

IDEAS FOR LIVING JOYFULLY: FORTY DAYS OF CELTIC ADVENT & THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Practice Grace. No need to do them all or every day. Let the Holy Spirit speak to your heart! <i>Nativity journey – Place Mary and Joseph in one corner of the room; the wise men in another; the shepherds, another. Keep Jesus hidden. Set up the stable with animals, and enjoy helping each figure journey to Bethlehem.</i></p>			<p>November 15 Visit a beautiful spot in or near your home. Breathe and listen. How is God preparing you for Christ's birth?</p>	<p>16 Share an encouraging word with a friend in need</p>	<p>17 Give thanks for one thing you enjoy in your work</p>	<p>18 Enjoy your favourite photos, share them with a friend or family member and tell stories</p>
<p>19 Say Hi to a person standing on the fringes. Move Mary & Joseph closer</p>	<p>20 Take a loved one on a walk, outside or down memory lane or both</p>	<p>21 Smile at people you see, whether you know them or not, and enjoy their smile!</p>	<p>22 CS Lewis Day Appreciate an animal companion today Aslan Lives!!</p>	<p>23 List what you are thankful for, tell God, tell each other</p>	<p>24 Make a meal for someone in need or visit someone who is lonely</p>	<p>25 Give someone you love a long hug</p>
<p>26 Welcome a new person at church. Move Mary & Joseph closer</p>	<p>27 Read or Tell stories to loved ones</p>	<p>28 Turn off recorded music and sing some favorite songs with loved ones</p>	<p>29 Write a gratitude note to a family member or friend, hide it in their pocket or lunch</p>	<p>30 Call a friend & tell them one thing you appreciate about them</p>	<p>December 1 Color a picture for a child in your life</p>	<p>2 Take a break from the internet and look out the window. Just look. What do you see?</p>
<p>3 Kneel down when you greet & talk to a child Four-week Advent begins</p>	<p>4 Take a friend to tea (or coffee), leave the smartphone in your bag</p>	<p>5 Play a game from childhood or with a little person in your life</p>	<p>6 Send a loved one on a treasure hunt Today. Give them clues & giggle a lot</p>	<p>7 Say Hi to people behind the counters. Wish them a good day</p>	<p>8 Notice the eye-color of people close to you and marvel at beauty</p>	<p>9 Light candles for whatever place or situation breaks your heart</p>
<p>10 Move Mary & Joseph closer. Move the Wise Men closer. What journey are you on?</p>	<p>11 Take a walk and enjoy the Christmas lights</p>	<p>12 Listen to and share some favourite music that makes you smile</p>	<p>13 Enjoy grilled cheese and tomato soup (dipping is encouraged) or another favorite comfort dish</p>	<p>14 Read a story out loud to your friend, child, parent, or spouse</p>	<p>15 Notice the really small things in life, like bugs or dust bunnies</p>	<p>16 Take a break from your smartphone and all screens this evening. Rediscover the world.</p>
<p>17 The "O" Antiphons: Wisdom (Isa. 11:2-3) & Laudate Sunday Read Mary's Song: Luke 1:46-55. Light a pink candle for JOY</p>	<p>18 Lord (Isa 33:22) Ask God how he wants to be the Lord of your life. Listen. Move the Wise Men closer</p>	<p>19 Root of Jesse (Isa 11:10) Write memories of God's faithfulness in your life on paper ornaments & hang them on the tree</p>	<p>20 Key of David (Rev. 3:7) door of your life do you need God to open & bring grace? God has the key to every door. Move Mary & Joseph almost to the stable</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>	<p>23 Emmanuel (Isa 7:14) How is God with you? How are you God's presence to others? Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (all the verses!)</p>
<p>24 Christmas Eve Where have you experienced God's Joy this Advent? Mary & Joseph enter the stable</p>	<p>The Birth! Adopt someone who needs a family or be adopted if you need one. <i>Put Jesus in the manger; add the Shepherds, too.</i></p>	<p>26 The Twelve Days of Christmas Begins! <i>John 1:1-5</i></p>	<p>27 Genesis 1:3 The Wise Men journey closer each day...</p>	<p>28 The Holy Innocents Psalm 139:11-12 Pray for children around the world</p>	<p>29 Psalm 19:8</p>	<p>30 Isaiah 58:10</p>
<p>31 Isa 60:19</p>	<p>January 1 Ps 43:3</p>	<p>2 Matt 5:14-16</p>	<p>3 John 8:12</p>	<p>4 1 Peter 2:9</p>	<p>5 Epiphany Eve <i>Luke 4:1-21</i> The wise men arrive! 20 + C + M + B + 18</p>	<p>6 Epiphany Christ's Revealing <i>Romans 8</i> Light candles around the house</p>

HOW WE SPEND OUR DAYS IS HOW WE SPEND OUR LIVES. ANNIE DILLARD

Calendar created with joy by Susan Forshey at ContemplativeCottage.com. Please share freely.