

Ideas for Living Joyfully: Forty Days of Celtic Advent and the Twelve Days of Christmas 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Practice Grace. No need to do them all or every day. Let the Holy Spirit speak to your heart!						November 15 <i>Celtic Advent Begins</i> Visit a beautiful spot in or near your home. Breathe and listen. How is God preparing you for Christ's birth?
16 Spend time with a favourite image of art.	17 Make a small or tasty something and give it away.	18 Give thanks for one thing you enjoy in your work.	19 Look at your favourite photos, share them and tell stories.	20 Say Hi to a person standing on the fringes.	21 Take a loved one on a walk, outside or down memory lane or both.	22 CS Lewis Day Go on a nature walk and look for God's creatures. Aslan Lives!!
23 Smile at a stranger and enjoy their smile!	24 Make a meal for someone in need or visit someone who is lonely	25 List what you are thankful for, tell God, tell each other.	26 Give someone a long hug.	27 Write a gratitude note to a family member or friend.	28 Notice the really small things in life, like bugs or dust bunnies (resist the urge to sweep them away!)	29 Take a friend to tea.
30 Liturgical Advent Begins Welcome a new person at church.	December 1 Read or Tell stories to loved ones.	2 Sing some favorite songs, with others if you can.	3 Take a walk and enjoy the Christmas lights.	4 Call a friend & tell them one thing you appreciate about them.	5 Play a game from childhood or with a little person in your life.	6 Bake or make something that smells delicious, and give it away.
7 Kneel down when you greet & talk to a child.	8 Look out the window for 5 minutes & notice life.	9 Write a love note or color a picture for a child in your life.	10 Send a loved one on a treasure hunt today. Give them clues & giggle a lot.	11 Say Hi to people behind the shop counters. Wish them a good day.	12 Notice the eye- color of people close to you and <i>marvel at beauty.</i>	13 Light candles for whatever place or situation breaks your heart and pray for God's joy there.
14 Gaudete Sunday Read Mary's Song: Luke 1:46-55 Light a pink candle for JOY	15 Read a story out loud, read a story to your friend, child, parent, or spouse.	16 Listen to and share some favourite music that makes you smile.	17 The "O" Antiphons: Wisdom (Isa. 11:2-3) Who in your life offers godly wise counsel? Thank them.	18 Lord (Isa 33:22) Ask God how he wants to be the Lord of your life. Listen.	19 Key of David (Rev. 3:7) What door of your life do you need God to open & bring grace? God has the key to every door.	20 Root of Jesse (Isa 11:10) A Jesse Tree remembers God's faithfulness. Write memories of God's faithfulness on paper ornaments & hang them on the tree.
21 Morning Star (Isa 9:2) As the sun rises today, pray for God's light to shine in a place or situation that is breaking your heart.	22 King of Nations (Isa 9:6) Listen to Handel's Messiah: "For Unto us a Child is Born" What does it mean to you for Christ to come again?	23 Emmanuel (Isa 7:14) How is God with you? How are you God's presence to others? Sing "O Come, o Come Emmanuel"	24 Christmas Eve Where have you experienced God's Joy this Advent?	25 The Birth of Jesus Christ Laugh and sing today with those you love, adopt someone who needs a family, let yourself be adopted if you need one.	26 The Twelve Days of Christmas Begin! Gen 1:3 Look for God's Light in the world each Day.	27 John 1:1-5
28 Feast of the Holy Innocents Ps 119:105 Pray for children today.	29 Ps 139:11-12	30 Ps 19:8	31 Isa 58:10	January 1 Ps 43:3	2 Matt 5:14-16	3 John 8:12
4 1 Peter 2:9	5 Isa 60:19	Epiphany 6 Luke 4:1-21 <i>Christ's revealing</i> After taking down Christmas decorations, light candles around the house.	How we spend our days is how we spend our lives. Annie Dillard <i>Calendar created with joy by Susan Forshey at The Contemplative Cottage. Please share freely.</i>			