



Advent

THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF PHILADELPHIA



December

2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
This Advent, we journey as “Pilgrims of Hope,” guided by the Beatitudes and inspired by Pope Francis’ vision of hope. As we navigate a world often shadowed by uncertainty, our calendar invites us to look beyond darkness and discover signs of grace and renewal. Each day will be an opportunity to reflect on Christ’s teachings, recognize hope in unexpected places, and learn how we can become bearers of God’s compassionate light. Through the Beatitudes, we’ll explore how simple acts of mercy, peacemaking, and love can transform our hearts and our world, preparing us to welcome the ultimate hope of Christ’s coming.						1 Read the Beatitudes in the Gospel of Matthew (cf. <i>Mt</i> 5:3-12). Are there any words that resonate with you? What is the Holy Spirit calling you to in this special time of waiting?
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Read the Beatitudes in the Gospel of Luke (cf. <i>Lk</i> 6:20-23). Write down two or three things that you find challenging or that invite a change in your life. Keep the list in your prayer space.	Donate gently used clothes, toys, or household items to a local charity.	Set aside a bag that you can fill with food for your local food pantry. Each time you buy groceries this month, buy one or two items to add to your bag.	Spend time in prayer thinking about one or two things that you can do to simplify your life and put your focus on Jesus.	Write a card or letter to someone who is sad, lonely, and grieving.	Support the actions of organizations, such as Franciscan Action Network (FAN) , who advocate for peace and justice in our world.	Try to be patient with others today. Practice meekness.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Hold the door open for someone or let someone go ahead of you in line.	What does it mean to hope in the Lord? Make a list of things you hope for in the coming year.	Research a social justice issue that is important to you and identify one concrete action you can take to get involved.	Contact your local elected representatives and advocate for a policy change that would promote justice and equality.	Donate to a charitable organization that is working to advance human rights, economic justice, or environmental sustainability.	Forgive someone who has wronged you.	Do an anonymous good deed for someone who is struggling.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Is there something you need to forgive yourself for? Spend some quiet time in prayer contemplating God’s mercy.	Spend time in nature, appreciating the simple beauty of the world around you.	Write a letter to yourself explaining the ways that you hope to stay focused on God in the coming year.	Reach out to a friend or family member you haven’t spoken to in a while, with the pure intention of reconnecting.	Watch “ Overcome Division in 8 Minutes ” on YouTube. Practice the steps with your family and friends this holiday season.	Reach out to a neighbor or coworker who is “a bit odd, troublesome, or difficult.” Try to connect in a new way.	Visit Pax Christi USA and learn about their peacemaking efforts.
23	24	25	Merry Christmas! 			
Donate to an organization that supports and advocates for those facing persecution around the world, such as Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch .	Reflect on your Advent journey. How have you brought hope to others? How have you experienced God’s love and mercy?	MERRY CHRISTMAS! <i>Wishing you a blessed Christmas season and a year filled with hope!</i>				