that dark period of the solar year in which the days grow shorter and the nights longer. In the midst of this darkness the Church proclaims the approach of God's light: "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him" (John 1:9-10).

During the last half of December, when the Roman pagans celebrated the feast of the Unconquered Sun, the Church now gathers to proclaim that the divine Son has indeed come into the world and "In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:4-5).

In Advent we are invited to discover anew God's presence with us, which like light illuminates ourselves and our lives, and then to share that light with others. In our world's darkness, in which many "do

not see the light of the gospel,...God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to bring to light the knowledge of the glory of God on the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:4, 6).

For this reason Paul reminds us that "you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness, right relations and truth...Everything exposed by the light becomes visible" (Ephesians 5:8-9, 13).

But we not only see everything anew in God's light, but we must now live in that light. Our challenge to be bearers of God's light is what Jesus explains to us his followers. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father (Matthew 5:14-16).



From Darkness to Light

As we prepare to celebrate the divine incarnation of Christ at Christmas, we anticipate how God's goodness will give us light, the light of the messiah that dawns in the birth of Christ at Bethlehem and will shine in its fullness at his coming again as king and judge. So each day, through our reading and reflection on the Scripture readings, our prayer of intimate conversation with God and our actions in imitation of Jesus, let us journey through the darkness of suffering to the experience of new life in Christ as we draw closer and closer to the One who calls us to intimacy and also wants to dwell within us. "I am coming soon. Come, Lord, Jesus! Come!" (Revelation 22:20)



MASS READINGS FOR ADVENT 2021

1st Sunday

Jeremiah 33:14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

2nd Sunday

Baruch 5:1-9
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

3rd Sunday

Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18

4th Sunday

Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Reflecting on the Lights of Advent

During Advent, lights are part of several familiar practices in our homes. Each night as we pray with our Advent wreath, we light candles to illuminate the darkness. Beginning with one candle the first week, each week we light one more candle and can notice that the darkness is gradually receding, reminding us that through Advent we are getting closer and closer to encountering the Light of Christ at Christmas.

Lights are also commonly used to decorate our household Christmas tree and are especially beautiful when viewed in the darkness, giving off a glow that can help us recall the promise of the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

Many homes, businesses, churches and municipalities also put up light displays to celebrate Christmas. During Advent, take a drive through your neighborhood or city at night to view the Christmas lights and reflect on how when many lights are glowing the darkness of night can be transformed—which imitates the power of God's light in Christ to illuminate our lives.



Reflecting on the Christmas Nativity Display

The custom of erecting Christmas crib or crèche to represent the mystery of the nativity is generally attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (1181–1226), who in 1223 obtained from Pope Honorius III permission to use a crib and figures of the Christ child, Mary, Joseph and others.

Pope Francis has reminded us that "the Nativity display is a catechesis about the Christmas story" and encourages us "to pause to contemplate the scene, and wonder at the marvelous way in which God wanted to come into the world be reborn in us. Let us ask for the grace of wonder before this mystery—a reality so tender, so beautiful, so close to our hearts—that the Lord may give us the grace of wonder to encounter him, to draw closer to him, to draw closer to us all. If the pandemic has forced us to be more distant, Jesus, in the Nativity scene, reminds us that the way of human tenderness is to be close to each other. Let us follow this path."

During Advent, make a mini-pilgrimage with members of your household or friends to visit several churches to view their different Nativity displays. As you drive between churches, share your impressions and thoughts by asking:

- What most fascinates me about the nativity display?
- How might I identify with the thoughts of each of the figures in the display?
- What does the Nativity display most make me wonder about in the Christmas story?

