



Church of the LITTLE FLOWER



The
Light

December 1st, 2024

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
1er DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO



Pastor

REV. MANUEL F. ALVAREZ

Parochial Vicar

REV. DAVID ZALLOCCO

Priests in Residence

REV. JUAN ESCAMEZ
REV. FRANCIS GNANASEGARAM
REV. STEPHEN SAAWUAN
REV. FIDELIS UKO

Permanent Deacons

DEACON ROBERTO FLEITAS
DEACON MIGUEL PARLADE
DEACON SRINATH PERERA

*Together, Worshipping the Lord, Forming Disciples, Serving in the Name of Jesus
Juntos, Adorando al Señor, Formando Discípulos, Sirviendo en Nombre de Jesús*

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

Time	Language
6:15 am	English
8:00 am	English
5:30 pm	Español

Saturday

Time	Language
8:00 am	English
5:00 pm	English Vigil

Sunday

Time	Language
7:30 am	English
9:00 am	English
10:30 am	English
12:30 pm	Español
5:30 pm	English

CONFESSIONS

Priests are available to hear Confessions every Saturday morning, from 8:30am to 10:00am.



ST. JOSEPH PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL

Visit www.cotlf.org/adoration for more details



CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER - REILLY PARISH CENTER

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Address

2711 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

P. (305) 446-9950
F. (305) 482-6183
www.cotlf.org



OFFICE STAFF

Maria Anduiza - Ext. 314
Finance Manager

Luis Cuza - Ext 308
Director of Music Ministries

Ivonne Davila - Ext 302
Admin. Asst. to the Pastor
Sacramental Records Coordinator

Juan del Sol - Ext 310
Weddings Coordinator

Ashley Dominguez - Ext 309
Director of Development

Jorge Santibáñez - Ext 307
Parish Manager
Director of Religious Education

Ariadna Schanz - Ext 300
Receptionist

Rene Denis and Roberto Campohernoso
Maintenance — *Commodore Prop. Mgmt.*

Nubia Vivas
Custodian



SAINT THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:15 am - 3:15 pm

Address

2701 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Contact

(305) 446-1738
www.stscg.org

Administered by the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of LA - Sr. Rosalie, Principal

SACRED STEPS | SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS AT COTLF



Welcome to the Catholic Church!
Congratulations to our newly Baptized.



Congratulations and God's blessings to our newly married couples.



Rest in Peace.
We pray for our recently deceased.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

- Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least two (2) months in advance. Visit cotlf.org/baptism for more information.
- Arreglos de bautizos se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con dos (2) meses de anticipación. Visitar cotlf.org/baptism para mas información.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY

- Arrangements must be made with the Parish Office at least six (6) months in advance. Visit cotlf.org/weddings for more information.
- Arreglos de bodas se deben hacer en la oficina por lo menos con seis (6) meses de anticipación. Visitar cotlf.org/weddings para mas información.

SIGNS OF OUR STEWARDSHIP

NOVEMBER 24TH

The November 24th Offertory Report will be printed in next weekend's bulletin.

*Thank you for your generosity!
¡Gracias por su generosidad!*

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MINISTRIES @ COTLF

Sunday, December 1st

I SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 pm (Vigil)	For All Who Passed Away This Month
7:30 am	The Holy Father's Intention: For Pilgrims of Hope
9:00 am	+ Rafael Felipe Roche
10:30 am	Missa Pro Populo - For All Members of Our Parish Family
12:30 pm	Intenciones de la Familia Murdock
5:30 pm	+ Martha Ferreira

Monday, December 2nd

Monday of Week I of Advent

6:15 am	Intentions of the Murdok Family
8:00 am	+ Carol Elaine Mantz
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Tuesday, December 3rd

Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

6:15 am	Marta Pollo's Birthday
8:00 am	+ John Oropesa
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Wednesday, December 4th

Wednesday of Week I of Advent / Memorial of St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

6:15 am	+ Charlie Dunn
8:00 am	+ Ann Munley
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Thursday, December 5th

Thursday of Week I of Advent

6:15 am	Intentions of the Murdok Family
8:00 am	Kristina Saenz
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Friday, December 6th

Friday of Week I of Advent / Memorial of St. Nicholas, Bishop

6:15 am	For All Parish Benefactors
8:00 am	Carlos and (+) Marietta Hernandez
5:30 pm	Misa Comunitaria

