

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASONS: RESOURCES FOR THE DOMESTIC CHURCH



❖ UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

The McGrath Institute for Church Life is offering a free “Digital Advent and Christmas Calendar” Subscribe to receive a daily e-mail which will contain a brief prayer and an image of a crèche from around the world. <https://mcgrath.nd.edu/events/creche-exhibit/>

❖ FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS

www.fdlc.org/resources

Resources for the website or bulletin inserts:

- Article on Advent
- Article on the history and symbolism of the Advent Wreath with prayer
- The O Antiphons
- The Christmas Proclamation
- The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

❖ FROM THE *CATHOLIC HOUSEHOLD BOOK OF BLESSINGS (USCCB)*

- Blessing of the Advent Wreath at Home pages 73-75
- Blessing of a Christmas Tree pages 78-81
- Blessing of a Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene pages 82-84
- Prayer for the New Year pages 85-87
- Blessing of the Home and Household on the Epiphany pages 88-91

❖ THE LITURGICAL PRESS

Waiting in Joyful Hope – daily reflections for Advent and Christmas; as low as \$1.00 each
Also available in electronic formats – ePub, Mobi, and PDF <https://litpress.org/Products/6513>
Available in English and Spanish <https://litpress.org/Category/AC/Advent-and-Christmas>

❖ LITTLE BOOKS OF THE DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

A Little Blue Book – daily reflections for Advent and Christmas; bulk pricing available
<https://littlebooks.org/seasonal-books/advent-christmas-season>

❖ OUR SUNDAY VISITOR (OSV)

A single, folded pamphlet on the weeks of Advent
<https://resources.osv.com/catalog/PDFs/P426.pdf>

❖ OREGON CATHOLIC PRESS (OCP)

Synopsis, music and reflection questions on Catholic Social Teachings
<https://www.ocp.org/en-us/blog/entry/catholic-social-teaching>

❖ CATHOLICS MOBILIZING NETWORK

This national organization advocates against the death penalty. Sign up to receive free, daily reflections by various authors – messages that reflect on Advent and the message of hope,

<https://catholicsmobilizing.org/advent-reflections>

FROM LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS

ONLINE WEBINAR

“Living the Sunday Word” airs each Tuesday -- Nov 24, Dec 1, 8, 5 -- 7:00 to 8:30 PM

Reflecting on the Sunday readings as a virtual community

<https://events->

[na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1081707727/en/events/event/shared/default template/](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1081707727/en/events/event/shared/default_template/)

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Keeping the Seasons for Advent and Christmas A digital booklet \$30 for the parish bulletin

Keeping the Seasons: Bilingual Print and Digital Resources for Your Parish allows you to provide bilingual catechesis, prayer, and spiritual nourishment to your parishioners throughout the weeks of Advent and Christmas Time.

This resource includes seven handouts, in English and in Spanish, one for each week of Advent and Christmas. On the front of each handout is a prayer, illustration, and a reflection on the Sunday Scripture. On the back is catechesis for each weekday about the day's Scripture, saint, or Catholic practices, along with a smaller illustration. Citations for Scripture readings are included with each day. By sharing the art and formation found in *Keeping the Seasons*, you can help parishioners celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas Time. All content and art is available in digital form so your parish can be flexible in the ways it shares formation with the community. Included in this resource are:

- PDFs of 7 full-color handouts
- Text files of all handouts
- JPEGs of all handouts
- JPEGs of the art

With *Keeping the Seasons*, you can communicate with your parishioners and provide formation as they participate in the seasons of Advent and Christmas Time by:

- Posting handouts on social media
- Sharing art and content in your weekly digital bulletins
- Emailing handouts to parishioners
- Posting handouts and art on your parish website

<https://ltp.org/products/details/BKSA21/keeping-the-seasons-for-advent-and-christmas-2020-2021>

PRINT RESOURCES LTP

Family Advent-ures

Celebrate the Good News each day of Advent with reflections and activities in your home. *Family Advent-ures* provides a guide for each day of Advent to help Christians of various ages reflect, discuss, and choose actions meaningful for the season. During a daily gathering, an Advent Scripture is presented in a creative manner using storytelling and drama or proclaimed from a Bible. Wondering questions help everyone reflect without being *right or wrong*. There are a wide range of suggestions for Christian action. Choose from simple to complex depending on your needs and interests.