Advent 2021

Daily Thoughts and Scripture
Readings to Prepare
for Christ's Coming

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 November Be Vigilant Jesus asks us to be attentive to the signs of his presence with us. <i>Luke 21:36</i>	29 Walk in God's Light How might I imitate Jesus' loving service today? <i>Isaiah 2:5</i>	30 St. Andrew Come Holy Spirit Ask the Holy Spirit to be with and guide you today. <i>Isaiah 11:2-3</i>	1 December Moved with Compassion How can I imitate Jesus' compassion for others? <i>Matthew 15:32</i>	2 Trust in God How might I deepen my trust in God with me today? <i>Isaiah 26:4</i>	3 St. Francis Xavier Heal My Blindness Ask Jesus to heal what keeps me from seeing him clearly. <i>Matthew 9:28-29</i>	4 St. John Damascene Give Without Cost How can I give to others today without expecting any return? <i>Matthew 10:8</i>
5 Prepare the Way Let us remove any obstacles for God to draw near to us today. <i>Luke 3:4</i>	6 St. Nicholas Your Sins Are Forgiven Trust in God's forgiveness for your failings and sins. <i>Luke 5:20</i>	7 St. Ambrose Help the Little Ones How might I seek out and help someone in need today? <i>Matthew 18:14</i>	8 Immaculate Conception Hope in the Lord How might I increase my hope because God is drawing near? <i>Isaiah 40:31</i>	9 St. Juan Diego I Will Help You How has God's promise to help been most evident to me? <i>Isaiah 41:13</i>	10 I Will Lead You How has God been leading me most during this Advent? <i>Isaiah 48:17</i>	11 St. Damasus I Look Down Upon Us How have I experienced God's care for me this Advent? <i>Psalms 80:2-3</i>
12 Rejoice in the Lord! How might I show my joy that Christmas will soon be here? <i>Philippians 4:4</i>	13 St. Lucy Show Us Your Love Ask God to draw nearer today to be with you. <i>Psalms 85:8</i>	14 St. John of the Cross Bless the Lord Spend time today giving thanks to God for all God's blessings. <i>Psalms 34:2-3</i>	15 Near Is Our Salvation How am I preparing for God's greater presence in my life? <i>Psalms 85:9-10</i>	16 God Calls You Back How might I return to a better relationship with God today? <i>Isaiah 54:7</i>	17 Justice Shall Flourish How have I been making my relationships better this Advent? <i>Psalms 72:7</i>	18 God Is With Us What most excites me that Jesus became fully human like me? <i>Matthew 1:23</i>
19 Sharing the Good News How might I share my Christmas beliefs with others today? <i>Luke 1:45</i>	20 Let It Be! How might I say "yes" to God's desire to be born in me this Christmas? <i>Luke 1:38</i>	21 St. Peter Canisius Let Me Hear Your Voice Take time today to read the Bible to hear God's voice. <i>Song of Songs 2:14</i>	22 Proclaim the Good News Share the true meaning of Christmas with someone today. <i>Luke 1:46-55</i>	23 St. John of Kanty You Are My Savior Rejoice and thank God that Jesus has become human like us. <i>Psalms 25:4-5</i>	24 A Child Born or Us Look for ways to help those most vulnerable and needing help. <i>Isaiah 9:5</i>	25 Christmas Glorify God! Let us give thanks and praise for the joy of God with us now. <i>Luke 2:15-20</i>

