

Dear St. Vincent families,

Advent is upon us and we are so excited to share some of the ways that our school community will be preparing our hearts during this liturgical season. We are including our schedule and also some virtues that are specific to Advent.

Before Advent even begins, we will attend a Jesse Tree service on Friday, December 1 at 1:00 in the church. This will teach us about the genealogy of Jesus and be a great way to get ready for Advent. Each grade will be responsible for displaying an ornament in the hallways so we can have reminders of this all throughout Advent (you will see these assignments listed on the schedule). You can ask your child about his/her Jesse Tree ornament!

Our Advent will also include a school-wide collection of items for The Rescue Mission and Charis House. The items that we are collecting are included here. We must be aware that there are so many people in our own community who can use our assistance; the season is not about what we get but what we can give. We must always remember that Jesus taught us that whatever we are doing for others, we are doing for Him.

To help us focus on the liturgical season of Advent and remember that Christmas doesn't begin until Christmas day, we are having Advent dress down days! We will wear purple on December 5, purple again on December 12 and rose (pink) on December 20.

Advent at our school will also include an activity with spirit pals (making an angel after listening to Mr. Coyle read The Advent of Christmas by Matt Maher). It will also include a prayer service, where students will put "hay" in the manger, meditating on how they can give of themselves this Advent and then offering it to Jesus.

Teachers will also have several opportunities to make this a holy liturgical season. We will be having book study and holy hour opportunities and we are really looking forward to it!

Thank you for joining us in prayer and an even deeper rootedness in Christ during this beautiful season of Advent! Be assured of our prayers for your families!

God bless!

Advent 2023

“Truly, the Lord is waiting to be gracious to you, truly, he shall rise to show you mercy;
For the Lord is a God of justice: happy are all who wait for him!” - Isaiah 30:18

Date	Activity
Friday, Dec. 1	Jesse Tree Service at the church at 1:00
Sunday, Dec. 3	Advent begins!
During Advent	School-wide collection for Rescue Mission & Charis House
Monday, Dec. 4: HOPE	Teachers will receive purple & rose strips of paper to give to students when they show the virtues of respect and responsibility . Students or teachers write what they did on the strip. Advent chain will be hung around the school. Teachers will receive yellow strips of paper for students to write how they will give of themselves this Advent . They will place these strips of hay in the manger during the Advent Prayer service on December 20. Optional Holy Hour at 6:00 am
Wednesday, Dec. 5	Purple dress down day
Thursday, Dec. 7	<i>Rejoice!</i> - optional staff book study in the library at 3:00
Monday, Dec. 11: PEACE	Optional Holy Hour at 6:00 am This week: Meet with spirit pals for Advent activity
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Purple dress down day
Thursday, Dec. 14	<i>Rejoice!</i> - optional staff book study in the library at 3:00
Monday, Dec. 18: JOY	Optional Holy Hour at 6:00 am
Wednesday, Dec. 20	Rose (pink) dress down day Advent Prayer Service in the Church at 1:00 (Students bring strips of yellow hay with them)

Jesse Tree Assignments

Kindergarten:

1. The World
2. The Apple

1st Grade:

3. The Ark
4. The Camel, Tent, and Stars

2nd Grade:

5. The Ram
6. Jacob's Ladder

3rd Grade:

7. The Candle
8. Rose

4th Grade:

9. The Many Colored Coat
10. The Tablets of the Ten Commandments
11. The Oil Lamp

5th Grade:

12. The Root of Jesse
13. The Star of David
14. The Sheep and Staff

6th Grade:

15. The Wisdom of King Solomon
16. Daniel
17. An Angel

JH:

18. John the Baptist
19. The Carpentry Tools
20. The M and Lilies
21. The Chi-Rho

Advent Virtues



DISCIPLE of CHRIST
EDUCATION IN VIRTUE®

VIRTUE	KNOWING THE VIRTUE	LIVING THE VIRTUE	SCRIPTURE CONNECTION
Prayerfulness	Being still, listening, and being willing to talk to God as a friend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making personal visits to the Blessed Sacrament • Taking initiative to pray • Practicing recollection 	"Mary kept all these things, reflecting on the in her heart." (Luke 2:19)
Humility	Awareness that all our gifts come from God and appreciation of the gifts of others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledging the talents of others by praising them • Saying "thank you" when praised for an action well done 	"And Mary said, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.' (Luke 1:46)
Obedience	Assenting to rightful authority without hesitation or resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honoring your teachers and parents by doing what they ask • Anticipating their requests and wants • Smiling while doing a task you should do 	"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." (Matthew 1:24)
Generosity	Giving of oneself in a willing and cheerful manner for the good of others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingly helping others • Freely giving of your time and gifts 	"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." (John 3:16)
Gratitude	Thankful disposition of mind and heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressing thanks by words or deeds and in your prayers 	"The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name." (Luke 1:49)
Patience	Bearing present difficulties calmly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for your turn • Listening while others are speaking • Remaining calm when you don't get what you want 	"...And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem..." (Luke 2:1-7)
Docility	Willingness to be taught	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to listen to directions • Listening to and thinking about another person's idea 	"When the angels went away to heaven the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go, then, to Bethlehem...' (Luke 2:15)

Clothing Drive

Drive Starts Nov. 27

Needed Items:

Men's sweatpants and sweatshirts M-3XL

Prepackaged men's disposable razors

Men's and women's gloves (any size)

Men's and women's socks M-3XL

Baby wipes

Women's flip flops

Towels