This book is designed for multi-age use in traditional families, but it can also be used in group homes, Catholic schools, home schools, or any place people of any age come together daily as Christians. It includes an Activity Section with craft directions, activities, and pull-out pages for children. <https://www.ltp.org/products/details/FA/family-advent-ures>

ILLUSTRATED ADVENT CALENDAR FOR CHILDREN

Often, children are too excited about Christmas to focus on the Advent season. Help the children and families in your parish to discover Advent using this beautifully-illustrated Advent calendar. The calendar features daily Scripture citations, information about saints' feasts and Holydays of Obligation, and suggestions for activities and reflection. Children or families can glue candle symbols to the calendar each day to count down the days until the Nativity of the Lord! Each pack also includes reproducible instructions that provide catechists and/or parents with the background information they need and suggestions on how to use the sheet as a learning tool. Sold in packs of sixteen, 11" x 17" sheets.

<https://www.ltp.org/products/details/ADCAS/advent-calendar-activity-sheet>

AT HOME WITH THE WORD

Resources for the Liturgical Year – includes reflection questions

<https://www.ltp.org/products/details/AHW20/at-home-with-the-word-2020>

on sale for 4.95 (was \$8.00)

At Home with the Word® guides you to a deeper understanding of the Sunday Scriptures, providing the readings for this liturgical year, insights from Scripture scholars, and action steps. (Additional reflection questions and action steps for families, Christian Initiation, and adult faith-sharing groups may be downloaded from the LTP Website.) The book also includes prayers and citations for weekday readings. Bulk pricing makes *At Home with the Word*® an economical resource to provide for large groups.

RESOURCES TO STUDY *FRATELLI TUTTI*

Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns – a study guide to Fratelli Tutti – full color, eight pages; synopsis of each chapter and a reflection question

https://maryknollogc.org/sites/default/files/fratelli_tutti_study_guide_final5.pdf

Georgetown University: Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life
Fratelli Tutti Themes

<https://catholicsocialthought.georgetown.edu/publications/twelve-themes-from-fratelli-tutti-by-john-carr>

8 pages long; analyzes the twelve themes found in Fratelli Tutti

USCCB Overview of Fratelli Tutti

[https://www.usccb.org/resources/01-%20An%20overview%20of%20the%20Encyclical%20FRATELLI%20TUTTI%20-%20EN\(2\).pdf](https://www.usccb.org/resources/01-%20An%20overview%20of%20the%20Encyclical%20FRATELLI%20TUTTI%20-%20EN(2).pdf)

More extensive at 21 pages; there is a decent analysis on each chapter

Dehonians (Priests of the Sacred Heart) - Communication Office

Video Summary of Fratelli Tutti

<https://youtu.be/rJHXgnp27BI>

This video has a succinct summary of each chapter but there is no voiceover, just text on the screen

The Catholic Telegraph

Fratelli Tutti Infographic

<https://www.thecatholictelegraph.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/05-Infographic-0-FRATELLI-TUTTI-General-EN-768x1085.jpg>

Well-organized (albeit brief) description of the purpose of the encyclical as well as an outline of what it discusses

Bishop John Barres of the Diocese of Rockville Centre

Letter on Fratelli Tutti and Saint Francis

https://www.drvc.org/wp-content/uploads/Fratelli_Tutti_Letter_10_07_2020.pdf

Connects the role figure of St. Francis to the messages contained in Fratelli Tutti

Breaking in the Habit (Youtube Channel) -- Fratelli Tutti Overview

https://youtu.be/Bzz6oc4C_sQ

13 minute video arranged by a group of Franciscans detailing Fratelli Tutti and its connection to the modern world

Catholic News Service - Fratelli Tutti Video Reflection

https://youtu.be/YEK0-m_Vt90

Short clip about Fratelli Tutti and its connection to the COVID-19 pandemic and solidarity