Saturday, December 7th

Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 am	Intentions of the Murdock Family
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Sunday, December 8th

II SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 pm (Vigil)	Elia Limonte
7:30 am	Intentions of the Murdock Family
9:00 am	Intentions of the Sardinas Family
10:30 am	Missa Pro Populo - For All Members of Our Parish Family
12:30 pm	+ Antero Macias
5:30 pm	+ Alicia Miranda & Family

THIS WEEK'S READINGS / LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

December 1st – I Sunday of Advent – Year C, Pg. 696/697

Sunday	Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

SUNDAYS

1:30 pm **Homeless Ministry Service Days**
Date Varies Monthly – homelessministrycotlf@gmail.com

MONDAYS

10:00 am **Seekers Bible Study** (Morras Conference Room AND Via Zoom)
Every other Monday, Mercy Gonzalez, drmom92@gmail.com

7:00 pm **Adult Bible Study Group** (Zoom)
 Julie Otero, JOtero@vistacolor.com

7:30 pm **Ejercicios Espirituales de San Ignacio** (Morras Conference Room)
 Marcia Iglesias, marcia@amprex.net

7:30 pm **Emaus de Hombres** (Reilly Conference Room)
 Juan Guillermo Garcia, jgarciat@msn.com, 786-474-0758

TUESDAYS

7:00 am **That Man Is You Men's Group** (Comber Hall)
 Rob Lasa, 305-934-7840, rob@lasalinks.com

9:00 am **Holy Face Devotion** (Chapel Conference Room)
 Yamila Sardiñas, ymsard@aol.com

7:00 pm **OCIA Classes** (Cafeteria)
www.cotlf.org/ocia

7:00 pm **Legion of Mary** (Legion of Mary House)
 Maria Lopez, 786-247-3872

8:00 pm **English Charismatic Prayer Group** (Chapel Conference Room)
 Felipe Vizcarrondo, fevmd@bellsouth.net

WEDNESDAYS

4p & 6:30p **Religious Education Classes** (St. Theresa School)
www.cotlfreligiouse.org

7:30 pm **Women's Emmaus** (Reilly Conference Room)
 Marifer Ordoñez, mfordonez@earthlink.net

8:00 pm **Communion & Liberation** (Chapel Conference Room)

8:00 pm **Grupo de Oracion Carismatico** (Morras Conference Room)
 Maru de Castro

THURSDAYS

7:45 am **Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study** (Comber Hall)
 Core Team, STSwalkingwithpurpose@gmail.com

6:00 pm **Young Adults Praise & Worship Holy Hour** (St. Joseph Chapel)

7:00 pm **Choir Rehearsal** (STS Music Room)
 Luis Cuza, LCuza@cotlf.org

7:00 pm **Scouts** (Cafeteria)
 St Theresa Pack 16, stspack16@gmail.com

7:30 pm **Men's English Emmaus** (Reilly Conference Room)
 Core Team, contact@littlefloweremmaus.org

FRIDAYS

10:00 am **Prayer Shawl Ministry** (Morras Conference Room)
3rd Fridays, Monthly, Katy Dunn, 305-443-5947

6:00 pm **American Heritage Girls** (Cafeteria) - *2nd & 4th Friday Monthly*

6:30 pm **COTLF Singles Ministry** (Cafeteria) - *3rd Friday Monthly*
 Alexandra Figueredo, MiamiCatholicSingles@gmail.com

8:00 pm **English Marriage Covenant** (Zoom)
 Janetsy Christensen, JanetsyC@bellsouth.net

SATURDAYS

7:00 am **First Saturday Devotion Rosary** (Church)
1st Saturday, Monthly, Mercy Gonzalez, drmom92@gmail.com

9:00 am **Baptism Preparation Classes** (Reilly Conference Room)
 Please see schedule at www.cotlf.org/baptism



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Friends:

This Sunday we begin the beautiful season of Advent. It is a time of waiting and hope. Waiting: because we wait for the newborn Christ who will bring light to the darkness of this world. Hope: because this child is the promise of salvation of the Most High.