Adviento

2021

Pensamientos y Lecturas
Diarias para Prepararnos
para la Venida de

DOMINGO	LUNES	MARTES	MIÉRCOLES	JUEVES	VIERNES	SÁBADO
28 Noviembre Mantente Atento Jesús nos pide que estemos atentos a las señales de su presencia en nuestras vidas. <i>Lucas 21:36</i>	29 Camina en la Luz de Dios ¿Cómo puedo hoy imitar el servicio amoroso de Jesús? <i>Isaías 2:5</i>	30 San Andrés Ven Espíritu Santo Pídele hoy al Espíritu Santo que permanezca contigo y te guíe. <i>Isaías 11:2-3</i>	1 Diciembre Llenos de Compasión ¿Cómo puedo imitar la compasión que Jesús les tenía a los demás? <i>Mateo 15:32</i>	2 Confía en Dios ¿Cómo puedo hoy profundizar mi confianza en Dios? <i>Isaías 26:4</i>	3 San Francisco Javier Sana mi Ceguera Pídele a Jesús que sane aquello que te impide verlo claramente. <i>Mateo 9:28-29</i>	4 San Juan Damasceno Da Sin Esperar ¿Cómo podría en este día dar a los demás sin esperar nada a cambio? <i>Mateo 10:8</i>
5 Preparemos el Camino Remueve cualquier obstáculo que te impida acercarte a Dios hoy. <i>Lucas 3:4</i>	6 San Nicolás Tus Pecados Son Perdonados Confía en que Dios perdona tus faltas y tus pecados. <i>Lucas 5:20</i>	7 San Ambrosio Ayuda a Los Pequeños ¿Cómo puedo hoy buscar y ayudar a alguna persona necesitada? <i>Mateo 18:14</i>	8 Inmaculada Concepción Esperanza en El Señor ¿Cómo puedo aumentar mi esperanza ahora que Dios se acerca? <i>Isaías 40:31</i>	9 San Juan Diego Yo te Ayudaré ¿Cómo me ha sido más evidente la promesa de Dios de ayudarme? <i>Isaías 41:13</i>	10 Yo te Guiaré ¿En qué maneras me ha estado guiando Dios en este Adviento? <i>Isaías 48:17</i>	11 San Dámaso Protégenos Señor ¿Cómo he experimentado el cuidado de Dios durante este Adviento? <i>Salmo 80:2-3</i>
12 ¡Regójate en El Señor! ¿Cómo puedo mostrar mi esperanza ahora que la Navidad está por llegar? <i>Filipenses 4:4</i>	13 Santa Lucy Muéstranos tu Amor Pídele a Dios que se acerque más a ti y permanezca contigo hoy. <i>Salmo 85:8</i>	14 San Juan de la Cruz Bendice al Señor Pasa un tiempo hoy dándole gracias a Dios por todas sus bendiciones. <i>Salmo 34:2-3</i>	15 Nuestra Salvación está Cerca ¿En qué maneras me preparo para tener una presencia más grande de Dios en mi vida? <i>Salmo 85:9-10</i>	16 Dios te Regresa la Llamada ¿Cómo puedo volver a tener una mejor relación con Dios? <i>Isaías 54:7</i>	17 La Justicia Florecerá ¿Cómo he tratado durante este Adviento de mejorar mi relación con los demás? <i>Salmo 72:7</i>	18 Dios está con Nosotros ¿En qué me emociona más saber que Jesús se hizo humano como yo? <i>Mateo 1:23</i>
19 Comparte las Buenas Nuevas ¿Cómo podría compartir mis creencias Navideñas con otras personas hoy? <i>Lucas 1:45</i>	20 ¡Que así Sea! ¿Cómo podría darle un "sí" a al deseo que tiene Dios de nacer en mí en esta Navidad? <i>Lucas 1:38</i>	21 San Pedro Canisio Permíteme Escuchar tu Voz Tómate un tiempo hoy para leer la Biblia y así escuchar la voz de Dios. <i>Cantar de Cantares 2:14</i>	22 Proclama las Buenas Nuevas Comparte con alguien hoy el verdadero significado de la Navidad. <i>Lucas 1:46-55</i>	23 San Juan de Kanty Tú Eres mi Salvador Regójate y dale gracias a Dios porque Jesús se ha hecho humano como nosotros. <i>Salmo 25:4-5</i>	24 Nos ha Nacido un Niño Busca formas de ayudar a los más vulnerables y a los necesitados. <i>Isaías 9:5</i>	25 Navidad ¡Glorifica a Dios! Démosle gracias y alabanza a Dios por la dicha de que Él ya está con nosotros. <i>Lucas 2:15-20</i>

Christ is Born!

