

ADVENT A Season of Hope ~ A Season to Help

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR - WHY NOT MAKE ADVENT MEANINGFUL?

Each day add an item to a box. On the second last Sunday of Advent (December 17) bring your donations to the Cathedral to be donated to our Catholic Charities Food Bank.

December 1	Box of Cereal	December 15	Package of Rice
December 2	Peanut Butter	December 16	Box of Toothpaste
December 3	School Snack	December 17	Package of Pasta
December 4	Box of Potatoes	December 18	Spaghetti Sauce
December 5	Macaroni & Cheese	December 19	Can of Soup
December 6	Canned Fruit	December 20	Can of Corn
December 7	Canned Tomatoes	December 21	Drinking Box
December 8	Canned Tuna	December 23	Roll of T-Paper
December 9	Cake Mix	December 24	Can of Green Beans
December 10	Jar of Applesauce		
December 11	Canned Potatoes		
December 12	Granola Bars		
December 13	Canned Beans		
December 14	Box of Crackers		



It's a lot to carry - feel free to drop items off to the parish office any time. Don't forget we are looking for peanut butter, tuna, cheese whiz, jam, sardines, etc. to go with our bread donations. Thank you!

Longing - Watching - Waiting!

ADVENT WREATH

"Customarily the Advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. According to tradition, three of the candles are violet and the fourth is rose. However, four violet or white candles may also be used.

The rose candle is lit the third Sunday of Advent, for this color anticipates and symbolizes the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice" (Latin, Gaudete). For this reason the Third Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday, and rose color vestments are permitted.

The Advent Wreath represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the Light of the world. Each year in Advent people wait once again in darkness for the coming of the Lord, His historical coming in the mystery of Bethlehem, **As the light grows brighter, we are reminded that the Light of the World will soon arrive in glory.**



**Prepare Your Hearts
Prepare the Way of the Lord**

Advent Sacrament of Confession

St. Peter the Apostle Church
Thursday, 14 December - 10 AM to 8 PM

Experience the Mercy & Forgiveness of God

Preparing our Hearts for Advent

- ◆ Re-order your life's priorities. Don't over commit.
- ◆ Add more time to your prayer life and take time away from other activities such as T.V., computer games, the internet, shopping.
- ◆ Pray together with your family before meals.
- ◆ Make plans to attend our Day of Confession (see above) - convenient times to fit all schedules. Make regular use of the sacrament of reconciliation—Saturdays at 3:00 PM in the Cathedral.
- ◆ Follow the scriptural readings for the season of Advent, you can find them on the front page of the bulletin.
- ◆ Attend mass when possible.
- ◆ Spend time in Adoration with Jesus

Prayer: Dear Lord, in this season of Advent, inspire us to be a people of hope. Encourage us not to be greedy for material possessions, but for justice and truth. Enflame us with a love for others, which crosses boundaries of race, religion and nationality. Stir within us an appreciation of the immense beauty of the earth. Be with us, Lord, at this time, that we may be a people of hope. Amen