The Advent wreath is present near our altar for all Masses during Advent. Catholic.net gives us a beautiful catechesis on the origins of the wreath: "**The Advent wreath** has its roots in pre-Christian customs of Germany. During the cold and dark December, they would gather wreaths of green branches and lighted fires as signs of hope in the coming of spring. But the Advent wreath is not a concession to paganism but on the contrary, it is an example of the Christianization of culture. The old now takes a new and full content in Christ. He came to make all things new ...

The wreath contains several symbols:

The circular shape: The circle has no beginning or end. It is a sign that God's love is eternal, without beginning and without end, and also our love for God and neighbor that should never end.

The green branches: Green is the color of hope and life. God wants us to wait for His grace, the forgiveness of sins and eternal glory at the end of our lives. The most important desire in our lives should be to achieve a closer union with God our Father.

The four candles: Turns our thoughts to the darkness caused by sin that blinds man away from God. After the first fall of man, God was gradually giving a hope of salvation that illuminated the universe like candles of the wreath. As darkness dissipates with each candle we light, the centuries were illuminated as we grew closer to the coming of Christ to our world. Four candles that are placed in the wreath and are lit one at a time during the four Sundays of Advent when we gather for family prayer.

My prayer is that all our families, as they decorate their homes for Christmas, may find a space for the Advent wreath and that it is lit every night when the family gathers for dinner. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, and our hope is that His light may come soon.

COME, LORD JESUS, come quickly!

God Bless You All!

Fr. Manny





DEL ESCRITORIO DEL PÁRROCO

Mis queridos amigos,

Este domingo empezamos la bella época de adviento. Es un tiempo de espera y de esperanza. Espera: porque esperamos al niño Dios que alumbre la oscuridad del mundo. Esperanza porque este niño es la promesa de salvación del Altísimo.

La corona la tenemos presente en nuestro altar para todas las Misas de adviento. Catholic.net nos da una bella catequesis sobre la corona y sobre esta época de adviento: "La corona de adviento encuentra sus raíces en las costumbres precristianas de los germanos (Alemania). Durante el frío y la oscuridad de diciembre, colectaban coronas de ramas verdes y encendían fuegos como señal de esperanza en la venida de la primavera. Pero la corona de adviento no representa una concesión al paganismo sino, al contrario, es un ejemplo de la cristianización de la cultura. Lo viejo ahora toma un nuevo y pleno contenido en Cristo. El vino para hacer todas las cosas nuevas...

La corona de adviento encierra varios simbolismos:

La forma circular: El círculo no tiene principio ni fin. Es señal del amor de Dios que es eterno, sin principio y sin fin, y también de nuestro amor a Dios y al prójimo que nunca debe de terminar.

Las ramas verdes: Verde es el color de esperanza y vida. Dios quiere que esperemos su gracia, el perdón de los pecados y la gloria eterna al final de nuestras vidas. El anhelo más importante en nuestras vidas debe ser llegar a una unión más estrecha con Dios, nuestro Padre.

Las cuatro velas: Nos hacen pensar en la oscuridad provocada por el pecado que ciega al hombre y lo aleja de Dios. Después de la primera caída del hombre, Dios fue dando poco a poco una esperanza de salvación que iluminó todo el universo como las velas la corona. Así como las tinieblas se disipan con cada vela que encendemos, los siglos se fueron iluminando con la cada vez más cercana llegada de Cristo a nuestro mundo. Son cuatro velas las que se ponen en la corona y se prenden de una en una, durante los cuatro domingos de adviento al hacer la oración en familia."

Mi oración es que todas nuestras familias al decorar su hogar para la Navidad encuentren un espacio para la corona de adviento y que la enciendan todas las noches al reunirse la familia para cenar. Jesucristo es la luz del mundo y esperamos que esa luz venga pronto.

VEN, SEÑOR JESUS, NO TARDES!

Dios los bendiga,

Fr. Manny





2024 PARISH FAIR

*The 2024 COTLF-STS Parish Fair,
proudly presented by Casa Smiles,
will be held December 6th –8th!*

RIDE BRACELETS AND FOOD TICKETS PRE-SALE

Tuesday, December 3rd is the last day to take advantage of the Fair Pre-Sale with an opportunity to get 3-day ride bracelets (only available during pre-sale) or 1-Day bracelets and Food Tickets at the pre-sale discounted rates.

VTP PARKING

Save yourself the trouble of hunting for a parking spot by purchasing a VIP Parking Pass, with exclusive access to the faculty parking lot along Sevilla Ave for all 3 days of the Parish Fair. Only a limited quantity remain!!