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Advent 2021

28 NOVEMBER

THE FIRST

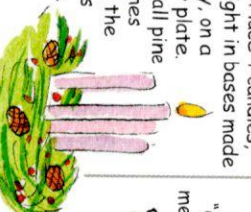
SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is the time we prepare to celebrate Jesus coming to us as a baby. Watch for signs of "getting ready" at home and at Church.



29

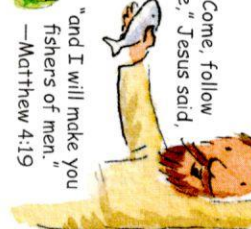
Make a simple Advent Wreath: Place 4 candles, held upright in bases made of clay, on a dinner plate. Lay small pine branches around the plates edge.



30

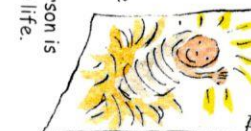
ST. ANDREW

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." —Matthew 4:19



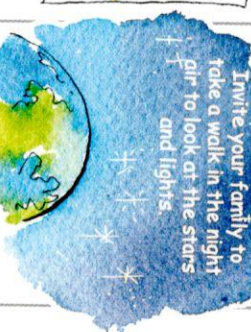
1 DECEMBER

You can make your own Christmas cards for friends and family. Think of the things that make you glad this person is part of your life.



2

Invite your family to take a walk in the night air to look at the stars and lights.



3 ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." —Mark 16:15



4

Is there an elderly neighbor who could use a little help at this time of year? Offer to carry in some groceries to lighten their load!



5 THE SECOND

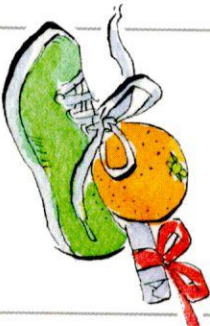
SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God is leading Israel in joy. (Baruch 5:9)



6 ST. NICHOLAS

Did you wake up to a shoe full of surprises?



7 ST. AMBROSE

What do you know about St. Ambrose? Look him up on the Internet and tell your family about him at dinner tonight.



8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Mary, Mother of Jesus, said yes to God—so that God could give light to the whole world. How can we say yes to God?

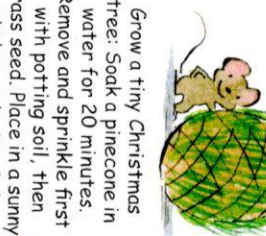


9 Does your family have a crèche set? You can make your very own using clay or odds and ends you find around the house.

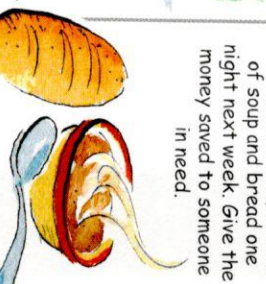


10

Grow a tiny Christmas tree: Soak a pinecone in water for 20 minutes. Remove and sprinkle first with potting soil, then grass seed. Place in a sunny window and mist daily.



11 Make a simple meal of soup and bread one night next week. Give the money saved to someone in need.



12 THE THIRD

SUNDAY OF ADVENT



13 ST. LUCY

Today in Sweden, the oldest daughter puts a wreath of candles on her head and brings breakfast to the family. Can you bring breakfast to your parents in bed?



14 ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

"But I will leave within you the meek and humble, who trust in the name of the Lord." —Zechariah 3:12

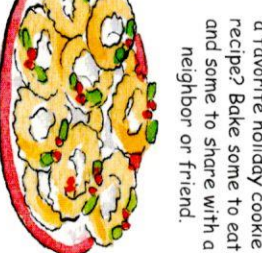


15

Jesus lives in each one of us. Do something kind for someone today.



16 Does your family have a favorite holiday cookie recipe? Bake some to eat and some to share with a neighbor or friend.



17

Joseph named him Jesus. (Matthew 1:25) Find a figure of Joseph for your crèche. How did Joseph care for Jesus?



