

ADVENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 28th— First Sunday of Advent (HOPE)

November 29th—Making Room: Listening to Each Other's Stories (Zoom)

December 3rd—Fr. Roman: The Hospitality of Jesus @6pm

December 4th—Evening of Encounter @6:30pm

December 5th—Second Sunday of Advent (PEACE)

Lay Salvatorian Commitment Ceremony @12:30pm

Fr. Marcel: Gospel of Luke @2pm (Zoom)

December 6th—Making Room: Listening to Each Other's Stories (Zoom)

December 8th—Immaculate Conception of Mary (Holy Day)

Mass @9am/6pm

December 9th—Descubriendo La Eucaristia (Spanish) @4:30pm

December 10th—Fr. Roman: The Hospitality of Jesus @6pm

December 11th—Rediscovering the Spirit of Christmas @noon (Zoom)

December 12th—Third Sunday of Advent (JOY) Our Lady of Guadalupe

Multilingual/Multicultural Mass followed by

Hospitality/Formation in the Halls

December 17th—Reconciliation Service @6:30pm

December 19th—Fourth Sunday of Advent (LOVE)

The Grinch who Found Christmas—Advent Parish Experience @3:30pm

December 24th—Christmas Eve (Mass: 4pm; 6:30pm (Family Mass); 10pm)

December 25th—Christmas Day (Mass: 10am)



Making Room: An Advent Reflection

Divine Savior Catholic Church

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Dear People of Divine Savior and our visitors:

This booklet has been made available as a tool for reflecting on how we can “make room” in our hearts, souls and lives for the goodness of God revealed by Jesus. The hope is that all who use this reflection aid will refine the habit of making room for Jesus as we walk through this Advent Season. Like Jesus, we are called to be a hospitable people, doing our best to accept and celebrate one another as people who God created in love, a love that Jesus made so evident when He walked this earth.

This season is called Advent, which means “arrival” or “coming.” This booklet is prepared with the belief that God’s Presence has been part of our being since our conception. Our parents cooperated with God in giving us life. God’s Word, which became flesh in Jesus, was spoken and we came to be the unique persons we are and are growing to be. At the same time of our creation, the Holy Spirit was present in the depths of our being.

How to use this booklet: *“Making room” involves at times doing our best to put aside whatever ideas or convictions that we bring to a particular situation. One suggestion is that we reflect on these scriptures as if we had never heard or read them before, to see what the Holy Spirit might awaken within us.*

For each Sunday there are multiple nuggets (italicized) from the scripture passages for that day with a suggestion about what we might reflect on. We can do this alone, with others in a small reflection group, and certainly as families. The scripture references are given for all the readings for anyone who wants to reflect on the whole passage selected for a given day. Or, one can Google USCCB daily readings to find the readings there.

For weekdays, there are only two scripture nuggets, each with a reflection point.

Included on the back of this booklet is a calendar of events taking place here at Divine Savior during this special season when we celebrate the awesome love of God, which became human in Jesus.

—Fr. Roman

Luke 1:57-66 *What, then, will this child be?*

Let us take an inventory of the ways we have “made room” for Jesus during this Advent Season and what practices we will continue from here on.

Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent

2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16 *I have been with you wherever you went.*

We give thanks for our blessings by keeping up the habit of “making room” for Jesus.

Luke 1:67-79 *You will go before the Lord to prepare His way.*

What thought do we want to keep in mind each 14 morning so that we can fulfill this wonderful mission?

Saturday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Isaiah 62:11-12 *They shall be called the holy people.*

We give thanks for the privilege to do our best to live in God’s abundant love.

Psalms 97:1, 6, 11-12 *Let the earth rejoice.*

Jesus’ birth is a stamp of approval on the goodness of creation. What activity will we begin/continue to honor more faithfully the wonder of creation.

Titus 3:4-7 *We might be justified by His grace.*

Do I allow myself to feel grateful that God is in charge?

Luke 2:15-20 *Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*

What time of day is best for us to imitate Mary?

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14 *The Lord Himself will give you this sign.*

What sign have I gotten during this Advent Season that assures me that I am loved just as I am?