PARISH FAIR RAFFLE

Last year's Parish Fair Raffle generated \$62,500 and we're on a mission to top that again with another lineup of amazing prize packages and the return of our STS Grade Level ticket sales competition.

The top-selling STS grade levels will get to celebrate their victories with Kona Ice (1st Place),
Pizza (2nd Place) and our famous My Kids' Chef Cookies (3rd Place)!

Kindergarten sold \$11,865 last year. Who's going to top that this year?

Don't have a child at St. Theresa or in the COTLF Religious Ed program but still want a shot at winning? Just purchase your tickets using the general "Parish Raffle Tickets" link or pitch in and help one of our grade levels in the bonus contest! Winner does NOT have to be present to win.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS WITH THE CARMELITES

Join our Carmelite Sisters for some Christmas crafts and caroling during this 40-minute interactive experience on Saturday, December 7th, 2024 at 4:00pm and 5:00pm! Drop off your child at the STS Cafeteria for this special event which includes snacks and refreshments for all participants. Each session is open to children ages 3-10 and will be limited to 50 kids per session.

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Be at the blacktop dining area on Sunday, December 8th at 3:30pm as Santa makes a special visit to the Fair! The Coral Gables Fire Department is giving him a special ride as he comes to see *YOU*. A special family photo opportunity will be available after his arrival.

SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE

Limited sponsorships remain available. If you or your company would like to support the Parish Fair through a major sponsorship or through a donation for one of our raffle prizes, please contact Ashley Dominguez at adominguez@cotlf.org

Visit www.parishfair.org to learn about all we have to offer
at the 2024 COTLF-STS Parish Fair!





2nd Collection Next Weekend—Retirement Fund for Religious

Of 476 communities providing data to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRRO), only 27 are adequately funded for retirement. Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—known collectively as women and men religious—received very little pay. Any surplus funds were reinvested in ministry and the education of younger members. As a result, hundreds of US religious communities lack adequate retirement savings.

Please help support the 2024 Retirement Fund for Religious through the in-pew collection next Sunday or give online now. Thank you!



Little Acts, Big Smiles

November 23 – December 7
Church of the Little Flower

2711 Indian Mound Trail, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Please help us by donating new items for the patients at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital. With your donations, we can spread smiles and brighten a child’s day, one little act of kindness at a time.

What are we collecting?

- New blankets
- New children’s books (hard cover preferred)
 - Scan QR code for book wishlist:



For questions, please reach out to Annette Labrada at (305)-606-8232



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ANNUAL NATIVITY SCENE BLESSING

Join us on Monday, December 2nd at 7:00pm on the front lawn of the church/Comber Hall for the annual blessing of our outdoor nativity scene, which stands as a beautiful reminder to always keep Christ at the center of Christmas. A light reception will follow immediately afterwards in the foyer of Comber Hall with cookies and hot chocolate for all kids, "from 1 to 92!"



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is normally celebrated on December 8, exactly nine months before the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (September 8). However, when that date falls on a Sunday, the feast is transferred to Monday, December 9th.

Earlier this year, the Vatican clarified, *"The feast must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred."* Therefore, Monday, December 9th is a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

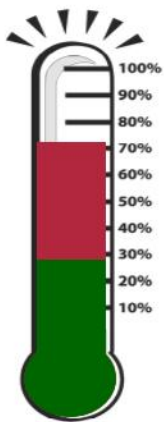
Masses for the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, December 9th at 6:15am, 8:00am, and 7:00pm (English) and at 5:30pm (Español).

There will be no vigil as the Sunday evening Mass is celebrated as the II Sunday of Advent, not the Vigil of the Immaculate Conception.



Building on Our Legacy

www.cotlf.org/centennial



Thank you for your continued support of the Centennial Campaign!
Please contact Ashley Dominguez (Sacks) at (305) 446-9950, Ext 309
or at adominguez@cotlf.org for more information.

