

Ideas for Living Joyfully (even in a pandemic!) Forty Days of Celtic Advent & the Twelve Days of Christmas 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 15 Create an Advent reflection space in your house. What will you put in it to inspire your journey?	16 Determine where the nativity will be placed in your house. Fill it with the animals, straw, and the empty manger.	17 Place Mary & Joseph far from the stable but where you can see them. Start them on their journey to the nativity.	18 Place the Magi farther from the nativity and marvel at their trust, led only by a star, to find their King.	19 Pray for the world, for peace and for an end to the pandemic.	20 Get out some colored pencils and crayons and color. Pray for someone as you do.	21 Singles and elders are feeling isolated. Write notes encouraging them and check-in.
22 CS Lewis Day Appreciate an animal companion today and look for the Deeper Magic! Aslan Lives!!	23 Text a loved one a favorite memory of them. Mary & Joseph move closer.	24 If you are out, wave at people you see. Don't let distance and masks impede acknowledgement.	25 List what you are thankful for, tell God, tell each other. Start a gratitude list.	26 Invite a single person to join you for a meal via Zoom.	27 Reach out to a person whom you haven't seen recently.	28 Make a tasty something and give it away, or donate to a local food pantry.
29 Four-week Advent begins How is Jesus being born in you?	30 Read or Tell stories to loved ones (even on Zoom, if necessary).	December 1 Turn off recorded music and sing some favorite songs. The Magi move closer.	2 Write a gratitude note to a family member. Hide it in their pocket.	3 Call a friend & tell them one thing you appreciate about them.	4 Enjoy a grilled cheese sandwich & tomato soup or other comfort dish.	5 Take a break from screens and look out the window. What do you see?
6 Tell someone that God loves them. Mary & Joseph move closer.	7 Have tea or a meal with a friend you haven't seen in awhile, on Zoom.	8 Text a word of encouragement to 5 loved ones.	9 Spend time with favorite artwork. What sparkles? The Magi move closer.	10 Take a break from your smartphone and all screens this evening.	11 Mail a note to someone. Describe how they are gift to the world & you!	12 Light candles for whatever places or situations break your heart.
13 Gaudete Sunday Read Mary's Song: Luke 1:46-55. Light a pink candle for JOY and share joys with loved ones. Mary & Joseph move closer.	14 Take a walk and enjoy the Christmas lights.	15 Listen to some favourite music that makes you smile. The Magi move closer.	16 Notice the really small things in life, like bugs or dust bunnies.	17 The "O" Antiphons: Wisdom (Isa. 11:2-3) Who is a voice of wisdom in your life? Thank her or him.	18 Lord (Isa 33:22) Ask God how he wants to be the Lord of your life. Listen. Mary & Joseph move closer.	19 Root of Jesse (Isa 11:10) Write memories of God's faithfulness in your life on paper ornaments & hang them on the tree.
20 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.	21 Morning Star (Isa 9:2) Pray for God's light to shine in a situation that is breaking your heart. The Magi move closer.	22 King of Nations (Isa 9:6) Listen to Handel's "For Unto us a Child is Born. What does Christ's birth mean?"	23 Emmanuel (Isa 7:14) How is God with you? Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (all the verses!).	24 Christmas Eve Celebrate with your church. Mary & Joseph enter the stable	25 Feast of the Nativity John 1:1-5 Make a joy list. Put Jesus in the Nativity; add the Shepherds, too	26 St. Stephen's Day The First Martyr The Twelve Days of Christmas Begins! Genesis 1:3 The Magi journey closer each day
27 Psalm 139:11-12	28 The Holy Innocents Pray for children around the world Matt. 19:14	29 Isaiah 58:10	30 Isa 60:19	31 Ps 43:3	1 Matt 5:14-16	2 John 8:12
3 1 Peter 2:9	4 Romans 8	5 Epiphany Eve Luke 4:1-21 Move the Magi to the stable	January 6 – February 1 Epiphany and Epiphanytide Chalk your lintels and the lintels of friends' houses with the Epiphany blessing 20+C+M+B+21 . CMB represents the names of the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and also the Latin phrase, <i>Christus Mansionem Benedicat</i> – Christ Bless this House!			

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.