

Letter for Families • Advent and Christmas

Getting Ready

Advent, the first season of the liturgical year, is a time of eager anticipation. During Advent, Christians prepare for Christmas, when the Church remembers and celebrates that the Son of God took on flesh and became fully human in all things except sin without giving up his divinity, and lived among us. It is a time of hope, a time to celebrate and profess our faith that Christ will come again in glory at the end of time.



The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the Vigil of Christmas on Christmas Eve and concludes with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In the birth of the child Jesus, who is named Savior and Emmanuel, Christ and Lord, we are made new. This season of light and generosity reminds us of

our vocation as followers of Christ to be lights in the world, to bear gifts, to share our blessings both during this season and throughout the year.

Looking for More?

- **Faith First Legacy Edition**
Additional Activities booklet for appropriate age level
- **Faith First Legacy Edition**
Called to Prayer booklet for appropriate age level
- *Christmas Gift: An Anthology of Christmas Poems, Songs, and Stories* by Charlemae Hill Rollins (Morrow Junior Books).
- *Our Lady of Guadalupe: Queen of the Americas* by Joanne McPortland and Juanita Vaughn (Franciscan Communications). The importance of Mary to the Americas.

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For more ideas on how your family can live your faith, visit the home page at www.FaithFirst.com. Click on “Resources for Advent and Christmas” or “Mary” to discover more information and a variety of activities.



Catholic Family Traditions

This is an appropriate time to review the Hail Mary together as a family. You can find this prayer in the “Prayers and Practices” section in the back of your child’s book. Choose a time when you can pray this prayer together each day this week.