18 Christmas is the story of good news for each and every one of us. With your family, read together Luke 2:1-20.



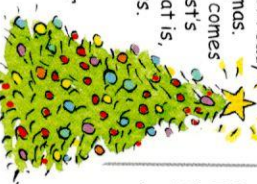
19 THE FOURTH

SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Blessed are you who believed. (Luke 1:45)



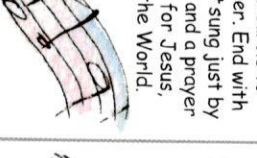
20 Advent is the season when we get ready for Christmas. That word comes from "Christ's Mass"—that is, Jesus' Mass. What is Christmas like at your house?



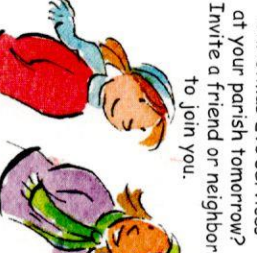
21 Elizabeth and Mary were the first to trust in Jesus—when he was still a baby! When have you known you could trust Jesus?



22 Choose a few favorite Christmas carols to sing together. End with Silent Night sung just by candle light and a prayer of thanks for Jesus. Light of the World.



23 Will you attend Christmas Eve services at your parish tomorrow? Invite a friend or neighbor to join you.



24

Angels bring messages. Read Luke 1:14 for a good message!



25 CHRISTMAS

The Child to be born will be holy; he will be the Son of God. Luke 1:35 Say a prayer of thanks today for God's gift of Jesus Christ to each and every person on earth!



Advent 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 28 Buy or make an Advent wreath. Bless it and light the first candle tonight and every night this week. Read Luke 21:25-28, 34-36.	29 Advent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a simple prayer of praise anytime you have to wait during Advent.	30 The presence of Jesus reminds us to hope in God's mercy. Make a list of reasons for your hope today.	1 Pick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Identify your "go-to sin" and resolve to conquer it during Advent.	2 Add 20 minutes of daily prayer during Advent. Set an alarm to remind you to pray for 10 minutes each morning and night this month.	3 In gratitude that God provides for your needs, set aside gently used clothing and give it to the poor. Add a piece you love as a special sacrifice.	4 Perform a thorough examination of conscience today. Then attend Confession to ready your soul to greet the Savior.
5 At sundown tonight, light two violet candles in the Advent wreath and read Luke 3:1-6.	6 St. Nicholas was a generous man and a courageous bishop. Today, make at least one generous act of love in his honor.	7 In your Christmas cards write a note about the blessings you received this year as a witness to God's love.	8 The feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates Mary's freedom from Original Sin. Attend Mass and pray a Rosary.	9 Today, let nothing discourage you in honor of St. Juan Diego. He never gave up, placing his trust in Jesus and His Mother.	10 Buy Christmas gifts from stores or online merchants that carry "fair trade" items to support workers in developing countries.	11 To honor the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe tomorrow, place a rose in a vase in your home and play a "Hail Mary" whenever you pass it.
Gaudete 12 Sunday-Joy! Celebrate the halfway point of Advent. Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Read Luke 3:10-18.	13 Spend time in silence today. Say "no" to unnecessary distractions. In silence and peace, you will be open to God's will.	14 Think of Biblical accounts of God's mercy to sinners. Ask forgiveness from someone you have hurt and forgive those who wronged you.	15 In honor of the Holy Family's trek to Bethlehem, pray for all those who have been forced from home.	16 Send a card to someone who lost a loved one in the last year. Offer your thoughts and prayers for healing and comfort.	17 Pray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families.	18 Pray the Angelus at 6:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 6:00pm every day until Christmas.
19 Light all four candles in the wreath tonight and all week. Read Luke 1:39-45.	20 This can be a sad time for those who are alone. Include anyone in your own gatherings who might be otherwise forgotten.	21 As a gift to the coming Savior, repair a relationship with a friend or family member that needs healing.	22 Make an effort to share God's love today. Say a kind word or listen with compassion to someone who is suffering.	23 Gather friends and neighbors and Christmas carol (safely) at a nursing home or homeless shelter.	24 Even if you live alone, put up and decorate a Christmas tree. Light it as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World.	Rejoice! 25 Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20 and focus on each detail. Think of how joyful it will be to meet Jesus when he comes again.

