



# December

The Greatest Gift: *God comes to Us.*

What was the best gift you ever received? Why was it the best? Did you know that Jesus being born on Earth was a gift from God? Yes, God's "gift" to us was that through Jesus, God became like us (human), so that He could show us how to live in love, peace, and joy.

This is one of the reasons why Advent/Christmas is so important to us as Christians.

## PRAY

Celebrate the Immaculate Conception by attending Mass on December 8<sup>th</sup>. (It is a Holy Day of Obligation!)

Pray a "Glory Be" prayer every time something doesn't quite go your way.

Pray a prayer of blessing over your Christmas tree. Prayer can be found on USCCB website (usccb.org). Link is also on DOV website.

## EAT

***"Bless us, O Lord! And these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen."***

Enjoy a picnic outside (or inside) this month.

Donate food or money to your local food bank.

Try a new recipe for a weekend meal.

Ask everyone at the table the best part of their day during the meal conversation.

While at the table, discuss what it might have been like on the night Jesus was born... Might it have been cold? Was it dark? Who might have been with Mary & Joseph?

***"We give you thanks, almighty God, for all your benefits, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen. May the Lord grant us His peace. And life everlasting. Amen. "***

## PLAY

Consider making a Jesse Tree or adding ornaments to your own tree that reflect the faithfulness of God found throughout the Bible.

Celebrate these December feast days: St. Nicholas, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and The Feast of the Holy Family!

Set up an Advent wreath in your home. More details about this can be found on our website.

Make your Christmas decorations Jesus-centered.

For more advent activities, games, & ideas – check out our website!!

## Want More?

Visit our website:

<https://www.victoriadiocese.org/year-of-the-family>

Share pictures of activities using #DOVFamilies