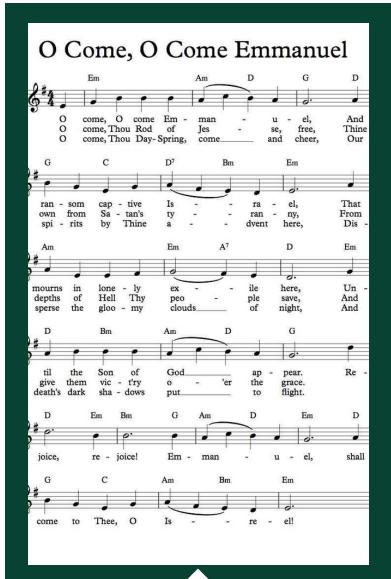


## Welcome to Your December Date Night

# MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE



Take an evening to dive into the anticipation of Advent through song, followed by a joyful Christmas game. Fire or candlelight would create a nice ambiance! For dinner create an epic charcuterie board.

### Caroling

Christmas music has been playing since mid November. But did you know there are many beautiful Advent hymns? Check out this [ADVENT PLAYLIST](#), including the O' Antiphons (*see the video in the playlist for an explanation*). Pick a hymn or two, and sing them together. Sing like no one is listening! Perfection is not the goal. Praising God through song will help you grow in your spiritual intimacy with one another & with God.

### Christmas Headbands Game

- Print the clue cards (on cardstock if you have it) and cut them out. Or have a child do it in advance so that you don't see them all!
- Pile them face side down.
- Take turns holding them up to your forehead (so that you cannot see the card you are holding). Then ask yes or no questions until you are able to guess what is on the card. Ex. *Am I an object? Am I smaller than a kickball?*

## St. Nicholas, December 6

Adapted from Drinking with the Saints

St. Nicholas of Myra, a bishop in Asia Minor who was nicknamed the Wonder-worker, was among the orthodox bishops at the Council of Nicaea who defended the divinity of Christ against the Arian heresy. According to one account, Nicholas, unable to bear Aruis's blasphemous prattling any longer, walked up and decked him!

St. Nicholas was as gentle to the poor as he was ferocious to the wolves in sheep's clothing. He saved three sisters from prostitution by throwing bags of money through an open window or down the chimney of their house, enough to give them a dowry for marriage (and give us the seeds for his gradual transformation into Santa Claus).



### St. Nicholas's Helper

1 cup hot chocolate

Pour hot chocolate and

1/2 oz. peppermint schnapps

schnapps into a mug and serve.

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### *St. Andrew Christmas Novena*

*Traditionally prayed 15 times a day from Nov. 30 through Christmas Eve.*

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother.

Amen

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