Adviento 2021

Domingo	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
Noviembre 28 Compra o haz una Corona de Adviento. Bendícela y enciende la primera vela esta noche y todas las noches esta semana. Leer a Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36.	29 El Adviento se trata de esperar la llegada del Salvador. Ofrezca una simple oración de alabanza cada vez que tenga que esperar durante el Adviento.	30 La presencia de Jesús nos recuerda que debemos esperar en la misericordia de Dios. Haga una lista de las razones de su esperanza hoy.	1 Elija un hábito que lo aleje de la santidad. Identifique su "pecado al que debe ir" y decida conquistarlo durante el Adviento.	2 Agregue 20 minutos de oración diaria durante el Adviento. Configure una alarma para recordarle que debe orar durante 10 minutos cada mañana y cada noche de este mes.	3 En gratitud porque Dios provee para sus necesidades, deje a un lado la ropa usada suavemente y entreguela a los pobres. Agregue una pieza que le guste como sacrificio especial.	4 Realice hoy n examen de conciencia minucioso. Entonces asiste a Confesión para preparar tu alma para saludar al Salvador.
5 Al anochecer, enciende dos velas violetas en la corona de Adviento y lea Lucas 3: 1-6.	6 San Nicolás fue un hombre generoso y un obispo valiente. Hoy, haz al menos un generoso acto de amor en su honor.	7 En sus tarjetas de Navidad, escriba una nota sobre las bendiciones que recibió este año como testimonio del amor de Dios.	8 La fiesta de la Inmaculada Concepción celebra la libertad de María del pecado original. Asiste a misa y reza un rosario.	9 Hoy, nada te desanime en honor a San Juan Diego. Nunca se rindió, poniendo su confianza en Jesús y su Madre.	10 Compre regalos de Navidad en tiendas o comerciantes en línea que ofrezcan artículos de "comercio justo" para ayudar a los trabajadores en los países en desarrollo.	11 Para honrar la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe mañana, coloque una rosa en un jarrón en su casa y reza un "Ave María" cada vez que lo pase.
12 Gaudete-Domingo de Alegría! Celebrae the halfway Celebrate el punto medio del Adviento. Enciende dos velas violetas y la rosa de alegría. Lea Lucas 3:10-18.	13 Pase tiempo en silencio hoy. Di "no" a las distracciones innecesarias. En silencio y paz, estarás abierto a la voluntad de Dios.	14 Piense en los relatos bíblicos de la misericordia de Dios para con los pecadores. Pídele a alguien a quien hayas herido la orgía y perdona a los que te hicieron daño.	15 En honor al viaje de la Sagrada Familia a Belén, ore por todos aquellos que se han visto obligados a abandonar su hogar.	16 Envíe una tarjeta a alguien que perdió a un ser querido en el último año. Ofrezca sus pensamientos y oraciones por la curación y el consuelo.	17 Ore por los hombres y mujeres de las fuerzas armadas que no podrán pasar la Navidad con sus familias.	18 Pray the Angelus at 6:00 am, 12:00pm, and 6:00pm every day until Chris Reza el Ángelus a las 6:00 am; a las 12:00pm; y a las 6:00pm todos los días hasta Navidad. tmas.
19 Encienda las cuatro velas de la corona esta noche y toda la semana. Lea Lucas 1:39-45.	20 Este puede ser un momento triste para quienes están solos. Incluya a cualquier persona en sus propias reuniones que de otra manera podría ser olvidada.	21 As a gift to the coming Savior, repair a relationship with a friend or family member that needs healing.	22 Como regalo para el Salvador venidero, repare una relación con un amigo o familiar que necesite sanidad.	23 Reúna a amigos y vecinos y lleve villancicos (de manera segura) en un hogar de ancianos o refugio para personas sin hogar.	24 Incluso si vives solo, coloca y decora un árbol de Navidad. Enciéndelo como símbolo de Cristo, la Luz del Mundo.	25 ¡Alégrense! Lea la historia del nacimiento de Jesús en Lucas 2: 1-20 y concéntrese en cada detalle. Piense en lo gozoso que será encontrarse con Jesús cuando regrese.

