



Good afternoon All PREP Families!

ALL GRADES! This week:

🎄 **Christmas Craft** provided in your child's PREP bag (see attached photos)

🎄 **Christmas page** in back of child's text. (located in "Special Seasons and Lesson")

🎉 **No Chapter work again until the week of January 10th** 🎉

👉 Attached are the Unit 3 lesson links in case you have any "catch up" to do over the next couple of weeks.

♥ Celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during the season of Advent.

All Confessions are being heard in Chapel during the pandemic.

Remaining Advent Confession Schedule:

- Saturday Dec. 19 3:15 – 4:00 PM
- Monday Dec. 21 6:30 PM
- Tuesday Dec. 22 8:30 AM
- Tuesday Dec. 22 6:30 PM

😊🎄 Adorable and touching 5 minute clip from Bell's of Saint Mary's (Christmas movie) <https://youtu.be/2HKDseSyDMM>

🎁 Free Printable Nativity Craft for Kids! - <https://www.catholicicing.com/diy-printable-nativity-for-kids/>



If you haven't yet explored FORMED.org I strongly encourage you to do so! Get thousands of Catholic movies, programs, audio, and books instantly. All FREE material as our parish has a subscription.

To set up your free account visit www.formed.org/signup and select our parish.

🎄🎄🎄 May I suggest a few items to watch together through FORMED.org as a family (depending on age of children and attention span):

- **The Story of the Nativity: The Truth of Christmas (1 hr.)** - *The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. The Story of the Nativity also includes stunning works of art depicting the biblical story, from Fra Angelico to Rembrandt, and footage from the Holy Land showing the places where the Christmas story actually took place. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.*
- **Mary of Nazareth (2 hr. 41 min.)** - *Mary of Nazareth is an epic motion picture on the life of Mary, Mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. Shot in high definition, it was filmed in Europe with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score. Actress Alissa Jung gives a beautiful, compelling, and inspiring portrayal of Mary. The film vividly captures the essence of Mary's profound faith and trust in God amidst the great mysteries that she lived with as the Mother of the Messiah, as well as her compassionate humanity and concern for others, and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another. The movie underscores her special role in God's plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection. This movie is not rated, but was created with an adult audience in mind. It may contain violence indicative of the life and times of the saint or character portrayed. We would recommend Parental Guidance and that parents preview it before watching with children.*
- **Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Jesus (1 hr. 37 min.)** - *"The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph, who was a carpenter, the husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a ""just man"" and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man—to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family. He would be the man closest to Christ. Starring Tobias Moretti in a manly, appealing performance, we are shown*

the human, noble, and deeply spiritual aspects of Joseph the carpenter, son of David, servant of God, and loving husband of Mary. He is presented as a man of faith who must grapple greatly with the profound mysteries of the miraculous conception, the Virgin Birth, the Incarnation of the Son of God, and the incredible challenges of protecting and raising Jesus amidst the threats on his life from the moment of his birth and beyond. As Joseph is informed by God's messengers about trusting and following his plan for Christ, the dangerous flight into Egypt to save his child, and finally returning to Nazareth to raise Jesus, this lovely film presents beautiful vignettes of these and other powerful scenes in the life of the young Christ and the Holy Family that are authentic and inspiring. Also stars Stefania Rivi, Franco Interlenghi, and Andrea Prodan."

- **Kristoph & the First Christmas Tree: A Legend of St. Boniface (7min.)**- Based on an ancient legend, *Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree* is a video production drawn from the family-friendly story written by children's author Claudia Cangilla McAdam and illustrated by Dave Hill.

It's Christmas Eve in the year 722, and the young orphan Kristoph is accompanying the missionary priest Boniface through the German countryside on their way to the first Christmas the boy will celebrate outside the orphanage. They are hurrying to reach the next village by nightfall when they come upon a group of men worshiping a sacred oak tree and preparing to sacrifice the son of the village chieftain.

What happens next recalls the legend of how evergreen trees became part of the celebration of Christmas. This story beautifully retells an incident from the life of St. Boniface, the martyr who became the patron saint of Germany. Using the associated Discussion and Activities Guide is a fun way to help children explore the theological and cardinal virtues, to build character, and to go deeper in the faith. Additionally, the downloadable "A Prayer of Blessing for a Christmas Tree" is ideal for a family to use when decorating their own evergreen tree.

- **Saint Nicholas: The Real Story (55 min.)** - Everybody knows the story of Santa Claus, the red-suited figure who lives at the North Pole and distributes gifts to good children every Christmas eve. But is there any historical evidence on which this jolly old character is based? Was there a real Santa Claus? To answer that question, host Mark Wilson, a distinguished historian and archeologist travels not to the North Pole but to modern day Turkey and Italy. There he uncovers clues that lead to the truth about the man behind the legend.
- **O Holy Night, The King is Born: What Christmas is About (Brother Francis animated, 26 min.)** -

Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph, and others as they make way for our Savior.

This episode contains:

"The Christmas Story"—an animated presentation of the many wonderful events that led up to the birth of Jesus!

"What is Christmas?"—a catchy, visualized song reminding us that Christmas is really about the coming of Christ.

"Away in a Manger" and "Silent Night"—two traditional songs that continue to inspire praise and thankfulness for the coming of our Lord.

O Holy Night is a wonderful way to remind everyone of Who we celebrate during the Christmas season!

- **Lukas Storyteller: The True Meaning of Christmas (animated...24 min.)** - *Christmas is coming and our friends Peter, Agnes, Paul and Anna expect to receive many gifts. but when they caught in one of their antics. Lukas and Noah will help them understand the true story of Christmas and how the birth of the Son of God should change our hearts*



“Wanderlight” - Our PREP Account Number is 208955.

**Peace be with you,
Julie Prichett**

Director of PREP and Youth Sacramental Preparation Coordinator

St. Ann Parish

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The Nativity of Our Lord, as told in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke
<https://youtu.be/X7LU6mFLsO4>

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Cycle B
Sunday, December 20, 2020



Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

Family Connection

One of the challenges of faith is to recognize God's plan for us and to remain open to God's will and God's actions in our world. Filled with God's grace, Mary models for us the kind of faith that is needed to cooperate in God's plan of salvation. Like Mary, we are given the awesome opportunity to cooperate in God's saving plan. On this final Sunday of Advent, our Gospel invites us to consider how our preparations for Christmas have made us more aware of God's grace working in our lives.

Gather together your family and talk about what you have been doing as a family to prepare for Christmas. How have these preparations helped you to better celebrate the central mystery of Christmas, the Incarnation? Our Gospel today talks about how Mary was prepared for her role in Christ's birth. Read today's Gospel, Luke 1:26-38. Consider the question: What enabled Mary to say yes to God? Which of your Advent activities have made you more aware of God's grace in your life? Conclude in prayer together that God's grace will enable your family to be more faithful and obedient to God. Pray together the [Magnificat](#).