Campaign Progress

CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$13,000,000
TOTAL PLEDGED: \$9,283,142.29 (71.41%)
TOTAL COLLECTED: \$3,520,479.92 (27.08%)

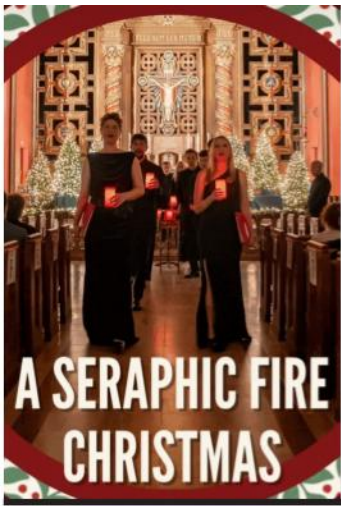
Updated as of November 22nd



Mass Music & Readings

Visit www.cotlf.org/mass or scan the QR code





LITTLE FLOWER
CONCERT SERIES

A SERAPHIC FIRE CHRISTMAS

A cappella voices in a candlelit setting mark the Christmas season in South Florida. Popular guest conductor Anthony Trecek-King returns to lead our Billboard-chart-topping Christmas program. Enjoy fresh yuletide tunes like Taylor Scott Davis' *Solstice* and, as always, celebrate the season with fan favorites like *O Come All Ye Faithful* and *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH — 8:00PM

Purchase your tickets today at www.LFConcerts.org

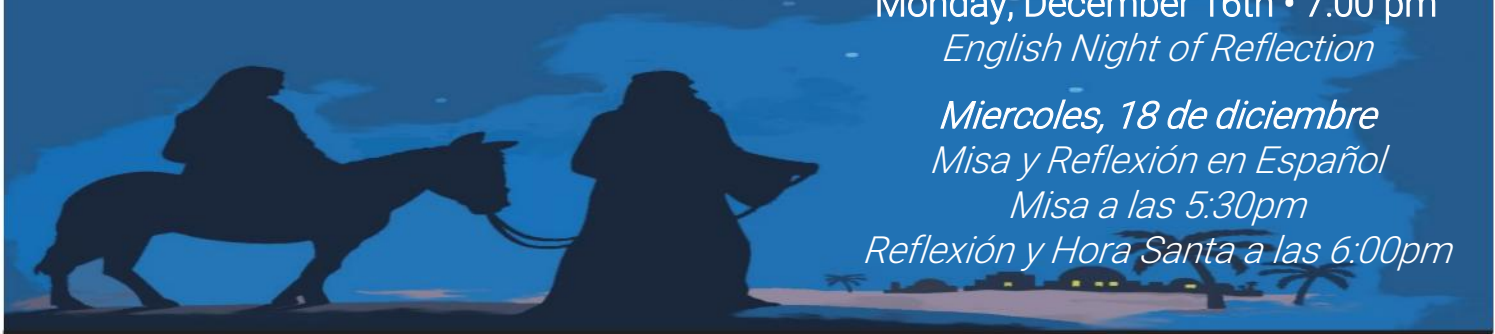


Advent Night of Reflection / Noche de Reflexión de Adviento

Monday, December 16th • 7:00 pm
English Night of Reflection

Miércoles, 18 de diciembre
Misa y Reflexión en Español
Misa a las 5:30pm

Reflexión y Hora Santa a las 6:00pm



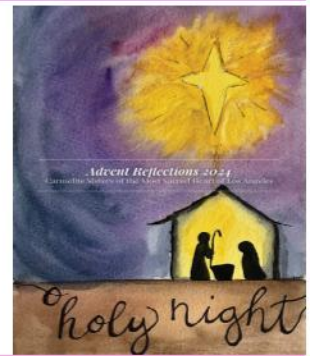
ADVENT EVENING OF CONFESSIONS

On Wednesday, December 16th, all our house priests will be available to hear confessions, beginning at 7:00pm, until all penitents have had the opportunity to go to confession. This will be the final opportunity to go to Confession prior to the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord.

Carmelite Sisters Advent Reflections 2024

We invite you to join us in making these weeks leading up to the birth of our Infant Messiah especially meaningful. Journey with us through the days of Advent with these reflections written by the Carmelite Sisters and prepare your heart to be a warm, welcoming resting place for the Christ Child. Reflection books were distributed last weekend and a limited supply may still be available at the doors of church or in the parish office.

Digital copies of the booklet are also available at www.carmelitesistersocd.com



COTLF PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please visit www.cotlf.org/Adoration to view the names of all those added to the Parish Prayer List and keep them in prayer today or during your next visit to the Adoration Chapel. To add or remove the name of a parishioner, relative, or friend to our Parish Prayer List please contact us at the Parish Office.