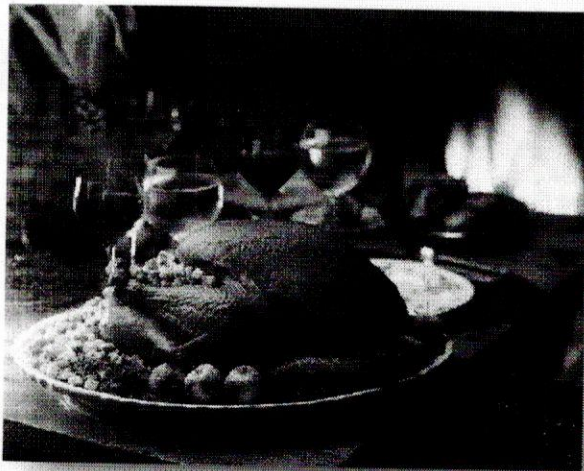
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Blessings on your Thanksgiving

As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the many blessings God has given to us. The question we should be asking is, "How do we begin to thank God for all that he has done and continues to do for us?" High on our lists of things for which to thank our heavenly Father should be our new lives in Christ. In spite of our sinful ways, God demonstrated his awesome love for us by sending his only Son to the Cross on our behalf. We certainly will also thank him for our families as well as our health and material blessings. How blessed we are that God provides for all we need to sustain our lives, and, through faith he provides, he gives us life forever with him.

Another wonderful blessing for which we should always give thanks is God's faithfulness to us. As the prophet Jeremiah wrote, *"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"* (Lamentations 3:22-23). God's faithfulness to us never wavers, even though we vacillate in our faithfulness to him.



As you thank God this Thanksgiving season, you may want to consider putting God's love within you into action with a Thanksgiving gift for the ministry here at our church. Through our giving, we demonstrate our gratitude and faithfulness to him who is always faithful to us. How wonderful it is that God promises to bless those who are generous in his name!

Blessings on your Thanksgiving Day as you spend time with your family, enjoy some turkey, and possibly watch some football.

Insight

"A wise person once said, 'Even a fool can count the apples on a tree, but it takes a wise man to count the trees in an apple.' To see the tree in a seed and then help it to grow; to pick the winner before he has won his laurels and then help him to win; to discover the poet or genius in that dreamy, restless, nonconforming schoolboy, and then help him to find himself—that is the creative kind of wisdom which keeps life growing and entitles us to be called 'workers together with God.'"

Ralph W. Sockman

Thanks for all Things

During this Thanksgiving season, it is easy for us to give thanks for our families, our homes, our clothing, and our food. These blessings are very visible to us. However, there are other blessings for which we should be thankful, but we may need to be reminded to give thanks because we sort of take them for granted. For example, when is the last time that you thanked God for the air that you breathe, the smell and taste of fresh coffee in the morning, the beauty of flowers or the beauty of a sunset, the excitement from a college or pro football game, the joy of holding a baby. The list could go on forever.

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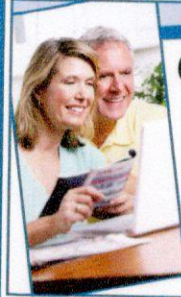
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of ADVERTISED coffee
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in an ADVERTISED car
and then
refuses to ADVERTISE
believing it doesn't pay.
Later if business is poor
he ADVERTISES it for sale.

WHY IS IT?