Luke 1:26-38 *You have found favor with God.*

As we near the celebration of the birth of our Divine Savior, what favor from God do I cherish most deeply?

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Song of Songs 2:8-14 *Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet and you are lovely.*

How comfortable am I to think of God in such a sensual way?

Luke 1:39-45 *The infant in my womb leaped for joy.*

In which part of my body am I most likely to feel God's love for me?

Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent

1 Samuel 1:24-28 *Now I, in turn, give him to the Lord.*

The baptismal ritual celebrates how we are God's precious creation. What might I do to enhance that identity?

Luke 1:46-56 *My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.*

If we had a videotape of our facial expressions for say an hour, what would we be proclaiming?

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 *And suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek.*

With the celebration of Christmas one day away, how much time can I allot myself today in the art of "making room" for Jesus?

First Sunday of Advent (HOPE)

Jeremiah 33:14-6 *I will fulfill the promise.*

What promise would I like God to fulfill during this season of Advent/Christmas?

Responsorial Psalm 25:4-5-8-9, 10, 14

Guide me in your truth and teach me.

I want to imitate You God by being more attentive in this way...

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 *Increase and abound in love for one another and for all.*

Name a person or group about whom you want to think more positively.

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 *Be vigilant at all times.*

This is what I will do so that I can become more conscious of Your Presence, God...

Monday of the First Week of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 *They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.*

In what way do I want God's abiding love to bring me greater peace?

Matthew 8:5-11 *Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof.*

When I hear or say the word "worthy", what will I do so that I think of Jesus giving me a gift?

Tuesday of the First Week of Advent

Romans 10:9-18 *No one who believes in him will be put to shame.*

Each time I feel ashamed, I will say these words: "Jesus, smile lovingly at me."

Matthew 4:18-22 *Come after me.*

Jesus, I would love to come after You, but I am afraid I will fail. Please help me find a way to follow You.

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent

Isaiah 25:6-10a *This is the Lord for whom we looked.*

When I think of You, Jesus, I will look inside my heart and say, "I believe that You live within me."

Matthew 15:29-37 *I do not want to send them away hungry.*

I will, in the next few days, make eye contact with and greet a stranger I encounter who is asking for help.

Thursday of the First Week of Advent

Isaiah 26:1-6 *Open up the gates to let in a nation.*

I will read about the conditions in one of the countries from which migrants come to our community.

Matthew 7:21, 24-27 *Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them...*

Jesus, I will identify which words of yours I find most difficult to hear.

Friday of the First Week of Advent

Isaiah 29:17-24 *They shall keep my name holy.*

Jesus, I will pray now for someone I know who has stopped participating in Sunday Mass. I will even think of someone who I might invite personally.

Friday of the Third Week of Advent

Genesis 49:2, 8-10 *Assemble and listen.*

Whom would I like to make connections with so that I can listen to how they are "making room" for Jesus?

Matthew 1:1-17 *Matthew presents this genealogy in a way that pictures Jesus as fitting 11 perfectly into God's plan of letting everyone know of God's love.*

Who in my family has helped me the most to realize how special I am?

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent

Jeremiah 23:5-8 *In those days Judah shall be saved, Israel shall dwell in security.*

What little thing can I do to make someone feel more safe?

Matthew 1:18-25 *When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him.*

Let us recall a time recently when we knew the correct thing to do but we had no idea where the thought came from.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (LOVE)

Micah 5:1-4a *He shall be peace.*

What does it mean for me to **be** peace and not just try to be peaceful?

Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 *Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face.*

How do I feel when I ponder that God is always within me and that my face is to reflect that I truly believe this?

Hebrews 10:5-10 *Sacrifice and offering you did not desire.*

What do these words mean to me? Do I believe that it is love accepted and freely shared that God desires?

Luke 1:39-45 *How does this happen that the mother of my Lord should come to me?*

Who would be equally excited to get a card/call/text from me this Christmas?

Monday of the Third Week of Advent

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a *They are like gardens beside a stream.*

When was the last time I spent time in my favorite nature spot? Is now a time to revisit that special place?

Matthew 21:23-27 *Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things.*

How do we want Jesus to help us be as quick-witted as He was?

Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13 *You need not be ashamed of all your deeds.*

We think that this covers all our deeds. However, which deed of the past do we still feel ashamed of? What are we going to do about this?

Matthew 21:28-32 *Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you.*

As we make room for Jesus, how does He need to help us feel comfortable sitting at the heavenly banquet table next to a tax collector or prostitute?

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 *The designer and maker of the earth who established it, not creating it to be a waste, but designing it to be lived in.*

Are there any ways by which I could be more careful about taking care of God's creation? How easy is it for us to recognize the created world as God's handiwork?

Luke 7:18b-23 *The poor have the good news proclaimed to them.*

How easy is it for me to make connections with people who seem to be poor? Are there ways in which my life has been impoverished, and what do I want Jesus to do about that?

Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

Isaiah 54:1-1 *Enlarge the space for your tent.*

Given where we are in this Advent Season, how has it been going to "make room" for Jesus?

Luke 7:24-30 *I am sending my messenger ahead of you.*

Who during this Advent Season has been a messenger of good news? Have I let this person know this?

Matthew 9:27-31 *Let it be done for you according to your faith.*

Jesus, I am afraid to ask You for anything, because I am not sure I am ready to deal with the change that You would bring about...

Saturday of the First Week

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 *A voice shall sound in your ears, this is the way; walk in it.*

Jesus, I wish I could be more like You in this way: _____

Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8 *At the sight of the crowds, His heart was moved with pity for them.*

Jesus, I wish I could feel like You would about this person/group...

Second Sunday of Advent (PEACE)

Baruch 5:1-9 *You will be named by God forever the peace of justice.*

What minor injustice am I willing to do my best to correct?

Psalms 126: 1-6 *The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.*

What or whom am I particularly grateful for? Can we express our gratitude?

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 *So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.*

How would it be to take part in the Communal Reconciliation Service on December 17th?

Luke 3:1-6 *Luke lists five leaders of the Roman Empire as well as two religious leaders in this Sunday's Gospel.*

Let us ponder what kept these people from making room for Jesus.

Monday of the Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10 *Strengthen the hands that are feeble.*

Is there someone I can send a note to, which would let that person know someone cares?

Luke 5:17-26 *Not finding a way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof.*

Is there someone you have wanted to connect with to share an ingenious idea by which to welcome others to join for Sunday Mass?

Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11 *A voice cries out.*

Is there someone you know who needs someone to listen to them or to have help in doing a constructive thing?

Matthew 18:12-14 *It is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost.*

Let us think of someone who helped us out whom we could thank (again) for doing so...

Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 *I was afraid.*

If there are still times when I am afraid of God, let's say, "God, remind me that you always love me."

Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ.*

How about writing a brief note to God thanking God for two recent blessings?

Luke 26-38 *How can this be?*

Is the Holy Spirit prompting me to do something about which I am reluctant to do?

Thursday of the Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 41:13-20 *I am the Lord, your God who grasp your right hand.*

How comfortable am I letting God take this loving action?

Matthew 11:11-15 *The violent are taking it by force.*

I think I will focus for a moment on God's abiding peace within my soul.

Friday of the Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 48:17-19 *I, the Lord, your God, teach you what is for your good.*

Lord, I've lost the spirit of Advent. Help to "make room" for You and for Jesus.

Matthew 11:16-19 *Wisdom is vindicated by her works.*

Jesus, bless me with wisdom so that I may deal well with this _____

Saturday of the Second Week of Advent

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 *Turn back the hearts of fathers toward their sons.*

Is there a family situation for which it is time for me to offer a kind word?

Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 *The Son of Man will suffer at their hands.*

How do we respond when someone says they don't need to bother being part of a church community?

Third Sunday of Advent (JOY)

Zephaniah 3:14-18a *The Lord will rejoice over you with gladness.*

List the words that come to mind as we ponder this expression.

Psalms Isaiah 12:2-6 *God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid.*

Let's spend 83 seconds slowly repeating these words.

Philippians 4:4-7 *Have no anxiety at all.*

What am I going to say to myself the next time I am anxious?

Gospel Luke 3:10-18 *He preached good news to the people.*

Let us list the ways that we have been a source of support and joy in the last week.