Catholic Kids

December 1, 2024
Advent
Color: Purple



Bulletin

TOWKYOUWFLOWKWAOKDISA

WKWEKJOSOULDKW

To you, O
Lord, I lift
my soul.

BKJEWLORDPWKSOI

LWKEJABLIFTWAMYOWKEISA



Find the Advent
wreath in
your church.

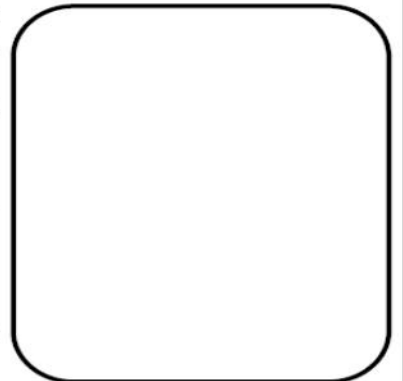


Saint Nicholas



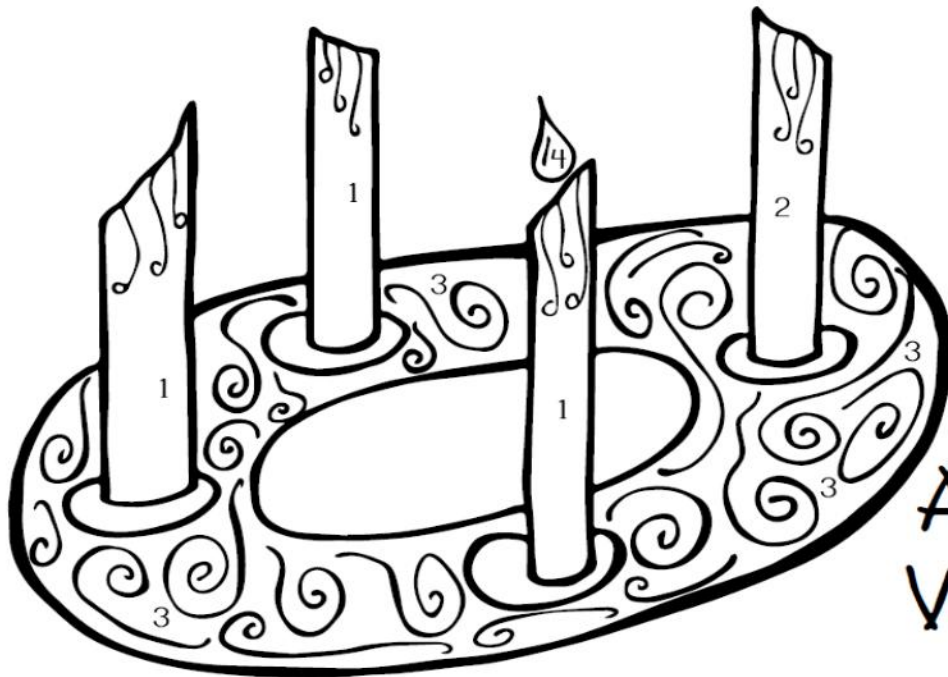
Saint Nicholas knew that a family needed help, so he dropped gifts into the window of their home! We can celebrate his feast day by putting treats and gifts in people's shoes on December 6th.

Draw a picture of a gift that you would like to give to your family.



Color the
Advent
Wreath.

- 1: Purple
- 2: Pink
- 3: Green
- 4: Yellow



Countdown
to Jesus'
Birthday...

4

Sundays!

Advent Wreath



Jesus told the disciples that He would come back to Earth!
We should always be ready for Jesus to return.
We practice waiting during Advent as we wait for Christmas.





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Please join us for our Fall Admissions Season

SHOWCASES

Montessori (Ages 3, 4 & 5), Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 9:00 am

Grades 1-5, Wednesday, Oct. 16 at 9:00 am

Grades 6-11, Saturday, Nov. 2 at 9:00 am

All Grades, Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 9:00 am

VIRTUAL FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION SESSION
Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 pm

WALKING WEDNESDAY TOURS at 9:00 am
September 11, 18, 25 • October 2, 23 • November 6, 13, 20
December 11, 18 • January 8, 15, 22

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